

Call for Applications for the AONSA Young Research Fellowship 2026

AONSA Young Research Fellowship Program (Established in February 2014)

The Asia-Oceania Neutron Scattering Association (AONSA) Young Research Fellowship Program has been established in 2014 to support highly talented young scientists in the Asia-Oceania region and help them to develop their expertise and career in neutron science and technology. The Program provides financial support for Fellows to visit major neutron facilities in the region for collaborative research using neutrons.

Any young scientist in the Asia-Oceania region within 8 years of the completion of their PhD and who wishes to perform neutron research at major neutron facilities in the region (but not in their home country) can apply by following the Rules as described below. Please note, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is an uncertainty in the number of available Fellowship positions and hosting facilities. Provisional hosting Neutron Facilities in 2026 are [ANSTO \(Australia\)](#), [CARR \(China\)](#), [CSNS \(China\)](#), [J-PARC \(Japan\)](#), and [J-RR3 \(Japan\)](#). Four to five Fellowship positions may be available at a maximum in this application round depending on the situation (the length of visiting and the type of instruments) and the possible duration of each Fellowship visit is 3 to 12 months, depending on the hosting facility. Please send your applications electronically to the chair of Fellowship Selection Committee (SC) (hchou@mail.nsysu.edu.tw) by **December 17th, 2025**. The results will be communicated to applicants in **February 14th 2026** and the Fellowship visits can start from **March 2026** to **February 2027**. The detail for Visa, administration and starting date please contact with the host assigned by the facility.

An application should include:

- A standard application form (provided by AONSA) with all required information completed including a scientific plan for collaborative neutron research. (The application form can be downloaded from <http://www.aonsa.org>)
- A curriculum vitae including a full list of publications.
- One recommendation letter from a supervisor at home institute.
- One letter of support from President of the home neutron society or a representative of home neutron community or a high officer of the home institute if there is no neutron society or community in the region.

For the more information about neutron scattering instruments available and possible opportunities at the Facilities, please contact the following persons.

ANSTO: Dr. Jamie Schulz

Email: Jamie.Schulz@ansto.gov.au

CARR: Dr. Tianfu Li

Email: litianfu.li@163.com

CSNS: Dr. Tianjiao Liang

Email: tjliang@ihep.ac.cn

J-PARC: Prof. Toshiya Otomo

Email: toshiya.otomo@kek.jp

J-RR3: Prof. Taku J. Sato

Email: taku@issp.u-tokyo.ac.jp

1. Rules

- a. The Fellowships shall be awarded every year to highly talented young scientists in the region who have demonstrated strong scientific or technical needs for an extended visit to a major neutron facility in the region (but not in their home country). Recipients can receive the Fellowship only once.
- b. The duration of the Fellowship visit shall be 3 to 12 months depending on their needs and resources available. The maximum number of recipients each year shall be determined by the AONSA Executive Committee (EC) after consultation with hosting facilities.
- c. The Fellowship consists of a certificate of Fellowship award, one round-trip economy class airfare between their home institute and the hosting facility, and local living expense at the hosting facility. The amount of support for local living expenses shall be determined based on the nominal cost of living and funding resources available. At least one staff member shall be assigned by the hosting facility to the Fellow as a collaborator and mentor.
- d. The financial responsibility for each Fellow shall be shared by AONSA, the hosting facility, the home institute, and another funding agency (if available). When other funding resources are not available, AONSA shall provide one round-trip airfare, the hosting facility shall cover local living expenses, and the home institute shall provide salary, insurance and other financial needs. When funding from another agency is available, the guidelines of that agency shall be followed.
- e. Within 3 months of completing the Fellowship visit, each Fellow shall submit a report to the Chair of the SC and the hosting facility with a brief description of research performed during their visit and other outcomes.
- f. In any publication resulting from the Fellowship visit, the AONSA Young Research Fellowship Program and hosting Facility shall be acknowledged.
- g. A special session with successful Fellows as speakers shall be considered at the following AOCNS meeting.

2. Applications and Eligibility

- a. shall be open to young scientists in The AONSA Young Research Fellowship Program in the Asia-Oceania region within 8 years of the completion of their PhD (as of the application deadline, excluding career interruptions) who wish to perform neutron research at major neutron facilities in the region (but not in their home country).
- b. The Call for Applications shall be announced by Chair of the SC through the AONSA network including member societies, observers and other personnel determined by the SC.
- c. An application should include:
 - A standard application form (provided by AONSA) with all required information completed including a scientific plan for collaborative neutron research.
 - A curriculum vitae including a full list of publications. One recommendation letter from a supervisor at home institute.
 - One letter of support from President of the home. neutron society or a representative of home neutron community. (note: or a high officer of the home institute if there is no neutron society or community in the region)
- d. The application shall be electronically submitted to the chair of SC by the deadline indicated in the Call for Applications.
- e. An application shall be valid for one cycle only.

3. Selection Committee

- a. The SC shall consist of seven members chaired by the AONSA Vice President, other six members appointed by the EC. The term of SC members shall be two years. A member can be reappointed once (up to four years).
- b. The SC members shall represent a broad range of member societies (not observers) and fields of neutron science and technology. The Chair of the SC may co-opt a person or persons from member societies or from observer country/region, when none of the six members has expertise in the research field(s) required for reviewing submitted applications. Co-opted member(s) shall be approved by the EC.
- c. The SC members shall be posted on the homepage of AONSA when the SC issues the Call for Applications. The co-opted member(s) shall also be posted.
- d. The Chair of the SC shall consult with the Directors of hosting facilities concerning the suitability of prospective successful candidates at their facilities before finalizing and announcing the SC's decision.
- e. The SC's review shall be completed within 2 months after the application deadline.

- f. The SC shall submit a list of recipients with a review report for each recipient to the EC for approval by the end of November of each year. The approval by the EC may be done electronically, if necessary.
- g. The list of recipients shall be communicated to the Directors of the hosting facilities and posted on the AONSA website. The result of each application shall be communicated to each applicant individually by the Chair of the SC.
- h. Hosting facilities and home institutes shall cooperate to arrange the Fellowship visits efficiently.
- i. The commencement of the Fellowship is subject to meeting the security and visa requirements of the hosting facility.

4. AONSA Young Research Fellowship 2026 Selection Committee Members

The Selection Committee for the AONSA Young Research Fellowship 2026 will be announce before the application deadline on the AONSA website.