

The English translation of these application guidelines is provided for reference only.

In the event of any discrepancies between the Japanese and English versions, the Japanese version shall take precedence.

When preparing your application, please consult with the entrepreneurship support staff at your university.

申請要領の英語版は、あくまで参考用です。

日本語版と英語版の内容に相違がある場合は、日本語版を優先します。

申請書類を作成する際は、所属大学の起業支援担当者に相談してください。

※英語での申請に関しては、公募要領 FAQ の P11【その他事項について】③を参照し、ご対応ください。

KSAC-GAP Fund

Application Guidelines

(The 4th Round)

Application Period	October 1, 2026 (Thu) - October 30, 2026 (Fri) Noon (Strict)
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Ver. 1.0



Program Organizer

Kansai Startup Academia Coalition (KSAC)

September 3, 2026

Application Overview

These application guidelines describe the startup creation program "KSAC-GAP Fund" (here in after referred to as "this program") for which the Kansai Startup Academia Coalition (hereinafter referred to as "KSAC") is recruiting.

1. Purpose and Objective

In this program, we support the commercialization of research results through entrepreneurship at universities that are Lead Institutions and SU Creation Collaborative Institutions of KSAC. To bridge the gap between research results and commercialization, milestones (intermediate goals marking key steps towards R&D and commercialization) are established. In addition to funds (GAP funds) to refine business models, develop prototypes, and prepare data for hypothesis verification (experimental results, calculation results), entrepreneurial support personnel from the university to which the principal investigator belongs will provide hands-on support for adopted R&D projects.

2. Kansai Startup Academia Coalition (KSAC)

KSAC is a platform with over 100 participating institutions, including universities in the Kansai region, industry, financial institutions, and local governments. It aims to build a world-class startup ecosystem by creating a virtuous cycle of human resources, research themes, and funds while collaborating across regions and organizations, broadening the base of entrepreneurs in the Kansai region and continuously creating university-launched startups (here in after referred to as "University- launched SUs").

Note that the application period of this program is conducted within the framework of the University-launched New Industry Creation Fund Project implemented by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (here in after referred to as "JST"), which KSAC has been entrusted with, and a total of 4 calls for applications are planned (including the calls of application already implemented and the one to be implemented this time).

3. The Lead Institutions and SU Creation Collaborative Institutions of KSAC

The Lead Institutions and SU Creation Collaborative Institutions of KSAC are as shown in the table below. Principal Investigators who can apply for this program are those who belong to the Lead Institutions and SU Creation Collaborative Institutions of KSAC (For details, see "2.4 Application Requirements").

Lead Institution
京都大学
SU Creation Collaborative Institutions

大阪大学	神戸大学	京都工芸繊維大学	奈良先端科学技術大学院大学
奈良女子大学	滋賀大学	滋賀医科大学	京都府立大学
京都府立医科大学	大阪公立大学	兵庫県立大学	奈良県立医科大学
京都先端科学大学	同志社大学	立命館大学	龍谷大学
大阪工業大学	関西大学	近畿大学	関西学院大学
京都産業大学	大阪医科薬科大学	関西医科大学	

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1. University-launched New Industry Creation Fund Project

The University-launched New Industry Creation Fund Project (hereinafter referred to as "this fund project") aims to strengthen the creation of university-launched startups in Japan based on the 5-year startup development plan. It promotes R&D with a view to commercialization and the possibility of verifying overseas business expansion of research and development results, and fosters the formation of an environment that enables the implementation of university-launched startup creation support, etc., through industry-academia-government co-creation centered on core regional universities, etc.

Note that this fund project falls under the competitive research fund system.

1.1. Goal of this Fund Project

Based on the 5-year startup development plan, this fund project aims to achieve the following goals through the promotion of various programs including this one, while collaborating with related organizations responsible for measures concerning the promotion of startup growth.

