

Call for Applications: Program-Specific Researcher (Postdoctoral Fellow), Developmental Biology Group (Alev Group)

Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi), KUIAS Kyoto University

10 February 2025

Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi) was selected by Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) as a part of the World Premier International Research Center (WPI) Program, and it was established within Kyoto University Institute for Advanced Study (KUIAS) on 30 October 2018 with Mitinori Saitou, a world-leading developmental biologist, at its head.

ASHBi is now looking for a Program-Specific Researcher (Postdoctoral Fellow) in the laboratory of Professor Cantas Alev (Developmental Biology Group). Details are as follows.

1. Job Titles:

Program-Specific Researcher (Postdoctoral Fellow)

2. Number of Positions:

One (1)

3. Affiliation:

Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi), KUIAS Kyoto University

Yoshida Konoe-cho, Sakyo, Kyoto 606-8501 Japan

[range of alteration] If the university permits or requests teleworking, the place of work includes the home, etc.

4. Eligibility:

Essential requirements are as follows:

1. The candidate has a Ph.D.
2. The candidate has excellent research achievements in the related fields and the ability to supervise undergraduate and graduate students
3. The candidate should have the ability to develop and manage his/her research projects
4. He/she has excellent time management and organizational skills
5. He/she has high-level communication skills in English

5. Starting Date:

April 1, 2025 or the earliest possible date thereafter (adjustable according to individual requirements)

6. Term:

From the day you take the position (negotiable) to March 31, 2026.

In and after the following year, the contract can be renewed annually depending on achievements until March 31, 2028. (Renewal of the contract is determined by taking into account the work volume at the time of the expiration of the contract period, work performance, attitude, ability, the status of progress of work performed, and the acceptance of the external funding for which the employee is employed.)

Initial probationary employment period: six (6) months

7. Job Descriptions:

The laboratory of Professor Cantas Alev, M.D., Ph.D. at the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi), Kyoto University, is interested in the *in vitro* reconstruction and analysis of early embryonic development in human and other species. Our lab is utilizing a combination of classical embryology and pluripotent stem cell based in vitro model system. We are especially interested in the *in vitro* recapitulation of mesoderm formation and patterning (i.e. *in vitro* gastrulation), mesodermal organogenesis and mesoderm-driven morphogenetic processes, including endodermal and ectodermal organogenesis and tissue formation from human and non-human pluripotent stem cells (ESCs/iPSCs). In collaboration with other scientists at ASHBi our lab aims to establish novel scientific concepts and disruptive technologies in the field of *in vitro* organogenesis and 'synthetic embryology', with the overall goal to increase our still limited understanding of human development, disease and evolution.

We are looking for highly motivated and talented new members who share our labs interests in 'synthetic developmental biology' and *in vitro* organogenesis. We are especially looking for candidates with experience in e.g. high-content 3D/4D imaging, single cell RNA/ATAC-seq (and other -omics type), AI-ML driven data analysis. Candidates with extensive experience in stem cell biology and "organoid" technologies, CRISPR/Cas9-based genome editing techniques, bioengineering approaches including optogenetics, microfluidics, biomaterials are also welcome to apply.

This is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the establishment and growth of a rapidly emerging field, while addressing fundamental and pressing questions on development, disease and evolution in human and other species. Please apply if you want to be part of our dynamic, diverse and inclusive international research team.

8. Working Conditions:

Five (5) working days per week (days off: Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, year-end and New Year holidays, and Foundation Day, as per University guidelines)

Working hours: 38 hours 45 minutes per week under a discretionary labor system.

•If the discretionary work system for specialized work is not applied, the employee works from 8:30AM to 5:15PM with one hour break (12:00-13:00).

•Overtime may be required when necessary.

9. Salary:

Paid annually in compliance with the rules of Kyoto University.

10. Allowance:

No allowance (such as for commuting, housing, bonuses, etc.) will be provided.

11. Social Insurance:

National Public Service Mutual Aid Association health policy

Employee's pension insurance

Employment insurance

Worker's accident insurance

12. Deadline:

Open until the position is filled.

13. Evaluation Procedure:

Submitted applications will be reviewed, if necessary followed by interviews for short-listed candidates.

14. Application Method:

Application documents must be prepared in English according to the "**Application Guidelines**", and submitted as email attachments.

Submit via email to: ASHBi-recruit@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

15. Additional Information:

Submitted documents are used only for the purpose of applicant screening and hiring. Personal information will not be disclosed, transferred or loaned to a third party under any circumstances without just cause.

Kyoto University promotes gender equality. As part of our university's measures to promote gender equality based on the provisions of Article 8 of the "Act on Securing Equal Opportunities and Treatment for Men and Women in the Field of Employment (Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women)", we will give priority to hiring women, if the evaluations are the same in the selection process. To prevent passive smoking, Kyoto University prohibits smoking at indoors and outdoors at all campuses except for the designated smoking areas.

Application Guidelines

Follow the instructions below to prepare and submit your application. Write in English, and use a 10.5 point font or larger. You may include photographs or charts in color or black and white. Please submit your application via email.

Deadline: Open until the position is filled
Submit by email to: ASHBi-recruit@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp
(Related documents should be sent as email attachments)

Applications with serious deficiencies and/or false information will not be evaluated.

1. Basic Information (CV)

- (1) Name
- (2) Home Address and Contact Information (phone, email, etc.)
- (3) Recent Photograph
- (4) Date of Birth, Age, and Gender
- (5) Academic Degree (including date of acquisition)
- (6) Nationality
- (7) Current Appointment (your current affiliation, department, and position)
- (8) Education (begin with high school and list education)
- (9) Professional Experience
- (10) Awards
- (11) Position Sought (host research group name, job title)
- (12) Contact details of two (2) references (name, affiliation, position, address, e-mail address)

2. Research Proposal (within 5 pages)

Concisely describe the research objectives to be achieved during your time at ASHBi, focusing on the unique ideas and methods you will use to reach them. Please include also literature references and well-structured and easy to understand graphical abstract and figures.

3. Reasons for applying for ASHBi (within 1 page)

1. Why are you applying to ASHBi?
2. Explain how you will contribute to furthering the research activities at ASHBi.

4. List of Publications/Grants

Describe your publications in reverse chronological order, including published papers, books, invited lectures, awards, patents, etc. Describe the grants you obtained.

Contact

Email: ASHBi-recruit@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp
Address: Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Biology (ASHBi) KUIAS, Kyoto University
Yoshida Konoe-cho, Sakyo, Kyoto 606-8501 Japan