
Job Vacancy Announcement
Research Associate

The Health and Environmental Risk Division invites applications for the position of Research Associate, as detailed below.

1. Position and workplace

- Position: Contract Research Employee (Research Associate)
- Open Position: 1 candidate
- Affiliation: Environmental Exposure and Effect Research Section, Health and Environmental Risk Division
- Workplace: 16-2 Onogawa, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8506, Japan
- Scope of changes in work location: None

2. Research Topic

Research on Soil Sorption of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

3. Description of Research and Work Duties

The Environmental Exposure and Effect Research Section conducts research on methods for assessing exposure to and impacts of chemicals on ecosystems. We are seeking a Research Associate capable of conducting research on soil sorption of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). The successful candidate will primarily perform LC-based online column experiments to measure soil sorption coefficients for PFAS. Based on the experimental results, we aim to clarify how factors such as soil type and pH influence sorption coefficients. Furthermore, the measured data will be utilized to develop models for predicting soil sorption coefficients for diverse PFAS.

- Scope of changes in work duties: Research and general administrative work related to research

4. Qualifications

- (1) PhD or an equivalent qualification at the time of appointment.

- (2) Achievements in chemistry or related fields including environmental chemistry, analytical chemistry, chemical engineering, environmental engineering, pharmaceutical sciences, and agricultural sciences.
- (3) Knowledge and skills required to work on the research topic described above.
- (4) English proficiency sufficient for research work including daily communication, as well as presentation and discussion.

5. Selection Process

The selection process will be by means of screening applications followed by individual interviews. Applicants who pass the initial screening process will be informed of the interview details at a later date.

The following points will additionally be considered in the selection process.

- (1) Experience in analyzing organic chemicals using liquid chromatography.
- (2) International experiences.
- (3) Ability to collaborate and work as part of a team within the section.

6. Application Documents and Process

Applicants are requested to submit the following documents as instructed below.

- (1) CV (Prescribed format)
 - (2) Publication list
 - (3) Summary of previous research
 - (4) Names and contact details of one or two referees who can provide recommendations
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- List past employments (organization names, address, employment periods) in the prescribed format CV.
 - Include information if having worked with NIES other than employment contract such as Visiting Researcher, Collaborative Researcher, Research Student, Interns, and dispatch employee.
 - Applications can be submitted electronically or by postal mail. To submit electronically, the applicant must email the contact person listed under “12. Contact Information” in advance for submission instructions, with the subject titled “Research Associate for PFAS soil sorption”. To submit by post, write “Research Associate for PFAS soil sorption” in red on the envelope.
 - The documents submitted will not be returned. Application materials submitted by

applicants other than the successful candidate will be properly discarded after selection is completed.

7. Deadline

All application documents **MUST** arrive by January 13, 2026.

8. Work Conditions and Related Regulations

- Research Associate is treated as Contract Employee.
- Working Hours: Exempt Working Hours (deemed to have worked 8 hours and 15 minutes per day regardless of the actual hours worked on weekdays)
- Basic Remuneration: JPY 5,400,000+ per annum
- Probationary Period: 6 months if the expected employment period is one year or more; one month if the expected employment period is less than one year; under same working conditions as described here.
- The employee may be requested to work overtime and/or on holiday if necessary.
- Compensation will be based on the Regulations Regarding Remuneration for Contract Employees at NIES.
- Social insurance is provided in accordance with the National Public Officers Mutual Aid Association Act, the Health Insurance Act, the Employee's Pension Insurance Act, the Employment Insurance Act, and the Long-Term Care Insurance Act.
- Smoking is allowed only in designated smoking areas for secondhand smoking policy.
- For other matters pertaining to this employment, please ensure to refer to the Rules of Employment for Contract Employees at NIES and related regulations.

(Japanese only) <https://www.nies.go.jp/kihon/kitei/index.html>

9. Date of Commencement

This position will start as soon as possible after April 1, 2026.

10. Term of Contract

This is a contract position that terminates at the end of the fiscal year (March 31, 2027). Depending on the status of the research plan and performance evaluations, the contract may be renewed; however, it cannot be extended past August 31, 2027.

The employment contract may be renewed only within the scope not exceeding the fiscal year (April 1 to March 31) that includes the day before the employee reaches the age of 65. If the day before reaching the age of 65 has already passed at the time of hiring, the contract will be limited to one fiscal year.

11. Others

This work falls under the subject matter of Article 15-2 of the Act on Activation of the Creation of Science and Technology Innovation.

(Japanese only) <https://elaws.e-gov.go.jp/document?lawid=420AC0100000063>

Employed research staff aged under 40 years of age may devote up to 20 % of their efforts to work on their voluntary research activities if NIES approves, based on an enforcement policy regarding voluntary research activities by young researchers employed to conduct project implementation using competitive grants.

12. Contact Information

Applications and any inquiries should be directed to the following person.

Dr. Satoshi ENDO
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13. Job Announcement Number

R08-R-007

This is an English translation of a Japanese document. If there is a discrepancy between the two documents, the Japanese version takes precedence.