- ① Significantly enhance both the quality and quantity of university-launched SUs that have an impact on society and the economy and the potential for significant business growth, including international expansion.
- ② Form a nationwide ecosystem mechanism where human resources, knowledge, and funds circulate, supporting the continuous creation of university-launched SUs.

1.2. Vision of this Fund Project

Among those involved in this fund project, we aim to create the following state as the realization of "1.1. Goal of this Fund Project".

- ① Innovative new products or new services created by university-launched SUs resolve social issues, create new value, and enrich the lives of the entire international society including our country.
- ② The business growth of university-launched SUs realizes economic growth along with job creation in our country.
- ③ By accumulating successful examples of university-launched SUs that bring value to society and the economy, more talent will aspire to create and foster university-launched SUs.
- ④ In core universities leading the formation of the ecosystem, necessary on-campus rules and systems are established while maintaining ongoing communicating and collaborating with stakeholders.

1.3. Features of this Fund Project

1.3.1. Steps and Milestones toward Entrepreneurship Envisioned by this Fund Project

Research and development aimed at creating startups differs from basic research aimed at discovering new phenomena; it requires research and development from the perspective of commercialization towards establishing a startup, and furthermore, not only research and development but also business development is required. In this Fund project and this Program, business development and research and development from the results of basic research to startup creation are divided into two steps and considered (see Table 1).

Step 1 (Applied Research) is the step to raise basic research results to a stage where commercial potential can be evaluated, and Step 2 (Proof of Concept / Startup Formation) is the step to continuously implement PoC towards startup formation from the evaluation and verification (PoC) of business potential through to actually entrepreneurship.

Table 1: Definition of Steps

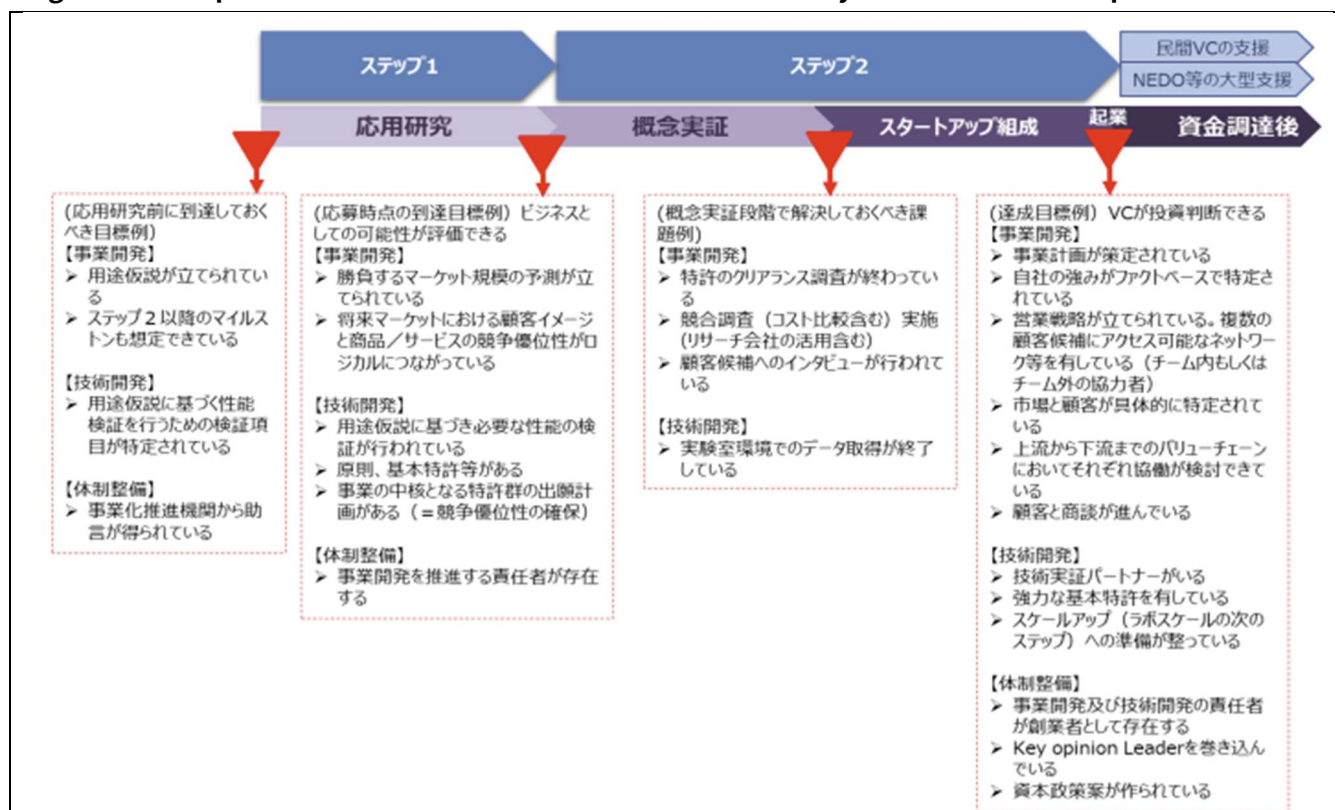
	Step 1 Applied Research	Step 2	
		Proof of Concept	Startup Formation
Target	Aims to elevate the results of basic research to a stage where business potential can be evaluated.	Conducts evaluation and verification (PoC) of business potential, aiming to solve issues that must be addressed for entrepreneurship.	In addition to PoC initiatives, continuously implements PoC towards a level where a university-launched SU can be formed and a VC can make an investment decision.

