


THE SUMITOMO FOUNDATION
FISCAL 2026 GRANT FOR
BASIC SCIENCE RESEARCH PROJECTS
Application Guide

The Sumitomo Foundation (“The Foundation”) offers this grant program to promote Basic Science research projects which are deemed imperative but have insufficient funds and particularly seeds research projects by young researchers, where innovative ideas are expected, in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

1. Research projects to grant

Any basic research in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, their multi-study fields, and fundamental fields of engineering.

(While the research projects to grant are as described above, applicants must specify the one field they believe to be most appropriate from the following four fields:①Mathematics, ② Physics, ③Chemistry, ④Biology, and apply accordingly.)

Notes)

The following research projects are not eligible:

- 1) Research projects for profit making or those likely to lead to profit making.
- 2) Research projects entrusted by a third party.
- 3) Research projects which have been substantially completed.

2. Grant Amount & Grant Period

(1) Budget Total:	¥200 million *The amount will be distributed roughly equally across all fields, except for Mathematics.
(2) Amount per project:	Max ¥5million *In principle, the amount granted will match the applied amount.
(3) Number of Projects:	App. 40
(4) Grant Period: (to be selected)	1 year or 2 years

Notes)

- 1) Grant Period will start from the date of grant receipt (scheduled in November this year).
- 2) If necessary during the grant period, Grant Period can be extended to a total of 3 years together with the initial period, provided that if there is an interruption of research due to maternity leave or childcare leave, the extension will be separately allowed.

3. Qualifications of Applicant

Young researchers aged 45 or younger as of April 1, 2026, who falls under either (1) or (2) described below is qualified to apply.

- (1) Regardless of the nationality, anyone who belongs to a university, a college or a research institution in Japan with an approval from an authorized person representing the affiliation to apply for this grant program.
 - (2) Anyone other than (1) above who has Japanese nationality or a permission for permanent residence in Japan.
- Provided that anyone who belongs to a profit-making organization fully or even partially is not eligible to apply.

Notes)

- 1) If there is a disruption in the research period due to taking maternity/paternity leave or childcare leave, age requirements will be considered, so please contact the secretariat before applying.

- 2) The Applicant should be responsible for carrying out proposed research project and managing the whole process including financials and reporting.
- 3) Anyone cannot apply for duplicates of our grant programs including this grant program, while the Applicant can be a collaborator of other applicants.
- 4) A grantee of FY2025 Basic Science Research Project Grant or a grantee before that who is still under the grant due to the extension can apply for the continued project of the same research subject. Please describe the interim status of your research project and the reason of applying for the continued research project in the application form. However, this treatment is allowed only once. Additionally, applicants must meet the age requirement mentioned above.

4. Applicable Expenses

Direct expenses for the proposed research project are applicable except the following expenses.

- (i) Remuneration for services rendered by the Applicant and the Collaborator(s).
- (ii) Administrative expenses incurred by research institutes to which the Applicant and the Collaborator(s) belong.
- (iii) Expenses to purchase any instrument, apparatus or equipment for general use such as PC, Server, Printer, Camera and so on.

5. Duties of Applicant (as Grantee)

The Grantee shall provide a consent letter to the Foundation and comply with the duties stipulated in the letter, which include reporting the research result and accounting result to the Foundation in the designated format when the grant period has expired, acknowledging the grant from the Foundation on the publication of research results, and allowing the Foundation to reprint the reported research result on its home page as well as post it on the data base of The Japan Foundation Center for publication.

6. Selection Process

The Selection Committee of Foundation will review and assess the applications from the several perspectives such as Sociality, Feasibility, Originality, Interdisciplinary and Necessity, and propose its selection to the Board of Directors of Foundation, scheduled in October 2026 for final solutions, which will be immediately notified to the Applicants by email. Applied amount may be reduced as a result of the valuation by the Selection Committee. The Foundation shall not accept any questions about the reasons of selection/ rejection.

7. Procedure for Application

The Applicant should apply through the website of the Foundation in Japanese or English.

- 1) Please access to the website of the Foundation, and submit application in Japanese or English.
- 2) The Applicant should submit application document of (1) Application and (2) Approval from Affiliation (if applicable). For details, please refer to “Procedure & Instruction for Application”.
- 3) Neither the application documents nor other material submitted shall be returned to the Applicant.

