

Job Posting (for Postdoctoral Researcher)

Affiliation	Earth-Life Science Institute (ELSI)
Position title	Researcher
Number of Openings	1
Area of Specialization	Organic chemistry, Nucleic acid chemistry, chemical biology, or related fields
Job Description	Our laboratory integrates organic chemistry and chemical biology to develop functional nucleic acids as molecular platforms for investigating the chemical principles underlying molecular recognition, catalysis, immunity, and the origin of life. Current research programs include: • DNA hybrid catalysts and DNA metalloenzymes • Chemically modified fluorescent nucleic acids • non-canonical nucleic acid structures such as Z-DNA and Z-RNA • Prebiotic synthesis of biomolecules and chemical evolution The successful candidate will participate in the design, synthesis, and functional characterization of chemically modified nucleic acid systems and contribute to the development of new molecular platforms combining organic chemistry, spectroscopy, and chemical biology. Responsibilities include: • Organic synthesis and chemical modification of nucleic acids and related compounds • Purification and structural characterization of synthetic molecules • Biophysical characterization using UV-Vis, CD spectroscopy, and related techniques • Development of new experimental systems for chemical biology research • Data analysis, manuscript preparation, and assistance with laboratory operation Candidates with experience or technical expertise in one or more of the following areas are particularly encouraged to apply: • Organic Chemistry • Nucleic acid biochemistry • Chemical biology research • Spectroscopy and molecular characterization (NMR, MS, IR, fluorescence) • Biophysical characterization including UV-Vis and CD spectroscopy

	The researcher will work closely with the PI in a newly established laboratory environment and is expected to actively contribute to the development of new research directions and experimental platforms.
Qualifications	Candidates should hold a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or equivalent).
Location	Ookayama Campus Nearest station: Ookayama
Working Hours	De facto working hours* under the discretionary labor system: 7 hours 45 minutes per day (38 hours 45 minutes per week) *Hours considered as working hours
Term	1 year from date of hire. (The contract may be extended). The employment period is subject to Article 7 of the Institute's Employment Regulations for Fixed-Term Staff.
Probationary Period	14 days (The probationary period is subject to Article 12 of the Institute's Employment Regulations for Fixed-Term Staff.)
Salary	Annual salary (annual base salary) (Monthly salary) ¥353,000 - ¥520,000, depending on experience. The applicant's salary will be determined in accordance with the Institute's Employment Regulations for Fixed-Term Staff.
Social insurance and other benefits	Employee's pension, MEXT Mutual Aid Association short term benefits (health insurance), employment insurance, worker's compensation Insurance
Employer	President and Chief Executive Officer of the National University Corporation Institute of Science Tokyo
Proposed Start Date	The earliest possible date thereafter
Closing Date for Application	Applications must be received by 5 pm, August 31 st , 2026 JST. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. This job posting will close if a successful candidate is finalized, even if before the posted deadline.
Selection Process	Reviewing the submitted materials and selected candidates will be interviewed on-line or in-person. Travel expenses for attending in-person interviews will not be reimbursed.
Required Documents	Please prepare the following materials in PDF format. There is no set format. 1. Curriculum vitae including educational background, professional experience, honors, and awards, mailing address, and e-mail address. 2. List of research achievements classified into the following categories (a: peer-reviewed journal papers, b: presentations in international conferences, c: books, d: Education experiences, and others). Please indicate publications in which you are the first author with an asterisk (*). Please highlight up to three most important papers. 3. Up to 3 reprints of major original papers. 4. List of acquired external research grants, fellowships, or competitive funds. The type, project title, period of research, and budget should be provided for each item. Please specify applicant's contribution as a principal or cooperative

	investigator. In case where you act as co-investigator, please specify the total and allocated budgets. 5. Research achievements and plans for research at ELSI (any format, about 2 pages of A4 paper) 6. List of names and contact information of two references. The name, affiliation, e-mail address, and their relationship to the applicant should be provided.
How to Submit an application	Please combine all specified documents into a single PDF file and upload it to the Box URL below by 5:00 PM on August 31st, 2026 (JST). https://science-tokyo.app.box.com/f/0acd55e1cc894dce9db626f5957bbdb8
Contacts	Please address questions to Soyoung Park, Associate Professor E-mail: spark [at]elsi.jp (replace [at] by @)
Other	1. During the selection process, candidates may be requested to provide additional information. 2. Application documents will not be returned. The personal information provided in the submitted documents will be used solely for recruitment and not for any other purpose, pursuant to the Institute's applicable rules and regulations. 3. The Institute, in order to ensure a diverse workforce, guarantees equal opportunities for all individuals regardless of nationality or gender. 4. Smoking is prohibited on campus except in designated areas. 5. Questions regarding the applicability of the "Specific Categories" under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act may be asked during the selection process. 6. For more information, please refer to the following link. https://www.jinji2.jim.titech.ac.jp/koubo/en/