Furthermore, in business development and research and development aimed at creating startups, in order to bridge the gap between the results of basic research and commercialization, it is important to set commercialization milestones (intermediate goals marking turning points) and research and development milestones to be achieved towards commercialization for each step, and to have a process to evaluate the achievement of milestones at each step to decide whether to proceed to the next step. Therefore, in this program as well, we set commercialization milestones and research and development milestones, and intensively promote business development and research and development towards their achievement.

The specific contents of business development and research and development to be implemented in each step differ greatly depending on the technology field and the business field targeted for entrepreneurship, but generally center on prototype development, data acquisition for hypothesis verification (experimental results, calculation results), business model construction, securing intellectual property, and building a management team. Below are examples of milestones and

achievement goals that should be met at the midpoint or end of each step (see Figure 1).

Figure 1: Examples of Achievement Goals that Should Be met by the End of Each Step



1.3.2. Project Advancement through Business Backcasting

In this program, towards commercialization, rather than a technology projection model in which intellectual property strategy and business models are considered after enhancing the maturity of technology seeds, please endeavor to consider and promote a business reflection model in which a business is identified from the outset based on needs such as social issues, as well as market size and trends, with intellectual property strategies and research and development conducted in an integrated manner.

1.4. Key Terms in this Application Guideline

Technology Seeds	Refers to core research results, etc., when aiming for commercialization. When applying for this program, it is desirable to have obtained a patent for the relevant research results, but it is also possible to apply based on patents pending or planned to be filed, or research results that do not necessarily require patent filing (software, etc.). For example, AI technology created as university research results, or projects utilizing humanities and social science
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	research results to aim for the resolution of social issues are also eligible.
R&D Project	A project led by a principal investigator, receiving support from this program to advance business model refinement, prototype production, data (experimental results, calculation results, etc.) acquisition, etc., towards commercialization.
Principal Investigator	A researcher, etc., responsible for research and development in the R&D project in this program. At the time of application, a person who is the inventor of the core seeds of the application, or a person who was involved in the invention.
Principal Co-researcher	A co-researcher at Institution 2 when conducting joint research at an Institution different from the principal investigator's Institution 1 (KSAC Lead Institution or SU Creation Collaborative Institution). Institution 2 will be a KSAC Lead Institution or SU Creation Collaborative Institution different from Institution 1, or a Lead Institution or SU Creation Collaborative Institution of a platform other than KSAC. *A co-researcher belonging to the principal investigator's Institution 1 is not a principal co-researcher.
Commercialization Promotion Institution	An institution responsible for business development towards the commercialization of research results. It is required to gather necessary resources towards commercialization, and by utilizing those resources, promote initiatives necessary to achieve commercialization milestones.
Entrepreneurial Support Personnel	In this program, a person belonging to KSAC participating universities, etc., who implements entrepreneurial support. Specifically, specialized personnel such as on-campus URAs are envisioned, implementing project discovery within the university, progress management of R&D projects, and business promotion activities in cooperation with commercialization promotion institutions, etc.
Management Candidate Personnel	Personnel participating in the R&D project on the premise of becoming the manager (CEO) of the startup after founding.
Demo Day	A venue to present the activity results of principal investigators, etc., towards commercialization (pitch, booth exhibition, etc.).

