

Call for Applications: MIRAI Japanese-Swedish mobility grant for Early-Career Researchers (2026-2027)

The University of Gothenburg is pleased to announce a call designed to support mobility of early-career researchers between the MIRAI universities, as part of the STINT Work Package: *Long-term mobility for PhD students and Early Career Researchers*. This program presents a unique opportunity for extended research stays in Japan with the aim of fostering collaboration in research and education.

Through this initiative, University of Gothenburg opens for one (1) PhD candidate or Early Career Researcher (ECR) going to Japan and to host one (1) PhD candidate or Early Career Researcher (ECR) at University of Gothenburg in Sweden.

Why should you apply?

The MIRAI long-term mobility scheme will benefit you by:

- Broadening and deepening your skills and research interest,
- Facilitating mobility and sharing of ideas,
- Building your network amongst researchers at MIRAI universities,
- Stimulating new research ideas.

Eligibility:

- Doctoral students, or early career researchers who obtained their doctoral degree in 2021 or later.
- The mobility must take place at one of the [MIRAI partner universities in Japan](#) (for outgoing) or at the University of Gothenburg (for incoming).
- Applicants from Japan must be enrolled/employed at one of the Japanese MIRAI universities at the time of application and during the entire mobility.
- Applicants from the University of Gothenburg must be employed at University of Gothenburg at the time of application and remain employed during the entire mobility.
- Applicants from the University of Gothenburg must be nationally registered (folkbokförd) in Sweden, have its tax domicile in Sweden and be covered by social insurance in Sweden.
- Research endeavors should contribute to at least one of the [MIRAI Global Challenges Teams](#).
- The stay must be 5 months (not shorter, not longer).
- The mobility period must be continuous and cannot be divided into shorter stays. The mobility should be completed by December 1, 2027 at the latest.

During the mobility period, researchers will pursue their individual research projects while being integrated into a research group at the host university. PhD students should incorporate the mobility into their ongoing doctoral project, and other researchers are expected to continue their research.

Funding

The candidate should continue to receive their salary/compensation (without any deductions) from the home university during the duration of stay. The funding for the mobility is hence not intended to cover salary but rather additional costs during the mobility. Any additional costs above the granted funding should be covered by the candidate or the candidate's School or Faculty, as appropriate. An interrupted stay will result in a repayment obligation for the recipient.

University of Gothenburg applicants to Japan

The mobility is formalized through an abroad contract (URA), locally administered by the respective department. While URA states maximum amounts, each URA contract is customized and calculated individually depending on the needs of the candidate. The employee is covered by an [URA insurance through Kammarkollegiet](#). The maintenance allowance provided in the URA agreement replaces any subsistence allowance.

Funding is available in standard amounts from the URA contract as follows:

- **Monthly subsistence allowance:** Maximum 6,307 SEK per month, tax-free (subject to revision twice a year by the Swedish Agency for Government Employers).
- **Travel expenses:** Up to 20,000 SEK for round-trip economy-class flights to and from the host university.
- **Housing:** Accommodation costs (rent) in Japan are reimbursed based on actual expenses, up to a maximum of 10,000 SEK per month.

Applicants are responsible to contact their local HR officer to understand the expected processing time and requirements.

Applicants from Japan to University of Gothenburg

The funding for the incoming Japanese researcher will be paid to the Japanese recipient via the Japanese MIRAI coordinators at Kyushu University. *Details on how the payment will be made will come later.*

The funding for the mobility is expected to cover additional costs during the mobility. This includes travel for the scholarship holder, accommodation, subsistence allowance and other costs, such as visas, eventual insurance etc.

Monthly allowance for living costs: maximum 20,000 SEK per full month

Travel expenses: maximum 20 000 SEK for round-trip economy-class flights to and from the host mobility.

All foreign guests at University of Gothenburg are covered by a collective insurance (*Insurance for foreign visitors*) at [Kammarkollegiet](#).

Other conditions:

- The candidate is responsible for the planning of the stay abroad and for any practical arrangements required, such as additional insurance (if necessary), accommodation, visa etc.
- The application needs to be confirmed by the supervisor/mentor/PI/line manager.
- The mobility must be compatible with any eventual contracts with agencies funding the applicant's project(s).
- The host university expects to assist with housing, access cards and/or keys as well as provide a workspace on their premises.
- Upon completion of the stay, the candidate should return to the home university.
- Upon return it is expected that the candidate will contribute to anchor the value of international and cross-cultural experience in networking, carrying out research and - if relevant- teaching.
- The selected candidate is required to submit a report highlighting the outcomes/results of the mobility no later than December 31, 2027.

Additional considerations:

As visa processing take time, it is critical to include this in the planning. Applicants are strongly advised to review the visa requirements for the host country.

Application procedure

Each applicant is expected to contact relevant research groups individually to discuss the opportunities to undertake the long-term mobility period at that university. The [MIRAI contact persons](#) can be used to establish contacts with research groups.

Applicants must submit the following documents (font size 12):

- **Completed application form**
- **Letter of invitation** from the host university (department or research group), confirming their willingness to host the applicant.
- **A detailed research plan** outlining expected skill development and research interests and a strategy for long-term collaboration (maximum two pages, font size 12).
- **Curriculum Vitae (CV) and publication list** (maximum four pages, font size 12).
- **Motivation letter** describing the proposed plans of the mobility as well as your motivation and commitment and how the mobility is expected to develop your skills and research interests, and/or to stimulate new research ideas (maximum two pages, font size 12).

Selection criteria

The selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Motivation and commitment to participate in the programme.
- The potential of the mobility to develop the applicant's skills and research interests, and/or stimulate new research ideas.

Application submission

Applications must be submitted before **October 31, 2025** to kristin.radesjo@gu.se. For questions, please contact [Kristin Rådesjö](#). Selection results will be communicated to applicants in early/mid December 2025.