

2015

Joint Usage and Research Center Programs at the Institute of Economic Research,
Hitotsubashi University
Application Guidelines

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 (I) project research and (II) the Resampling Data Usage Promotion Program as a part of the Joint Usage and Research Center. Application guidelines for each are given below.

I. Project research program

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.

3. Number of successful applicants

Approximately 15 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, 2016. 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 2015: (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.

^{*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/index.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 specially-appointed 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 a member of the research organization presents or publishes their results, they must clearly acknowledge that they received a project research grant from the Institute of Economic Research.

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 filling out the required items of the specified application form, the research applicant must submit the printed and signed portion of the application via post and an electronic version of the application (a PDF is acceptable) to the below addresses. When posting the hard copy, “PROJECT RESEARCH APPLICATION ENCLOSED” must be written on the envelope in block letters.

Faculty Support Office
Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University
2-1 Naka, Kunitachi City
Tokyo, 186-8603
Email: kyodo-riyou [at] ier.hit-u.ac.jp

11. Application deadline

The application must arrive by February 1, 2015.

12. Decision notification

Decisions will be made based on review by the Joint Usage and Research Committee and applicants will be notified by late March 2015.

II. Resampling Data Usage Promotion Program

1. Purpose

This program assists individuals who meet the following application eligibility criteria and conditions to promote the use by young researchers of anonymous government statistical data, which the Research Centre for Information and Statistics of Social Science provides.

2. Application eligibility criteria and conditions

- (1) Individuals under 40 years old who aspire to become full-time researchers and graduate students^{*1}.
- (2) Those requesting to use anonymous data from the Research Centre for Information and Statistics of Social Science for the first time.
- (3) One's formal request to use anonymous data has been finalized.
- (4) After applying, finalize the procedures for using anonymous data; procedures must be completed by the date of receipt of anonymous data.
- (5) Come into the Research Centre for Information and Statistics of Social Science to pick up anonymous data in person^{*2}.

^{*1} Individual applications only. Recommendation by faculty research supervisor required.

^{*2} Plan to spend approximately one hour, including an explanation of precautions for use.

3. Data provided by the Research Centre for Information and Statistics of Social Science

The following anonymous government statistical datasets are currently available at the Research Centre for Information and Statistics of Social Science.

- (1) Housing Survey (1993) and Housing and Land Survey (1998, 2003)
- (2) Employment Status Survey (1992, 1997, and 2002)
- (3) Survey on Time Use and Leisure Activities (1991, 1996, 2001, and 2006)
- (4) National Survey of Family Income and Expenditure (1989, 1994, 1999, and 2004)
- (5) Labour Force Survey (January 1989 – December 2010)
- (6) Population Census of Japan (2000 and 2005)

4. Number of successful applicants

Approximately 10 applicants will be selected.

5. Research grants

Research grants of up to ¥100,000 per application are available to assist with (1) travel expenses for visiting the institute to pick up the anonymous data and for presenting academic papers on research results using anonymous data at an academic conference, (2) expenses for supplies such as the license fee for anonymous data paid to the National Statistics Center, and (3) printing, 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.)

6. Grant period

From the date of selection until March 31, 2016.

7. Research results

If a member of the research organization presents their results, they must clearly acknowledge that they received a project research grant through this program.

8. Research results report

Both a hard copy and PDF version of a progress report on research conducted up until the end of the grant period must be submitted within one month of the completion of the grant period in a format designated by the Institute of Economic Research. Portions of the research results report may be published on the Institute of Economic Research website.

9. Application deadline

September 30, 2015

10. How to apply

After filling out the required items of the specified application form, this application form must be submitted to the following postal and email addresses together with the official request documentation for using anonymous data. Before formally requesting data, please notify the anonymous data usage office at Institute of Economic Research of your intention to apply for this program.

Micro Data Analysis Section, Research Centre for Information and Statistics of Social Science,
Hitotsubashi University
2-1 Naka, Kunitachi City
Tokyo, 186-8603
Email: micro [at] ier.hit-u.ac.jp

11. Decision notification

Decisions will be made based on review by the Joint Usage and Research Committee and the

applicants will be notified on a rolling basis.

12. Comments

Please read the “Anonymous Data Usage Guidelines” carefully to ensure you fully understand anonymous data usage procedures.