2. Application / Selection

2.1. Overview of the Program

In this program, among R&D projects aiming for commercialization through entrepreneurship centered on the technology seeds of universities, etc. participating in KSAC, projects judged to be appropriate for Step 1 (Applied Research) or Step 2 (Proof of Concept / Startup Formation) in this fund project are eligible for support. Basic research aiming to discover new phenomena, etc., or R&D projects aimed at technology transfer are excluded from support in this program.

2.2. Details of the Program

In this program, we will recruit the following programs for each step.

Step	Step 1				Step 2
Type	Normal Quota	Special Quota			Normal Quota
Program Name	①	②	③	④	⑤
	KSAC-GAP IV	KSAC-GAP PSF	KSAC-GAP OD	KSAC-GAP BCB	KSAC-GAP PMF
Support Amount (Direct Cost Max)	5 million yen	10 million yen	10 million yen	10 million yen	60 million yen (First year 30 million yen)
Support Period	Max 1 year				Max 2 years
New Adoptions (Planned)	17 projects	11 projects	8 projects	9 projects	15 projects

- ※ Concurrent application to multiple programs are not permitted. Please verify the progress status of the R&D project from both the R&D and business promotion perspectives, and apply to the appropriate program.
- ※ R&D projects adopted in KSAC's entrepreneurial activity support program (SCORE-GAP Fund or START-GAP Fund) implemented in FY2021 or FY2022 are eligible to apply only for Step 1 "OD" or Step 2. For R&D projects that were adopted twice in KSAC's entrepreneurial activity support program (SCORE-GAP Fund or START-GAP Fund) implemented in FY2021 and FY2022, only applications for Step 2 are Permitted.
- ※ R&D projects adopted in Step 1 in past rounds of this program (1st, 2nd, 3rd) cannot apply for Step 1 in this (4th) call for applications.
- ※ R&D projects adopted in Step 2 in past rounds of this program (1st, 2nd, 3rd) cannot apply for either

Step 1 or Step 2 in this (4th) call for applications.

- ※ Regarding the transition from Step 1 to Step 2 for R&D projects adopted in Step 1 in past rounds of this program (1st, 2nd, 3rd), please apply again in this (4th) call for applications.
- ※ For R&D projects adopted in Step 2, a mid-term evaluation will be conducted in the 4th quarter (planned) of the 1st year. Depending on the results, the program may be discontinued, R&D funds may be reduced, and the R&D period may be shortened for the 2nd year.
- ※ The number of adoptions in the above table is an estimate, and if there are no corresponding R&D projects, the number of adoptions may be lower than planned. In addition, projects may be adopted with an amount lower than the requested amount.
- ※ The support amount in the above table is an estimate, and regardless of the upper limit stated, please apply for an appropriate amount corresponding to the scale of the project.

