

April 9, 2026

Position Open: Postdoctoral Researcher
at Faculty of Advanced Life Science, Hokkaido University

1. Number of Positions

One (1)

2. Job Title

Contract Employee (Postdoctoral Researcher)

3. Affiliation

Immediately after appointment:

Soft Matter Structure & Physics Laboratory, Division of Advanced Interdisciplinary Sciences,
Faculty of Advanced Life Science, Hokkaido University

Scope of change: None

4. Job Description

Immediately after appointment:

The successful candidate will work jointly with Project Assoc. Prof. Shintaro Nakagawa on the research project on precise analysis and extremization of structural homogeneity in polymer networks, funded by the JST FOREST program. The project aims to quantitatively evaluate the structural homogeneity/inhomogeneity of polymer networks through analysis of specially designed model networks, and to establish methods to maximize the homogeneity. Main tasks include synthesis of model polymers and their precursors, structural evaluation using various techniques such as scattering methods, and evaluation of physical (mainly mechanical) properties.

Related papers:

[1] Nakagawa et al. Adv. Mater. 2023, 35, 2301124.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/adma.202301124>

[2] Sasaki et al. Macromolecules 2025, 58, 13180.

<https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.macromol.5c02407>

Furthermore, the successful candidate is encouraged to utilize the JST system for "Voluntary Research Activities by Young Researchers" to launch and manage their own research themes, as long as they do not hinder the advancement of the primary project.

(Scope of changes) No changes

5. Work Location

Soft Matter Structure & Physics Laboratory, Faculty of Advanced Life Science, Hokkaido University

Kita 21-jo Nishi-11-chome, Kita-ku, Sapporo 001-0021 Japan

6. Qualifications

Applicants must hold a doctoral degree or be expected to obtain one by the time of appointment.

7. Required Experience

(1) Ability to communicate in Japanese and/or English.

(2) Ability to independently plan and conduct research in at least one of the following areas: synthesis, structural characterization, or mechanical property evaluation of polymer materials (not necessary to be experienced in all three).

8. Employment Period

From as early as possible on or after October 1, 2026 (negotiable) to March 31, 2027.

9. Probation Period

Yes (1 month). Employment conditions remain unchanged during the probation period.

10. Contract Renewal

The contract may be renewed every fiscal year based on workload, performance, and financial conditions, up to March 31, 2029.

Note: Depending on future financial conditions and other factors, the maximum period of employment may be extended, provided it does not exceed 10 years from the initial appointment date.

11. Salary

In accordance with the Employment Regulations for Contract Employees of Hokkaido University. Annual salary system; monthly base salary approximately JPY 380,000 depending on experience. Commuting allowance provided if eligible.

12. Working Conditions

Working days: Monday to Friday. Working hours: discretionary professional work system or fixed working hours system (deemed 7 hours 45 minutes per day). Holidays: weekends, national holidays, December 29–January 3, and university-designated holidays.

13. Insurance Coverage

MEXT Mutual Aid Association, Employees' Pension Insurance, Employment Insurance, Workers' Compensation Insurance

14. Name of Employer

National University Corporation Hokkaido University

15. Smoking Policy

Smoking is prohibited on campus except in designated outdoor smoking areas.

16. Application Method

Application materials:

(1) Curriculum Vitae: Including contact information, educational background, work experience, qualifications, and any honors or penalties. No photo required.

(2) List of Research Achievements

(3) Summary of Research to Date: Within one page.

(4) Contact information for one reference: Name, job title, affiliation, and email address of a person who can provide an opinion on the applicant.

Note 1: All documents must be prepared on A4-size (free format) and written in Japanese or English. Please combine all documents into a single PDF file.

Note 2: Applicant who has been employed by Hokkaido University from April 1, 2013 (any position, including Part-time Lecturer, Teaching Assistant, Teaching Fellow, Research

Assistant and Short-term Support Assistant, etc.) should provide full details of their employment history.

Note 3: Personal information will be exclusively used for the screening purpose only.

17. Selection Method

Selection based on document screening followed by an online interview. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

18. Application Deadline

Tuesday, June 30, 2026.

19. Submission

Please submit all application materials combined in a single PDF file by email with the subject line "JST FOREST Postdoc Application" to: snaka_at_sci.hokudai.ac.jp (replace _at_ with @).