

Two open positions of postdoctoral researchers / specially appointed assistant professors at the Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials, Tohoku University

Recruitment:

Two postdoctoral researchers/specially appointed assistant professors at the Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials

Summary:

Position:	postdoctoral researchers / specially appointed assistant professors
Number of Positions	2
Job type:	Fixed term
Location:	Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials 2-1-1, Katahira, Sendai, Miyagi, Japan
Qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Doctoral degree upon taking up the post• Native or near-native proficiency in English or Japanese
Submission:	tagen-takuetsu@grp.tohoku.ac.jp
Application Deadline:	2026. February 28.
Starting Employment:	At the earliest date after 2026. Apr. 1.

For questions contact

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Recruitment:

Two specially appointed research fellows at the Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials. The initial contract is for a year, but the contract may be extended upon a positive performance review and in accordance with institutional requirements.

Overview

The Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials (IMRAM), Tohoku University, is seeking qualified candidates for the positions of postdoctoral researcher/assistant professor. The selected individual will engage in research activities focused on solid-state ionics and solid-state batteries in close collaboration with distinguished Prof. Jürgen Janek at Tohoku University and other members of IMRAM. While research aimed at realizing high-performance solid-state batteries and fundamental research focused on elucidating underlying mechanisms are highly valued, we also welcome candidates with original and innovative research ideas that go beyond.

IMRAM identifies research in solid-state batteries and solid-state ionics as a core area for addressing urgent societal challenges from a multidisciplinary perspective. These challenges include energy sustainability, environmental preservation, and the responsible use of resources. The appointed researcher will play a leading role in the development of new materials and energy conversion devices, in collaboration with Prof. Jürgen Janek, to provide fundamental and transformative solutions to these issues.

The successful candidate will work synergistically with ongoing cutting-edge research at IMRAM, such as the development of novel battery materials (led by Prof. Itaru Homma and Assoc. Prof. Saneyuki Ohno) and advanced operando analysis of materials and devices using synchrotron radiation (led by Prof. Koji Amezawa and Assoc. Prof. Yuta Kimura). The position aims to establish an internationally recognized research hub for next-generation energy technologies through these collaborations. This recruitment is part of a project associated with the "University for International Research Excellence" initiative, for which Tohoku University was the first institution to be certified in Japan.

Qualifications & Submissions

Due to the nature of the position, candidates must have a doctoral degree upon taking up the post and have native or near-native proficiency in English and/or Japanese. Distinguished research achievements in the field of solid-state batteries and solid-state ionics will be evaluated by the selection committee.

Please submit the following as separate pdf files to tagen-takuetsu@grp.tohoku.ac.jp by 2026. February 13. Please also include in your e-mail how you discovered this posting (website, word of mouth, etc.).

1. Curriculum vitae (with photograph attached)
2. Researcher ID questionnaire (please submit the provided form)
If no applicable researcher ID/profile is available, please additionally submit a complete list of publications.
3. Summary of past research activities (2 pages)
4. References, including contact information and letters of recommendation

Selection:

The selection committee may ask shortlisted candidates to give a presentation on their research during the selection process.

Employment will start at the earliest date after 2026. Apr. 1.

Compensation & Benefits:

The annual salary for the appointment will be determined in accordance with Tohoku University's employment regulations and will be based on the experience and performance of the candidate.

Welfare:

Successful individuals will be enrolled as a member of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Mutual Aid Association which will also provide health insurance for any dependents. Tohoku University will also provide pension insurance, employment insurance as well as industrial accident compensation insurance.

Term of office: Non-tenured.

From the date of hire to March 31, 2027 (with the possibility of renewal)

*This term will be renewed annually upon consideration of the budget situation, the progress of the work engaged, workload at the end of the contract period, work performance, work attitude, health situation, and other factors. The contract will be renewed on an annual basis upon consideration of the budget situation, progress of work engaged in, workload, work performance, work attitude, health situation, etc. (Initial term: from the date of hire to March 31, 2026)

Hours: The discretionary labor system for professional work shall apply.

Flexible Work Hours: The standard working hours are 8:30 to 17:15, but the actual working hours are at the discretion of each employee.

Holidays: Saturdays, Sundays, National Holidays, New Year's Holidays (Dec. 29 - Jan. 3)

Insurance:

Admission into the MEXT Mutual Aid Association; provision of unemployment insurance and worker's accident insurance

Application Deadline

Application documents must arrive by 23:59 (JST) on **February 28, 2026**

*Please note that this call may be closed earlier if we receive sufficient applications.

Remarks:

- The institution reserves the right not to make an appointment if no candidate meets the required qualifications.
- Tohoku University has established a support system to assist the spouses of qualified faculty members in finding employment opportunities for academic and non-academic jobs within the university. For more information, please contact the recruiting department.
- Tohoku University promotes activities to increase Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and encourages people of varied talents from all backgrounds to apply for positions at the university. Tohoku University's website about the DEI Declaration can be found here:

<https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/vision/about/>

- Pursuant to Article 8 of the Act on Securing, Etc. of Equal Opportunity and Treatment between Men and Women in Employment, Tohoku University shall, as a measure for increasing the presence of women among the academic staff, prioritize the hiring of women deemed qualified for each job opening, based on impartial evaluation.
- Tohoku University has published 'Tohoku University-Live as Who You Are-Guidelines for Gender and Sexual Diversity' to provide explanations and details of how those at the university should respond with respect to diverse sexuality. The purpose of the guidelines is to create an environment in which all students, faculty, and staff respect diverse sexuality in their academic, research, and professional activities.

Please see the Tohoku University Center for Gender Equality Promotion website:

https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/EN_GuideLine.pdf

- Tohoku University has the largest on-campus childcare system of all Japanese national universities. This network comprises three nurseries: Kawauchi Keyaki Nursery school (capacity: 22) and Aobayama Midori Nursery school (116), both open to all university employees, as well as Hoshinoko Nursery school (120), which is open to employees working at Tohoku University Hospital. In addition, Tohoku University Hospital runs a childcare room for mildly ill and convalescent children which is available to all university employees
- See the following website for information on these and other programs that Tohoku University runs to assist work-life balance, to support researchers, and to advance gender equality, including measures to promote childcare leave among male employees.

Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Tohoku University Website:

https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/vision/consulting/for_family/

Human Resources and Planning Department website (in Japanese only):

<https://c.bureau.tohoku.ac.jp/jinji-top/external/a-4-kosodate/>