2.2.1. Details of Each Program

Step	Program Name	Targeted Project	Applicant
Step 1	①KSAC-GAP IV IV: Idea Verification	An R&D project tackling the verification of the existence of specific customer needs based on a product concept derived from university technology seeds.	Principal Investigator
	②KSAC-GAP PSF PSF: Problem Solution Fit	An R&D project conducting sufficient verification of whether university technology seeds are effective as a solution, while recognizing the existence of customer needs.	Principal Investigator
	③KSAC-GAP OD OD: Overseas Deployment	An R&D project aiming for business expansion overseas from the outset of the startup, with overseas market needs predicted with sufficient probability.	Principal Investigator
	④KSAC-GAP BCB BCB:Back-Casted Business	An R&D project verifying the selection and combination of required technologies, with the outline of a business model for	Principal Investigator

		solving future social issues (including issues of regional communities) being determined.	
Step 2	⑤KSAC-GAP PMF PMF: Product Market Fit	An R&D project aiming to solve issues towards entrepreneurship to a level where a VC can make an investment decision, focusing on verifying whether sufficient competitiveness can be secured within a promising market.	Principal Investigator & Commercialization Promotion Institution

- ※ For the requirements of the principal investigator and commercialization promotion institution who will be the applicants, please check "2.4 Application Requirements" described later. Note that students can only apply for Step 1 "(1) KSAC-GAP IV".
- ※ •Step 2 will be a joint application by the principal investigator and the commercialization promotion institution.

2.3. Support Period

Step 1	Maximum 1 year (Planned for April 1, 2027 - March 31, 2028)
Step 2	Maximum 2 years (Planned for April 1, 2027 - March 31, 2029)

- ※ In this program, after the project is adopted by KSAC, it is necessary to submit the R&D plan, etc. described later to JST, and the contents must be approved (It takes about 1 to 2 months from adoption until JST approval). The subsidy start timing (timing when budget execution becomes possible) will be after JST's approval.
- ※ For the actual subsidy start timing (when budget execution becomes possible), please check with the reception department of your affiliated university after the project is adopted.

2.4. Application Requirements

2.4.1. R&D Project Requirements

R&D projects recruited in this program shall satisfy all of the following requirements ① to ⑤.

- ① It must be a project aiming for commercialization through entrepreneurship, centered on the technology seeds of a university that is a Lead Institution or SU Creation Collaborative Institution of KSAC.
- ② Aiming for the creation of a university-launched SU having the potential for business growth,

including international expansion, it must be a project consciously promoted with a business reflection model in which intellectual property strategy and research and development are conducted in an integrated manner from the beginning, having determined a business based on needs such as social issues and market size and trends.

- ③ The achievement goals and milestones (achievement goals at the midpoint) envisioned by each program of Step 1 and Step 2 recruited in this program must be appropriately set. Note that for achievement goals and milestones envisioned by each program, please check the separate sheet "Reference Document_KSAC-GAP Fund_Regarding the Setting of Achievement Goals and Milestones".
- ④ It must be possible to present the activity results of principal investigators, etc. towards commercialization at Demo Day scheduled around the end of the implementation period of this program.
- ⑤ It must promote research and development and commercialization activities in line with the purpose and objective of this program, and be a project prior to entrepreneurship.

2.4.2. Principal Investigator Requirements

The principal investigator of the R&D project shall satisfy all of the following requirements ① to ④.

- ① At the time of application and during the research implementation period, the principal investigator must be a researcher or a student (Master's course, Doctoral course) belonging to a national, public, or private university that is a Lead Institution or SU Creation Collaborative Institution of KSAC, and must be the inventor of the core seeds of the R&D project or a person who was involved in the invention. The principal investigator must also be able to promote research towards commercialization with responsibility throughout the research implementation period (replacement of the principal investigator during the research implementation period is not possible). Note that, upon application, it is desirable that a patent concerning the relevant technology seeds has been acquired (applications based on patents for which an application is pending or planned to be filed, or technology seeds that do not necessarily require a patent application (software, etc.) are also possible). However, undergraduate students are not eligible (among 5th and 6th-year students in 6-year course, etc., students assigned to a laboratory are able to become a principal investigator).
- ② Aims for the social return, etc., of the research results of the university, etc., through the establishment of a startup utilizing the core technology seeds of the application.
- ③ Regarding the core technology seeds of the application, consent has been obtained from the inventor of the technology seeds and the institution to which the seeds belong (patent applicant,

etc.) regarding the implementation of the startup created through this program.

