

Job Announcement for an Associate Professor at the Institute of Space and Astronautical
Science, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

The Japan Aerospace Space Exploration Agency (JAXA) is seeking to recruit an associate professor as described below. We widely call for recommendations and applications.

1. Title and Number of Position(s)

One Associate Professor

2. Department

Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science, Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS)

3. Summary of Position (Duties and Required Abilities)

The Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science is promoting new cross-cutting fields in space science with relevant studies, and emerging research fields as space science. Specifically, cross-cutting academic research with respect to “Space and Matter” and “Space and Life” are promoted as major pillars, and this division is actively working in particular on experiments and research using suborbital space flights or parabolic flights such as the International Space Station, sounding rockets, and scientific balloons.

On the other hand, in the aim of widely seeking the participation of academic researchers in creating space science achievements as the basis of the inter-university research system, ISAS places importance to the utilization of small flight vehicles (e.g. sounding rockets and scientific balloons) and is enhancing usage of such vehicles by innovating related technology and promoting internationalization. In particular, the scientific balloon experiments have less restrictions on such as size, weight, and vibration resistance strength, etc. of the equipment onboard than sounding rocket experiments. The balloon experiments are therefore important because they make it possible to realize relatively low-cost, high-frequency operations with challenging and ambitious astronomical observations, cosmic ray observations, in situ observations of the upper atmosphere, and technology demonstration and applied research at a high-altitude of up to 50 km and in a thin atmosphere as the experimental environment. In recent years, the equipment aboard such balloons has become higher in performance and larger year by year, and longer and more frequent flights by balloons have become required to meet the needs of scientific observations and engineering experiments. Therefore, international expansion of the experiments is a pressing issue. In order to respond to such high expectations for balloon experiments, it is necessary to build a long-term vision including internationalization of the balloon experiments and to have the ability to realize

it.

The associate professor being recruited in this announcement will conduct space science research using balloons at the Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science, and be responsible for building the above long-term vision and leading its implementation as well as the balloon experiment group of ISAS. It is strongly expected to not only achieve state-of-the-art results, but also promote the development of preliminary demonstration projects and challenging missions, and advance human resource development in space science through the balloon experiments.

To fulfill these duties, the successful candidate shall at least meet the following conditions.

- (1) Promote an interdisciplinary research field in space science through balloon experiments by herself or himself, and have the ability and strength of motivation to open new possibilities in this field.
- (2) Have a strong intention to provide leadership in international cooperation research. It is desirable to have achievements overseas or achievements in international collaborative research.
- (3) Have the ability to manage the balloon experiment group of ISAS; that is, it is necessary to have the experiences to be able to play an essential role in promoting the whole experiment by participating in experiments of various scales, although experience in research using a flight vehicle is not required.
- (4) Take a leading role in future international research coordination between ISAS and foreign agencies in relevant science fields with researchers, based on the understanding that ISAS acts as an inter-university research institute.
- (5) Be capable of teaching and directing graduate students.

4. Terms and Conditions

- (1) Salary will be determined under the provision of JAXA wage rules and regulations, taking into account ability and experience.
- (2) Working days: Monday – Friday, except Japanese national holidays, year-end and New-Year holidays, paid vacation, summer vacation, celebration or condolence leave, maternity leave, child-care leave, care leave, nursing leave, volunteer activities, etc.
- (3) Office hours: 9:30-17:45, in principle, with a recess from 12:15 to 13:00 (however, a discretionary labor system is applied).
- (4) Overtime work: may be required (however, a discretionary labor system is applied, and

working hours per day are regarded as 7.5 hours).

- (5) Duty location: JAXA Sagami-hara campus (ISAS), Kanagawa, Japan.
- (6) Employment status: Full-time/Retirement age is 63.
- (7) Lodgings: lodgings suitable for a family or a single occupant may be provided under the provision of JAXA in consideration of the nature of the work. (Lodging term is limited to 7 years.) Alternatively, an allowance for lodging shall be paid.
- (8) Social insurances (health insurance, pension plan, etc.) will be provided in full.

5. Eligibility

PhD degree is required.

6. Commencement of Assignment

At the earliest possible date after selection. Some coordination might be needed according to JAXA's budget situation.

7. Application Documents

- (1) Curriculum vitae
- (2) Research career
- (3) Summary of previous research
- (4) List of research achievements
- (5) Outline of future research plan (including future of applicant's own space science research using balloons, and ambitions for educational activities)
- (6) Applicant's own opinion on a long-term vision including the internationalization and strategy to realize it regarding the future balloon experiments, by taking note of the point stated in "3. Summary of Position"
- (7) List of awarded research funds through competition (type of funds, amount, principal investigator or co-investigator)
- (8) Contact information of two referees (names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses for a direct inquiry from JAXA). If you are recommended by others, please provide two letters of recommendation.
- (9) Photocopies of major research papers (five or less) published in refereed academic journals

8. Submission

Submit the application through the following website

<https://isas-appli-form.jaxa.jp/forms1/1522922922>

When submitting the documents, please follow the instructions given on the website. All of the files to be uploaded shall be in pdf format. Note that documents (2) to (7) should be merged into one pdf file.

If the applicant is recommended by others, we will request recommender(s) to directly upload their letters of recommendation to the website. (This request will be automatically sent to the email addresses of recommender(s) specified by the applicant.) Application delivered in person or by mail shall not be accepted.

9. Application Deadline

Monday, July 2, 2018, 9:30 (JST).

Applies to both web input and all necessary files, including letters of recommendation for recommended applicants.

Please access the above website and check how to submit necessary documents for application (including letters of recommendation if the applicant is recommended by others) as soon as possible. If application is made too close to the deadline, it will be difficult for recommenders to submit a letter of recommendation. Please be careful with regard to this.

10. Contact at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, JAXA Research

Director of Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science:

Prof. Yuko Inatomi

Tel: +81-50-3362-5180 E-mail: inatomi.yuko@jaxa.jp

For inquiries regarding Application Submission in Section 8:

Management and Integration Department

Human Resources Section

Fax: +81-42-759-8440 E-mail: ISAS-JINJI@ml.jaxa.jp

11. Other Remarks

Screening will be conducted by the Advisory Council for Research and Management of ISAS, JAXA. This job announcement comes into effect when there are three applicants or more. If there are fewer than three applications, the announcement will be made again.

Traveling expenses necessary for the examination and selection shall be borne at the applicant's own expense. ISAS/JAXA actively welcomes female applicants.

<Handling of Personal Information>

The personal information provided to ISAS/JAXA will be used and handled solely for the selection purpose. ISAS/JAXA will discard all personal information of unsuccessful applicants after the selection.