

**「Saga University Vision 2030 Project」**  
**Saga University Strategic Partnership Project (Strategic PS Project)**  
**A International joint research type · B International joint education type**  
**FY2023 Application Guidelines Implementation Version**  
**Second call for applications**

July 3, 2023

Center for Promotion of International Exchange

## **1. Purpose · Objectives**

In order to restore the sharp decline in the number of international and Japanese students studying abroad to at least the pre-Corona disaster level by the end of the next five years, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) has set directions such as accepting excellent international students, establishing them in companies and regions, and providing support for overseas study at different stages, based on re-designating priority fields and priority regions.

Based on the "Saga University Vision 2030," our university needs to work to strengthen sustainable relationships by leveraging each other's strengths, revitalizing research activities and learning through collaboration and cooperation with overseas universities by increasing the two-way mobility of our university's faculty, staff and students, while building on our existing educational and research exchanges.

To this end, we have established a strategy to focus on international exchange with partner institutions that are similar in size and character to our university, that have a similar level of enthusiasm for sending and receiving students from both sides, and that can be expected to generate considerable synergy effects through educational and research exchanges. Based on this strategy, the "Saga University Strategic Partnership Project (hereinafter referred to as the "Strategic PS Project") will select candidate schools for strategic partnerships (hereinafter referred to as "Strategic PS Candidate Schools") from among the current exchange partners, and will gradually implement initiatives sequentially, and design the system based on their actual activities.

In this context, this strategic PS project will contribute to the achievement of the "Saga University Vision 2030" by steadily implementing the PDCA cycle to cultivate the ripple effects of international exchange both inside and outside the university and to generate further ripple effects.

## **2. Partner institutions to be recruited for the current project**

- 1) Universities with exchange agreements \*

\*Overseas university must be willing and able to establish equal relationship based on the purpose of this project.

- 2) Institutions that have been selected for this project in FY2022

### (3) Universities with Inter-Faculty exchange agreements\*

\*However, the relationship should be limited to those that already exist and can be developed beyond the department.  
Or, it is limited to those that are expected to be developed in the future.

In principle, the number of partner institutions is limited to one per country/region per application. However, if this project is to be conducted in collaboration with multiple institutions or departments, the following should be noted.

#### ( 1 ) Collaboration with multiple institutions

If applicant wish to interact with more than one organization in a particular country, the organization structure and the activities of each organization should be clearly described in the application form, with a clear description of the collaboration in the country and the main organizations involved.

#### ( 2 ) Collaboration with multiple departments

If departments of the University wish to collaborate in the implementation of the project, the main department should be selected and the department should serve as the liaison. In addition, the application form should clearly state the organizational structure and the details of each department's efforts.

### **3. Support period**

Only for FY2023. The application period for FY2024 and beyond will be rescheduled based on the implementation status of this project and the budget setting for each fiscal year.

### **4. Applicant • Implementer**

#### ( 1 ) Applicant

The applicant should be the head of the department to which the implementer belongs. In the case of an initiative to be implemented by multiple departments in collaboration with each other, the applicant should apply on behalf of the head of one of the main departments.

In this case, the applicant shall be appointed as the implementer responsible for the realization of the initiative.

#### ( 2 ) Implementer

The implementer shall be a person or group that falls under both ① and ②

- ① A full-time researcher affiliated with the university, or a researcher positioned as a full-time researcher.

In the case of a group, the representative must be a full-time researcher affiliated with the university.

- ② Those who can obtain recommendation and permission from the head of their department, etc., regarding the invitation and overseas dispatch of researchers, etc.

## **5. Application limit**

One department may apply for up to three projects as a representative department (including projects continued from FY2022).

However, there is no limit to the number of applications that can be submitted as a cooperating department.

## **6. Types and Initiatives**

- ( 1 ) Type : A International joint research • B International joint education
- ( 2 ) Initiative : Initiatives to conduct international joint research or international joint education involving the invitation or overseas dispatch of researchers and students with overseas partner institutions as described in 1) through 3) of this outline 2.

## **7. Requirements for Initiatives**

The following requirements must be met in order to be eligible for support, and the applicant must be able to continue applying for support in the fiscal year 2024. However, the support expenses related to this call for applications must be paid during the fiscal year 2023.

- ( 1 ) International joint research (or international joint education) plan that takes advantage of each other's strengths through cooperation and collaboration between the university and the partner institution, or a plan for initiatives leading to international joint research (or international joint education).
- ( 2 ) A well-balanced two-way international exchange plan for all faculty, staff, and students of the applicant department, centered on the implementer.
- ( 3 ) Prior to applying for a Strategic PS Project, the applicant must have made adequate arrangements with the counterpart institution.

(4) Efforts must be able to present results by FY2025. Specifically,

International joint research type :

- The applicant must write at least one international co-authored paper to be reviewed and submit it to an internationally renowned journal by the end of FY2025.
- Apply for JSPS's International Research Collaboration Acceleration Fund, Bilateral Exchange Programs, or other equivalent programs after FY2024.

International joint education type :

- Aim to implement an advanced international joint education program\* by FY2027, the period of the 4th Mid-term Objectives and Mid-term Plan.
  - \* Joint degrees, double degrees, sandwich programs, etc.
- Apply for projects\* conducted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) or other organizations in FY2024 or later.
  - \* JASSO Overseas Study Support System (agreed dispatch), etc.