- ④ Regarding the formation of the startup ecosystem aimed for by KSAC, the principal investigator is willing to contribute after understanding its purpose.

In addition, when a student becomes the principal investigator, they must satisfy all of the following requirements ⑤ to ⑦ in addition to the above conditions.

- ⑤ The only program that can be applied for is only Step 1 "KSAC-GAP IV".
- ⑥ Regardless of the student's graduation, etc., a continuous structure and continued promotion towards commercialization can be ensured. (Replacement of the principal investigator is in principle not allowed.)
- ⑦ The student must Submit a confirmation letter, signed by both the student and the supervising faculty member, confirming that "the student and the affiliated institution have made an arrangement and agreed upon the handling of intellectual property rights arising as research results."

2.4.3. Commercialization Promotion Institution Requirements

In this program, applications to Step 2 "KSAC-GAP PMF" require a joint application with a commercialization promotion institution. Applicants are requested to implement this program while working to build collaboration with a commercialization promotion institution satisfying all of the following requirements ① to ⑥. Note that the commercialization promotion institution that made a joint application may be asked to provide an explanation regarding the contents of that application from the perspective of business conception, business development, etc., at the interview screening, etc.

- ① The institution possesses the ability to conceive a business (track record regarding business nurturing and fund procurement of university-launched Sus, including those in the pre-entrepreneurship stages, and strategy/planning formulation ability).
- ② Possesses the track record, ability, and enthusiasm to integrally develop a business while collaborating with universities, etc., and can build a good relationship with universities, etc. in this program. Also, when multiple institutions participate in the project, can build cooperative relationships necessary for promoting the project.
- ③ Cooperates with the securing and matching of human resources indispensable for commercialization (including management candidate personnel) conducted by KSAC, and can perform the nurturing of management candidate personnel through this program.

- ④ Possesses strengths in understanding market needs and business expansion, and can gather necessary resources towards commercialization based on those needs to promote business development (It is even more desirable if they possess strength in understanding international market needs and business expansion).
- ⑤ Possesses a function capable of investing in a university-launched SU that it was involved in establishing, or possesses a network, etc., for attracting investment after establishment.
- ⑥ Is a legal entity established in Japan. Also, the institution is not subject to measures such as suspension of subsidy payment or suspension of nomination related to contracts.

2.4.4. Management Candidate Personnel Requirements

In promoting the R&D project, the participation of management candidate personnel with enthusiasm and potential is recommended (It is not necessary for them to be participating at the time of application to this program). The requirements for management candidate personnel are as follows.

- ① Possesses startup management capability through experience in entrepreneurship or practical experience at early-stage startups, or possesses the ability and willingness to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for entrepreneurship and startup management.
- ② Upon receiving support from this program, participates in the group of the principal investigator or the commercialization promotion institution, and personnel expenses and activity expenses shall be executed by the affiliated institution of the principal investigator.

2.4.5. Other Requirements

In view of the fact that the source of funding for this program is public funds, the business plan of the startup to be created through this program shall not aim solely for acquisition by a specific company at the time of application, unless unavoidable due to the characteristics of the market structure (However, this requirement does not restrict the business plan of the startup from evolving from the plan at the time of application as the project progress).

2.5. Joint Research for R&D Projects

In the case of either pattern ① or ② shown below, it is possible to set up a person responsible for research implementation (principal co-researcher) separately from the principal investigator to implement joint research (The same concept applies to joint research among 3 or more institutions).

- ① Joint research between KSAC Lead Institutions / SU Creation Collaborative Institutions (Does not include the university to which the principal investigator belongs)

- ② Joint research between a KSAC Lead Institution / SU Creation Collaborative Institution and a Lead Institution / SU Creation Collaborative Institution of another platform*

In the case of pattern ② above, prior agreement between KSAC and the other platform (e.g., arrangement for the handling of intellectual property, effort, etc.) is necessary, so please inquire with the reception department of the university to which the principal investigator belongs before application.