<Personal Information>

The personal information provided in the application is to be used strictly for the purposes of selection as well as notification of the results of evaluation to the applicants. The Applicants will be asked to show their consent on the website to the Foundation’s policy of the protection of personal information. Please note, however, that the name of grantees (successful applicants), their affiliation, title, theme of research project and grant amount will be announced to the public in due course.

8. Application Term

Commencement Date: April 15, 2026 (Access to URL is available on the Commencement Date. Deadline: June 30, 2026 17:00pm (Japan Time)

After the receipt of application documents, the registration number will be notified to the Applicant by email. Unless the Applicant receives it within one day after the submission, please inquire to the Foundation by email, or the Applicant would fail in the registration. Please take note that the Foundation may cancel its registration of the application which does not comply with Application Guide and/or Procedure & Instruction for Application.

9. Contact for Inquiry

The Sumitomo Foundation/Basic Science Research Program Officer

1-12-16 Shibadaimon Minato-ku, Tokyo JAPAN 105 – 0012

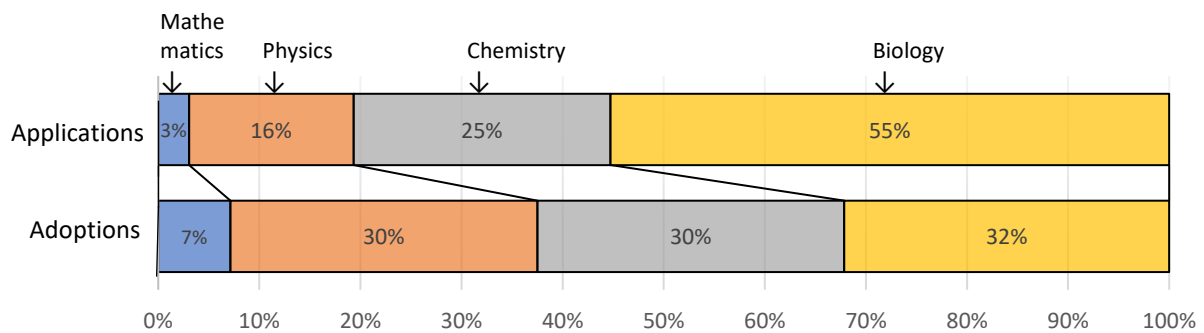
Telephone: 81-3-5473-0161 Facsimile: 81-3-5473-8471

Email: basic.science@mail.sumitomo.or.jp URL: <https://www.sumitomo.or.jp/e/>

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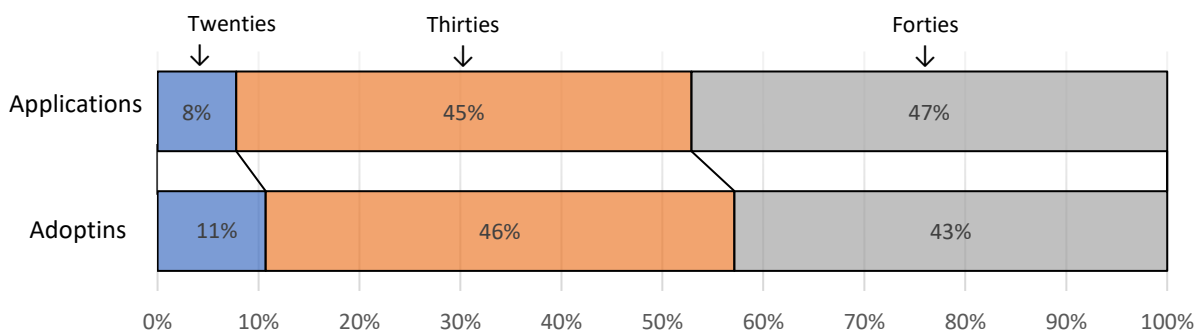
1. Number of applications and adoptions by Research Field in 2025

Research Field	Applicasins		Adoptions	
	Number	Percentage (%)	Number	Percentage (%)
Mathematics	27	3	4	7
Physics	144	16	17	30
Chemistry	225	25	17	30
Biology	489	55	18	32
Total	885	100	56	100



2. Number of applications and adoptions by age in 2025

Age	Applicasins		Adoptions	
	Number	Percentage (%)	Number	Percentage (%)
Twenties	69	7	6	9
Thirties	399	45	26	46
Forties	417	48	24	45
Total	885	100	56	100



3. Number of adoptions by grant amount in 2025

