

Application Guideline for academic staff Position
at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, JAXA

1.	Position	Associate Professor (Academic Staff)
2.	Number of Openings	One
3.	Affiliation	Department of Solar System Sciences, Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS)
4.	Work Location	JAXA Sagami-hara Campus (3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Chuo-ku, Sagami-hara, Kanagawa, JAPAN) <Scope of changes> The work location may be changed to a location designated by the Agency due to personnel transfers, organizational restructuring, or other reasons. When telework is conducted in accordance with the Agency's rules, the telework location shall apply.
5.	Expected Start Date	January 1 st , 2027 or the earliest possible date thereafter
6.	Term of Employment	Non fixed term
7.	Probationary Period	6 months from the date of hire
8.	Job Duties	Research, development, and graduate education related to solar system science
9.	Detailed Job Duties and Desired Applicant Profile	The Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS) regards landing exploration of the Moon, Mars, and other planetary bodies as one of the key elements of future solar system science. ISAS promotes this area through the integration of space science and space engineering, as well as through its role as an inter-university research institute. In recent years, international planetary exploration has placed increasing emphasis on in-situ observations after landing as a means to understand the internal structure and physical properties of planetary bodies. In addition, future lunar and Martian exploration is expected to move beyond single-point observations toward more distributed approaches, including geophysical observation networks. The Associate Professor to be recruited is expected to contribute to the development of in-situ observation instruments, such as those for spectroscopy, chemical composition, magnetic fields, and seismic measurements, in the context of future landing missions. The successful candidate will engage in research and development spanning science, engineering, and mission studies.

In particular, with future missions in mind, including a phased Mars landing exploration program following the MMX mission, the candidate is expected to be involved in in-situ exploration research and development, from defining observation requirements to instrument design, ground testing, and mission proposal activities. The candidate will also work in collaboration with researchers within and outside the Institute, as well as with universities and industry, and contribute to strengthening the research framework in this field.

The candidate is also expected to understand the role of ISAS as a joint-use research institute, to conduct research in collaboration with university researchers, and to contribute to graduate education and supervision.

The duties and responsibilities of the Associate Professor position in this recruitment are as follows:

- Research and development of in-situ observation instruments for planetary landing missions
- Formulation of observation requirements and development of instrument proposals for future missions
- Promotion of research through collaboration with science and engineering researchers, universities, and companies both within and outside ISAS.
- Contribution to the education of graduate students.
- Participation in research and development activities and projects within JAXA

In view of these duties, the Associate Professor to be recruited in this recruitment must meet at least the following requirements.

- A research record related to in-situ exploration in planetary geology, geochemistry, seismology, or planetary physics, or experience in technology development that contributes to in-situ exploration
- Interest in advancing solar system exploration through instrument development
- Demonstrated willingness to engage in interdisciplinary activities by leveraging one's advanced expertise.

		• Demonstrated ability to educate and supervise graduate students. <Scope of Changes: The scope of duties as defined by the Agency>
10.	Benefits and Conditions	(1) Salary Salary will be determined under the provision of JAXA wage rules and regulations, considering qualifications and experience. (2) Working Hours - In principle, the Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work shall be applied to the position. - Standard working hours are from 9:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. A break of 45 minutes is provided when daily working hours exceed 6 hours, and a break of 1 hour when they exceed 8 hours. Notwithstanding the above, employees subject to the Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work shall be deemed to have worked 7 hours and 45 minutes per day. Overtime work may be required depending on the work situation. - Overtime work may be required depending on operational needs. (3) Holidays Holidays include Saturdays and Sundays, national holidays, the year-end and New Year holidays (December 29 to January 3), and other days designated by the Agency as necessary. (4) Leave Paid annual leave; special leave (including maternity, bereavement, marriage, and work-life balance-related leave); child nursing leave; family care leave; parental leave; and other leave as provided under the Agency's regulations. (5) Retirement Age Retirement age is 65. (6) Housing Depending on operational needs, individual circumstances, and availability, organization-provided housing (single or family) may be offered. Alternatively, a housing allowance may be provided in accordance with the Agency's regulations. Continuous occupancy of the same housing is limited to a maximum of seven years. (7) Social insurance Enrollment in social insurance programs, including health insurance and pension insurance, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

11.	Research Funding	Research funding is determined according to the budget situation of each year. *FY2025: Professor; ¥800,000, Associate professor; ¥800,000, Assistant professor; ¥400,000
12.	Required Qualifications	PhD degree
13.	Application Documents	(1) Curriculum vitae (2) Research history and summary (3) List of published papers with DOIs (4) List of awarded research funds through competition. Specify the type of funding, amount, and a role (e.g., principal investigator/co-investigator). (5) Future research plan, including contributions to JAXA projects and commitment to educational activities (6) Declaration of past criminal convictions, administrative penalties, disciplinary measures, and other relevant actions, including sexual harassment, assault and violence: No specific format is required. This information may also be included in section (1) CV. Indicate whether applicable; if so, provide details. (7) Names, affiliations and contact details (phone numbers and email addresses) of two individuals who can provide references for the applicant. (8) Copies of major research papers (up to 5) published in peer-reviewed or refereed academic journals
14.	Submission	Applicants are required to apply via the following website. Please access the application form at the following URL: https://isas-appli-form.jaxa.jp/forms1/1782954935 (Notes) • All the documents must be submitted in PDF format. • Note that documents (2) to (6) should be merged into one PDF file. • Application submitted in person or by mail shall not be accepted.
15.	Application Deadline	September 8th, 2026, noon (JST) • Data entry and submission of all the required documents must be completed by this deadline through the website.
16.	Screening Method	Screening will be conducted by the Advisory Council for Research and Management of ISAS, JAXA. The council will conduct a document screening, and interview those who have passed the document screening. This process is subject to change.
17.	Contact Information	Director of Department of Solar System Sciences

		Prof. Yoshifumi Saito Email: saito.yoshifumi[at]jaxa.jp * For inquiries regarding application submission as in section 14: Human Resources Section / Management and Integration Department E-mail: ISAS-JINJI [at]ml.jaxa.jp * *Please replace [at] in the email address with @.
18.	Name of Recruiter	Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
19.	Others	(1) Information submitted in your application documents will not be used for any purpose other than the employment selection. Once the selection process is complete, we will securely dispose of all application documents and personal information, except for those submitted by the successful candidate. (2) In order to properly implement security export control in accordance with Japan's Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act, it is necessary to submit a declaration pertaining to "Specific category" regulated by the act. Depending on the information provided in the declaration, measures such as adjustments to the permissible scope of outside employment may be taken as necessary to ensure the proper performance of duties. (3) Please also check the notes on JAXA website* before applying. * https://global.jaxa.jp/about/employ/index.html