※ Other platforms are as shown in the table below.

Platform Name	Lead Institution
北海道未来創造スタートアップ育成相互支援ネットワーク (HSFC)	北海道大学
みちのくアカデミア発スタートアップ共創プラットフォーム (MASP)	東北大学
Greater Tokyo Innovation Ecosystem (GTIE)	東京大学 早稲田大学 東京科学大学
Tokai Network for Global Leading Innovation (Tongali)	名古屋大学
Peace & Science Innovation Ecosystem (PSI)	広島大学
Platform for All Regions of Kyushu & Okinawa for Startup-ecosystem (PARKS)	九州大学 九州工業大学
Tech Startup HOKURIKU (TeSH)	北陸先端科学技術 大学院大学 金沢大学
Inland Japan Innovation Ecosystem (IJIE)	信州大学

For Lead Institutions / SU Creation Collaborative Institutions of other platforms, please check the JST HP.

<https://www.jst.go.jp/program/startupkikin/su-ecosys/project2023.html>

2.6. Restrictions on Applications by Principal Investigators

- ① The same principal investigator cannot receive support from two or more of the <Targeted Systems> below at the same time.
- ② The same principal investigator cannot apply for multiple projects under the same system.
- ③ If support is not being received from any of the <Targeted Systems>, it is possible to apply to multiple <Targeted Systems>, but once adoption to any of the system is decided, you will be required to choose whether to receive support from the adopted system and withdraw the application to the other system(s), or decline support from the adopted system in order to wait

for the screening results of the system(s) under application.

- ④ Application restrictions when a project under any of the <Targeted Systems> is being implemented are as follows.
- (a) If the project being implemented is not in its final year, it is not possible to apply to other <Targeted Systems>.
 - (b) If the project being implemented is in its final year, you can apply to other <Targeted Systems> where the research and development period spans multiple years, as well as to other <Targeted Systems> that are single-year systems where the end of the research and development period is later than that of the system being implemented. However, if the project is adopted and there is an overlapping research and development period, adjustments will be made to the research start date.
 - (c) Even if the project being implemented is in its final year, you cannot apply to other <Targeted Systems> that are single-year systems where the end of the research and development period is the same as or earlier than that of the system being implemented.
- ⑤ In addition to the <Targeted Systems> described below, other systems funded by public funds and aimed at the creation of startups will be also be treated in the same manner as ①, ③, and ④ if the identical technology seeds are used.

※ The above applies to the principal investigator : in principle, there are no application restrictions for commercialization promotion institutions.

<Targeted Systems>

Projects supporting efforts aiming for entrepreneurship^{※1}

大学発新産業創出基金事業 (University-launched New Industry Creation Fund Project)	Duplicate Restriction
D-Global ディープテック・スタートアップ国際展開プログラム (Program for creating Deeptech startups with Global reach)	×
スタートアップ・エコシステム共創プログラム (Program for co-creating startup ecosystem) 内の研究開発課題	—
起業実証支援	×
可能性検証 (【起業挑戦】の提案)	×
早暁プログラム (Sogyo Program) ステージ 2	×
START 研究成果展開事業 大学発新産業創出プログラム (Program for Creating STart-ups from Advanced Research and Technology)	Duplicate Restriction
起業実証支援	×

ビジネスモデル検証支援 (Business Model Development Support)	×
SBIR フェーズ 1 支援	×
大学・エコシステム推進型 スタートアップ・エコシステム形成支援内の研究開発課題	×

※1 For details on the Research Results Deployment Program: Program for Creating STart-ups from Advanced Research and Technology (START) and each project promoted in the same program, and details on the University-Launched New Industry Creation Fund Project, please refer to the following homepages.

