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**Job Vacancy Announcement**  
**Research Associate**

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

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**1. Position and workplace**

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

**2. Research Topic**

Bioaccumulation of ionizable chemicals

**3. Description of Research and work duties**

The successful candidate will work on one or more of the following, primarily targeting ionizable chemicals including perfluoro- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs):

- (1) Experimental study to understand bioaccumulation in aquatic benthic animals.
- (2) Modeling study to analyze and elucidate toxicokinetics related to bioaccumulation, i.e, absorption, distribution, metabolic transformation, and excretion.
- (3) Modeling study to describe and predict the behavior in food-webs.

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

**4. Qualifications**

- (1) Doctoral degree by the time of commencement of employment, or experience and achievements equivalent to or greater than a person with a doctoral degree.
- (2) Academic background in agriculture, engineering, pharmacology, science or other

relevant academic areas as major or minor at a college or university; or equivalent knowledge or experience.

- (3) Excellent research achievements relevant to conducting the research described above.
- (4) Ability to communicate fluently in Japanese or English in conducting research activities.

## **5. Selection Process**

The selection process will be by means of screening applications followed by individual interviews. Applicants whose applications have passed the initial screening process will be informed of details of the interview on a later date.

The following will additionally be considered in the selection process.

- (1) Experience in studies of bioaccumulation, pharmacokinetics, toxicokinetics, or related topics.
- (2) Experience in studies of describing or predicting natural or environmental phenomena by means of mathematical models.
- (3) Experience of chemical analysis of trace organic contaminants in biological or environmental samples preferably by using liquid chromatography–tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS).

## **6. Application Documents and Process**

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

- (1) CV (Prescribed format)
  - (2) Summary of research activities or employment(s) (1 or 2 pages in A4 size)
  - (3) A list of publications
  - (4) Reprints or copies of major publications (up to 3 publications)
  - (5) Research plans for the Research Topic (1 page in A4 size)
  - (6) Contact address of one or two work-related referee whom we may ask to provide a personal recommendation
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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 by post or electronically. To Submit by post, write “Application documents for Bioaccumulation of ionizable chemicals” in red on the envelope. To submit electronically, contact the person listed under “12. Contact Information” in advance for electronic submission instructions, with the subject titled “Application documents for Bioaccumulation of ionizable chemicals”.
- 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

Application is open until filled.

## 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 5,440,000+ per annum
- Probationary Period: 6 months under same working conditions
- 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, in principle, terminates at the end of the fiscal year (March 31, 2027). However, depending on the status of the research plan and performance evaluations, it may be possible for the Contract Employee to renew their yearly contract, although in principle, it cannot be extended past March 31, 2030.

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. Takeo SAKURAI**

Strategic Risk Management Research Section, Health and Environmental Risk Division

National Institute for Environmental Studies

16-2 Onogawa, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8506, Japan

Tel.: +81-29-850-2801

Email: tsakurai \*Add "@nies.go.jp" at the bottom of the address.

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