



Call for Applications: MIRAI Japanese-Swedish mobility grants for Early-Career Researchers (Second Call)

Umeå University is pleased to announce a call designed to support long-term mobility of early-career researchers between the MIRAI universities.

The call is open to:

- Early Career Researchers at one of the Japanese MIRAI member universities who wish to spend 5 to 10 months at Umeå University.

Eligibility:

- Eligible applicants must either be currently enrolled as doctoral students or have obtained their doctoral degrees in 2021 or later.
- Applicants must be employed by/or enrolled at their home university (Umeå University or one of the Japanese MIRAI universities) at the time of application and during the entire mobility.
- The stay must be a minimum of 5 months. The mobility period must be continuous and cannot be divided into shorter stays.

During the mobility period, researchers will pursue their individual research projects while being integrated into a research group at the host university. PhD students are not expected to interrupt their studies for this scheme, rather the mobility is expected be part of the PhD studies. Post-docs are expected to continue with their research and keep their position at their home university.

Why should you apply?

The MIRAI long-term mobility scheme will help 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

Application procedure

Umeå University is responsible for the assessment of the applications and the awarding of the grants. 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.

To apply you need to fill out the application form and submit the following documents:

- **Invitation letter** to a research group at your planned host university. If you are an applicant from Umeå University, an invitation letter to a research group at one of the Japanese [MIRAI](#) member universities should be submitted. If you are an applicant from one of the Japanese MIRAI member universities, an invitation letter to a research group at Umeå University should be submitted)
- **Recommendation letter** from your supervisor/mentor/PI/line manager. The letter should include confirmation that you have the permission to undertake the mobility alongside your research/studies.
- **CV** (maximum 4 pages)

- **Motivation letter** describing your motivation and commitment to participate in the programme and how well the mobility is expected to develop your skills and research interests, and/or to stimulate new research ideas (maximum 5000 characters).

Financing

The funding for the mobility is expected to cover additional costs during the mobility. This includes travel for the scholarship holder and accompanying family members, accommodation, subsistence allowance and other costs, such as visas and insurance etc. The funding is not intended to cover salary as you are expected to maintain your salary or other financial support from your home university, during the mobility period.

Calculation of the stipend:

- Monthly allowance for living costs, up to 20,000 SEK per full month.
- Up to 30,000 SEK for travel expenses. (actual costs)

Other conditions:

- The candidate should continue to receive their salary/compensation from the home university during the whole duration of stay.
- Any additional costs above the granted stipend should be covered by the candidate.
- The host university is not expected to charge anything for the mobility and should provide a workspace on their premises, access cards/keys.
- All the recipients will be insured through Swedish State Business travel insurance by Kammarkollegiet.
- An interrupted stay entails a repayment obligation.

Selection criteria

The selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Motivation and commitment to participate in the program.
- The potential of the mobility to develop the applicant's skills and research interests, and/or stimulate new research ideas.
- Balanced distribution between disciplines/faculties at Umeå University.
- Balance in terms of the number of outgoing and incoming mobilities (to and from Umeå University).
- Priority will be given to early career researchers (ERCs) who have not previously participated in a long-term mobility program in Sweden or Japan.

Dates and deadlines:

- Applications to the scheme should be submitted October 31st, 2025.
- Selection results will be communicated to applicants late November, early November
- The **mobility should be completed by 31st December 2026 at the latest.**

More information

Please submit the application and refer questions to the MIRAI contact person at Umeå University.

Jenny.ahlander@umu.se

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