(5) An interim report on the status of implementation of the project shall be submitted to the Technical Committee for the Center for Promotion of International Exchange during the third quarter of FY2023.

(6) To hold an international research meeting, etc, on the status of implementation of this project during FY2023 and make a broad presentation of the results

(7) The applicant must plan to continue international joint research or international joint education programs, etc. after FY2026, and to continue exchanges with the partner institution. It is desirable that the applicant's department has a plan to be able to continue its efforts independently and obtain the research funds necessary to continue international joint research or international joint education programs, etc. after the financial support under the Strategic PS Project, as well as to apply for government programs. The applicant's department should have a plan to continue its efforts independently.

(8) The candidate must be able to act as a liaison and coordinator between the university and the partner institution in the event that the two institutions decide to proceed with procedures for the conclusion of a strategic partnership.

## **8. Implementation Period and Submission Deadline**

Submission Deadline    Friday, September 1, 2023

## **9. Number of Adoptions**

- ( 1 ) International joint research    about 3 cases
- ( 2 ) International joint education    about 3 cases

## **10. Allowance Expenses (tentative)**

The maximum amount of funds is 1.5 million yen per initiative per year. The following expenses may be used for the program. Travel expenses shall be in accordance with the "Regulations on Travel Expenses of Saga University National University Corporation. In principle, the actual business plan and execution of expenses shall be made on a fiscal year basis.

( 1 ) The expenses to be supported shall be as follows.

- ① Honorarium (minimum required student (undergraduate or graduate) honorarium)
- ② Travel expenses (travel expenses for faculty, students, and other staff of the university traveling abroad or invited from abroad)  
(about 750,000 yen each) ※Efforts should also be made to utilize external funds to promote interactive exchange.
- ③ Consumables
- ④ Miscellaneous expenses (expenses necessary for the implementation of projects other than (1) through (3) above)

If there is a plan to send a student to the partner institution for which the student is applying, the travel expenses and the incentive will be supported in accordance with the attached benefit guidelines solicitation.

( 2 ) Expenses not supported shall be as follows.

- ① Equipment supplies (e.g., PCs, laptops, digital cameras, video cameras, microphones, tablet devices, electronic dictionaries, other equipment, etc.)
- ③ Fixtures (100,000 yen or more)

## **11. Application Procedure**

Applicants must submit the 2023 Saga University Strategic PS Project application form along with other required documents to the director of Center for International Exchange. In addition, if there is a plan to send or accept students to the partner institution to

which you are applying, please check each payment guideline and submit the 2023 Strategic Partnership Project Saga University Special Scholarship Recommendation Form "Form 1" or an overseas graduate school. Student Special Incentive Recommendation Form "Form 1" must be submitted together with the 2023 Saga University Strategic PS Project Application Form. If you do not yet have a plan for sending/receiving students at the time of the project application, please indicate so in the project application and submit the necessary documents separately at a later date.

## **12. Selection and notification of selection results**

The selection for this project will be reviewed by a specialized committee of the International Exchange Promotion Center Operating Committee, and after strict selection based on the selection policy, decisions will be made after deliberations by the International Exchange Promotion Center Operating Committee.

## **13. Reports, etc.**

The selected applicant (representative applicant) shall submit a separate report to the Director of the Center for Promotion of International Exchange by the end of March 2024.

The contents of the report shall be made public as a project report of the Center for Promotion of International Exchange.

## **14. About Public Relations**

The applicant (representative applicant) will widely publicize the efforts inside and outside the university by the end of FY2023. In order to announce the results of the efforts on the Center for International Exchange website, etc., please promptly submit relevant photos and articles for publicity to the director of the Center for International Exchange. In addition, when publicizing, please specify that it is being carried out by this project as much as possible.

## **15. Points of Concern**

- (1) Even if the travel and implementation of the project was conducted or completed prior to the public call for this support project, the application is still eligible if it meets the requirements for application.

(2) In implementing the project, the project manager shall take thorough measures to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus, and participants shall follow the instructions and other guidelines for restricting activities at Saga University established by the university.

(3) This project may not be implemented depending on the budget situation in FY2023.

- ① The content of the implementation plan is consistent with the aims and objectives of this project, increasing the two-way mobility of faculty, staff and students at the university, revitalizing research activities and learning, and strengthening sustainable relationships that make the most of each other's strengths. (conformity with purpose and purpose).
- ② Whether the content of the implementation plan is concrete and feasible, and whether it can be expected to accumulate results in the future (feasibility and results).
- ③ Will this initiative cultivate the ripple effect of international exchange both inside and outside the university, and will it produce a further ripple effect (ripple effect).
- ④ In addition, does it lead to the future development of the University's educational and research activities and the strengthening of its international competitiveness (developmental potential).

#### 【Feasibility and future development potential】

In addition to the viewpoints in (1) above, the amount and use of the expenses will be considered in the screening process in (2) above.

### 16. Schedule (tentative)

Early July	Start of 2nd call applications (Application period: about 2 month)
Early September	Screening after the 2nd call application deadline
Early October	Notification of acceptance or rejection for 2nd call applications