

Job Posting

(for Professor or Associate Professor)

Affiliation	Earth-Life Science Institute (ELSI), Institute of Future Science
Position title	Professor or Associate Professor
Number of Openings	1
Area of Specialization	Study of the early Earth, study of the origin and evolution of life, and astrobiology. Areas of particular interest are geochemistry/cosmochemistry, organic/inorganic/physical chemistry, systems chemistry, polymer chemistry, and biochemistry. This is not an exclusive list; suitable candidates in disciplines allied to the origin of the Earth-life system research within these broad themes are encouraged to apply.
Job Description	<p>The Earth-Life Science Institute (ELSI), a research institute based at the Institute of Future Science, Institute of Science Tokyo, is seeking a collaborative and open-minded scientist to establish a research program in the origin and evolution of both Earth and life, and astrobiology studies as a tenured faculty member of the university (Full Professor level or Associate Professor level). We are particularly interested in the broad areas of chemistry to further strengthen our in-house research on chemical evolution toward life and co-evolution of planet-life systems.</p> <p>ELSI was launched in 2012 as part of the World Premier International Research Center Initiative (WPI) of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan. We have succeeded in establishing a unique and attractive international environment along with organizational innovations that accommodate and encourage scientists from all countries to carry out novel, ambitious, cutting-edge research yielding a global impact in our respective fields. ELSI aims to answer the fundamental questions of how Earth was formed, how life originated in the environment of early Earth, how this life evolved into complexity, and whether there are planetary bodies hosting life beyond Earth. ELSI pursues these questions through interdisciplinary collaborations.</p> <p>We are now seeking exceptional candidates for the role of Principal Investigator (Professor or Associate Professor) to lead world-class interdisciplinary research relevant to the origin and evolution of both Earth and life, and astrobiology. We encourage and support our candidates' close collaborations with overseas research institutes. Our institutional language is English; Japanese language skills are not required. An unprecedented level of support for researchers to live and thrive in Japan is provided by our talented staff.</p>
Qualifications	1) Candidates should hold a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or equivalent).

	<p>2) Candidates should have their own original research plans in the subject specified above and demonstrated abilities to acquire external or competitive funds to promote their own research.</p> <p>3) Candidates should be qualified to offer graduate-level instruction and classroom teaching in English with demonstrated capacity to supervise and teach graduate students.</p> <p>4) Candidates should have an international research network in a relevant subject and a strong commitment to the development and the strategic and operational management of the institute.</p>
Location	<p>Ookayama Campus</p> <p>Nearest station: Ookayama</p>
Working Hours	<p>De facto working hours* under the discretionary labor system for professional work: 7 hours 45 minutes per day (38 hours 45 minutes per week)</p> <p>*Hours considered as working hours</p>
Term	<p>Permanent position</p> <p>The Institute has mandatory retirement, requiring employees to retire at the age of 65.</p>
Probationary Period	6 months
Salary	<p>The successful candidate will be paid under the “Annual Salary System with Lump-Sum Retirement Allowance” pursuant to the Institute’s Rules on Wage and Salary for Staff under Annual Salary System with Lump-Sum Retirement Allowance. In accordance with the rules, the amount of annual salary will be determined based on the candidate’s age, highest degree obtained, work experience, and other factors for the first fiscal year of employment, and will be based on performance evaluations in subsequent years. A retirement allowance will be paid separately at the time of retirement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Annual salary examples (including bonuses, etc.) • Professor who has 15 years of work experience after completing a doctoral degree (employment starting in April) First year: JPY 9,240,000 (general example) Subsequent years: Minimum: JPY 9,140,000 Standard: JPY 10,280,000 Maximum: JPY 12,410,000 <p>*Minimum and maximum amounts may vary depending on performance evaluations.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associate Professor who has 10 years of work experience after completing a doctoral degree (employment starting in April) First year: JPY 7,740,000 (general example) Subsequent years: Minimum*: JPY 7,790,000 Standard: JPY 8,640,000 Maximum*: JPY 10,270,000 <p>*Minimum and maximum amounts may vary depending on performance evaluations.</p> <p>Important information (applicable to all positions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>The amounts listed above are provided as examples based on Institute rules and do not directly refer to this specific position.</u> Additional fixed allowances for commuting, housing, dependents, or other considerations may be provided separately to eligible candidates. The amount of the first payment of the Addition to Annual Salary and the Performance-Based Bonus may vary depending on the length of time between the employment start date and the payment date. If a candidate is transferring from another national university or organization, their period of service at the previous institution may be taken into consideration.
Social insurance and other benefits	Employees' pension, Mutual Aid Association short-term benefits (health insurance), employment insurance, worker's compensation Insurance.
Employer	President and Chief Executive Officer of National University Corporation Institute of Science Tokyo
Proposed Start Date	April 1st, 2026 or the earliest possible date thereafter
Closing Date for Application	Applications must be received by September 30th, 2025
Selection Process	The selection committee will start reviewing the submitted materials on October 1, 2025. Selected candidates will be interviewed and will be requested to give a seminar on research and a model class, the latter for graduate students, in English.
Required Documents	<p>Please prepare the following materials in PDF format. There is no set format. All documents must be provided in English.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1-to-2-page cover letter including a statement of interest. Please indicate the desired position (Professor or Associate Professor). Curriculum vitae including educational background, professional experience, honors and awards, mailing address, and e-mail address.

	<p>3. List of research achievements classified into the following categories (peer-reviewed journal papers, referred international conference proceedings, books authored, reviews, and intellectual property). Please indicate publications in which you are the first or corresponding author with an asterisk (*).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>5. Abridged list of major honors and awards, academic society activities, editorial activities, grant proposal review panels, other service-related activities, committee activities, and social contribution or outreach activities.</p> <p>6. List of up to five most important publications.</p> <p>7. Outline of research achievements and current research objectives. Please limit the length to 3 pages of A4 or letter size.</p> <p>8. Statement of research plans at ELSI that specifically address the origin and early evolution of life. Please limit the length to 3 pages of A4 or letter size.</p> <p>9. Outline of past and current teaching activities and list of classes taught. Please specify the language used in classes. Please limit the length to 2 pages of A4 or letter size.</p> <p>10. Statement of teaching and public outreach plans. Please limit the length to 1 page of A4 or letter size.</p> <p>11. List of names and contact information of four references. Two or more references should be from researchers based in institutions outside of Japan. The name, affiliation, postal address, telephone number, e-mail address, and their relationship to the applicant should be provided.</p>
How to Submit an Application	<p>Please upload your application at the URL below by September 30th, 2025. https://science-tokyo.app.box.com/f/47f16be64e39467bac440dcdf53b36b6</p> <p>We will notify you via e-mail upon receipt of your application within 5 business days. Please generate and submit a single PDF file that includes all the documents specified above.</p> <p>The file size should not exceed 5 MB.</p>
Contacts	<p>Director Yasuhito Sekine, Email: faculty-recruitment[at]elsi.jp; replace [at] by @).</p>

Other	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The selection process for this position will be done in English. 2. During the selection process, candidates may be requested to provide additional information. 3. Please visit https://www.elsi.jp/en/ for further information about the institute. 4. 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. 5. Job descriptions and work locations may be subject to change due to organizational restructuring, within the scope defined by the Institute. 6. The Institute, in order to ensure a diverse workforce, guarantees equal opportunities for all individuals regardless of nationality or gender. 7. Questions regarding the applicability of the "Specific Categories" under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act may be asked during the selection process. 8. For more information, please refer to the following link. https://www.jinji2.jim.titech.ac.jp/koubo/en/ https://www.tmd.ac.jp/english/employment
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