

Project Assistant Professor Position at the Section of Brain Function Information,
Supportive Center for Brain Research, National Institute for Physiological Sciences,
National Institutes of Natural Sciences

National Institute for Physiological Sciences (NIPS), National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS), Okazaki, Japan, invites applications for the position of Project Assistant Professor. Please recommend suitable candidates and disseminate this posting to those who wish to apply.

1. Position

Project Assistant Professor, one position (Depending on the evaluation of the candidate's research achievements, appointment may be made as a Project Research Staff.)

2. Affiliation

(Upon hiring) Section of Brain Function Information, Supportive Center for Brain Research, NIPS, NINS

(Range of change) Workplace designated by NINS

3. Research field

The Section of Brain Function Information at NIPS investigates the relationship between brain structure and function by non-invasively measuring and analyzing the structural, functional, and metabolic properties of the brain through the development of magnetic resonance (MR) measurement techniques. NIPS is participating in the "Integrated Smart Cloud Lab for Innovative Science (iLIS)" as a collaborating institution under the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)'s Project for Establishing Joint Usage/Joint Research Systems, specifically the "Large-Scale Integrated Research System Formation Leading Program". As part of this project, our section conducts research and development aimed at establishing a fundamental data center for data-driven neuroscience by promoting the automation, remote operation, and high-throughput processing and analysis of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) data.

We therefore invite applications from individuals who will engage in methodological research for the analysis of brain imaging data, primarily focusing on MRI, within the framework of the iLIS project. As long as the applicant is highly motivated to advance brain research through data science and the enhancement of analytical technologies—including the development of large-scale data analysis methods utilizing high-performance computing systems—no prior experience in MRI research or computer science is required. In addition to their primary duties, the successful candidate will be encouraged to pursue their own research projects, including MRI measurements, within the scope consistent with the objectives of the program and the research direction of our section.

Upon appointment, the successful candidate will actively contribute to the project's key missions, which include promoting “AI for Science” and “Neuroscience for AI” research, as well as educating and mentoring graduate students. Additionally, they are expected to participate in other NIPS research initiatives and joint collaborative programs. Furthermore, in alignment with the institute's mission and the framework of the appointment, the appointee will participate in graduate education at the Graduate University for Advanced Studies (SOKENDAI).

4. Job duties

(Upon hiring) As stated in #3 above.

(Range of change) Job duties designated by NINS.

5. Qualifications

Applicants should have a doctoral degree or equivalent research achievements.

6. Period of appointment

The appointment is renewable annually based on performance, up to March 31, 2030.

Depending on the progress of the project and the appointee's work performance, conduct, and abilities, the appointment may be renewed up to March 31, 2036.

7. Benefits and Conditions

Salary will be determined based on the NINS's payment standards, and according to the applicant's career, ability, and other factors. Other conditions will be determined as stipulated by NINS.

8. Application documents

(1) Curriculum vitae (please use the designated format*)

(2) Summary of past research, reason for applying, and future aspirations (approximately 1,000 words; No format specified)

(3) List of publications (Appendix 1*)

- Number the publications consecutively in order of publication date (chronological order, starting with the most recent publication at the top). Circle the number(s) of up to three main publications listed in (5) below.
- The publication list must include the names of all authors, titles of papers, journal names, volume number, page number (beginning and end pages, or the article number in the case of Open Access Journal), year of publication, and DOI.
- Original papers and review articles (including books) should be listed separately.
- Publications in English and Japanese should be listed separately.
- Papers in press should be included; but papers under submission, those with preprints (e.g., bioRxiv), or those in preparation should not.

- (4) Other reference materials (Appendix 2*)
- (5) PDF files of up to three main publications
- (6) Letter(s) of recommendation (*)

- At least one letter
- The letter can be sent separately by the recommender.

*Please download the designated formats for (1), (3), (4), and (6) from the following URL:

<https://www.nips.ac.jp/eng/recruit/index.html>

*The documents (1) to (6) should be prepared in PDF format; the documents (1) to (5) should be merged into a single PDF file to be submitted electronically.

9. Application deadline

All of the application documents must be received by noon on October 21st (Wednesday), 2026 (Japan Standard Time).

10. Date of appointment

As soon as possible after the successful applicant is determined.

11. Other notes

(1) Gender equality

1. NIPS complies with the Act on Equal Employment Opportunities and is committed to promoting gender equality.
2. When applicants are judged to be equally qualified based on the evaluation of their achievements, NIPS will give preference to female candidates.
3. Maternity, childcare, or nursing care leave is taken into consideration, if applicants clearly indicate the period of leave on their CVs or other documents.

(2) Handling of personal information

Personal information pertaining to applications will be managed appropriately in accordance with the Act on the Protection of Personal Information and related rules of NINS. It will be used only for the purpose of selection and employment.

(3) Scholarship Repayment Support Program

NINS has established a scholarship repayment support program for young researchers. For appointees who meet the eligibility requirements and receive approval, NINS will make partial repayments of scholarships provided by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) on their behalf. For details, please refer to the NINS website (<https://www.nins.jp/about/folder7/dairihenkan.html>).

12. How to submit the application documents

(1) Submission process

- (a) Intention to Apply: First, applicants must send an e-mail to indicate their intention to apply to the personnel section, Okazaki Administration Center (nips-recruit@orion.ac.jp). The e-mail should include the applicant's "name," "current affiliation and position," "phone number," and "e-mail address."
- (b) The personnel section will inform the applicant as to how to submit their application documents as an electronic file.
- (c) If the applicant's recommender(s) wish to send the recommendation letter separately, the personnel section will inform the recommender of how to send the letter. For this purpose, applicants need to inform the NINS personnel section of the name(s) of recommender, affiliation(s), and e-mail address(es) when they first indicate their intention to apply as detailed in (a) above.

(2) Important notice

- (a) To protect personal information, do not send any application documents by e-mail.
- (b) Notification of the "Intention to Apply" must be received by noon on October 14th (Wednesday), 2026 (Japan Standard Time).

(3) Contacts for inquiries

- (a) Regarding document submission, salary, and benefits

The personnel section, Okazaki Administration Center, NINS

38 Nishigonaka Myodaiji, Okazaki, Aichi, 444-8585, Japan

Phone: +81-564-55-7113

E-mail: r7113 @ orion.ac.jp (please remove the spaces before and after @)

- (b) Inquiries regarding research content

Masaki Fukunaga, Ph.D.

Project Professor

Section of Brain Function Information

Supportive Center for Brain Research

National Institute for Physiological Sciences (NIPS)

National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS)

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E-mail: fuku @ nips.ac.jp (please remove the spaces before and after @)

NIPS website: <https://www.nips.ac.jp/eng/>

<https://www.nips.ac.jp/sbfi/index-en.html>