

2016

Joint Usage and Research Center Programs
at the Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University
Application Guidelines (Supplementary) for Project Research Program

The Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University has been approved by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology as a center for “high-level empirical analysis of the Japanese and global economies.” With a focus on providing an environment for using government micro data, we aim to form an international joint research center based on the development of institutional and policy research, including synergistic research results combining theory and empirical evidence, along with broad collaboration between industry, government, academia, and international organizations; in these efforts, we are oriented toward positive research based on the consolidation and enhancement of data and archives and the development of statistical analytical methods. To promote these goals the Institute of Economic Research is recruiting individuals in project research. This year, we provide supplementary research grants. Application guidelines are given below.

1. Definition

The project research program is for research on specific topics in economics by outside researchers using the research resources of the Institute of Economic Research.

2. Qualifications

Researchers from universities or research institutes, or the equivalent. Research contributors may include graduate students. Please note that research leaders who have been accepted into this program within the last two years may not apply as the team leader.

3. Number of successful applicants

Approximately 5 applicants will be selected.

4. Research grants

Research grants of up to ¥1 million per research project are available to assist with expenses necessary for research (supplies, travel, honorarium, venue use, printing, etc.) based on the institute’s accounting criteria and implemented through the center’s budget. Please note that research grants are implemented and managed through the Institute of Economic Research. Expenses to be covered may be increased or decreased from the requested amount upon review.

(Because of nature of our budget, computers, tablets, other peripheral devices, and other information processing and communication devices are ineligible.)

5. Research period

From the date of selection for the research program until March 31, 2017. In principle, extensions are not permitted.

6. Research topics

The Institute for Economic Research encourages joint research in five basic fields of research toward achieving the specific goals of the Joint Usage and Research Center in 2016: (1) economic analysis using government statistical micro data;^{*1} (2) economic research on business enterprises, prices, household expenses, labor, education, population aging and declining birth rates, or pension and taxation using micro data; (3) empirical research using high-frequency data on asset prices; (4) construction of historical and industrial data sets for international comparison; and (5) basic research on normative economic analysis. Project research topics consistent with research topics receiving particular emphasis by the Institute of Economic Research are preferable.^{*2}

*1 When using government micro data in the project, applicants must be aware of the eligibility requirements stipulated by the relevant authorities. Applicants can use an “on-site facility” as well when using government micro data. For details, please refer to the “Research Project Implementation Guidelines.

*2 For further details, please refer to the institute’s webpage for large-scale research projects (<http://www.ier.hit-u.ac.jp/English/project/projects.html>).

7. Research organizations

A research organization consists of a research leader and contributors. A research leader is an individual who applies for project research, assumes a leading role in conducting research, and submits a report to the institute on the research organization’s activities upon completion of the research period as a leader of the research organization. Please note that faculty of the Institute of Economic Research (full-time professors, associate professors, full-time lecturers, assistant professors, and adjunct faculty) cannot serve as research leaders. A research contributor is an individual who conducts project research with the research leader, so it is preferable to include faculty from the Institute of Economic Research.

8. Research results

When members of the research organization present or publish their results, they must clearly acknowledge within their publications that they received a research project grant from the Institute of Economic Research. (Example sentence: This research was supported by the Joint Research Center, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University.)

9. Research results report

The research leader must submit a PDF file and printed copy of the research results report in a format designated by the Institute of Economic Research within one month of the completion of the research period. Portions of the research results report may be published on the Institute of Economic Research website.

10. How to apply

After completing the required items of the specified application form, the research applicant must submit an electronic version of the application (scan the document into PDF) to the email address kyodo-riyou@ier.hit-u.ac.jp. After accepting your application, we will contact you. Please let us know by phone if you don't receive the reply after submitting your application.

Phone number: 042-580-8382 (Ms. Akemi Okayasu, Faculty Support Office)

11. Application deadline

The application must arrive by July 11, 2016.

12. Decision notification

Decisions will be made based on review by the Joint Usage and Research Committee and applicants will be notified by the end of July 2016. The research team leader must sign and submit a "Written Pledge on the Use of the Joint Usage and Research Center Programs at the Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University" before starting any research project.