START 研究成果展開事業 大学発新産業創出プログラム (Program for Creating STart-ups from Advanced Research and Technology)website : <https://www.jst.go.jp/start/>

大学発新産業創出基金事業 (University-launched New Industry Creation Fund Project) website : <https://www.jst.go.jp/program/startupkikin/>

Projects supporting efforts aiming for technology transfer※2

大学発新産業基金事業 (University-launched New Industry Creation Fund Project)	Duplicate Restriction
可能性検証 (【企業等連携】の提案)	△
START 研究成果展開事業 大学発新産業創出プログラム (Program for Creating STart-ups from Advanced Research and Technology)	Duplicate Restriction
SBIR フェーズ 1 支援	△

※2 In SBIR Phase 1 Support and the University-Launched New Industry Creation Fund Project, when aiming for commercialization of technology seeds through technology transfer, it is possible to implement 2 projects concurrently with other systems aiming for entrepreneurship among the target systems above (It is not possible to apply for multiple projects under the same system, regardless of whether they involve entrepreneurship/technology transfer). However, this is subject to the condition that the technology seeds are different for the two projects. It is not possible to implement 2 projects concurrently for entrepreneurship and technology transfer using identical technology seeds.

△ : Implementation is possible if the technology seeds are different

※ The condition is that the technology seeds are different for the 2 projects. It is not possible to implement 2 projects concurrently for entrepreneurship and technology transfer using identical technology seeds.

× : Concurrent implementation is not possible

- ※ In the case where neither system has been adopted, it is possible to apply to both. However, at the stage where adoption by one system is decided, you will be required to choose whether to implement the adopted system, or decline it in order to wait for the screening results of the other system.
 - ※ If you are serving as the principal investigator for either program (excluding cases where the project is in its final year), you cannot apply. For application restrictions in the case where the project being implemented is in its final year, please refer to ④ above.
 - ※ From the perspective of implementing seamless support among the programs of this fund project, if a principal investigator conducting research and development in the Program for co-creating startup ecosystem (this program) seeks large-scale expansion early on, it is permitted to apply to the Program for creating Deeptech startups with Global reach with identical technology seeds. However, concurrent implementation of both programs is not permitted, so if the project is adopted by the Program for creating Deeptech startups with Global reach, the research and development of this program will be discontinued by the start date of the research and development of the relevant program.
- : Concurrent applications are not possible (Multiple applications to the same fund are not possible)

2.7. Application Procedure

2.7.1. Application Form Formats

Submission Category	Form No.	Form Name	File Format
Step 1 / Step 2 Common	0	Principal investigator Requirement Confirmation	Word
	1	R&D Project Overview	Word
	2	Project Budget Draft	Excel
	3	Interview Screening Materials※ ¹	PowerPoint
Step 1 Student Project Only	—	Confirmation Letter	Word
Step 2 Only	4	Commercialization Promotion Institution and Promoter Overview	Word
	5	Commercialization Promotion Institution Financial Status※ ²	Excel

	—	Commercialization Promotion Institution Financial Statements ^{※3} or Securities Report (3 periods for either ^{※4})	PDF
	—	(National Tax) Tax Payment Certificate ^{※5}	PDF

- ※ 1 Form 3 must be submitted only by principal investigators who passed the document screening (the submission deadline will be notified after the document screening).
- ※ 2 Commercialization promotion institutions that submit a securities report are not required to prepare or submit it.
- ※ 3 Please submit the following financial statements: the balance sheet, profit and loss statement, statement of changes in shareholders' equity, cash flow statement (submission is not required if not prepared), and business report (submission is not required if not prepared).
- ※ 4 For commercialization promotion institutions that have been established for less than three fiscal periods, please submit all financial statements (or securities reports) since establishment. Also, for commercialization promotion institutions that have not yet reached their first fiscal year-end since establishment, please submit the most recent trial balance sheet.
- ※ 5 The (National Tax) Tax Payment Certificate (Part 1) requires submission only if there is at least 1 period in which ordinary profit was negative with the most recent 3 periods. In the case where multiple companies jointly implement the project (when there is a Principal Joint Commercialization Promotion Institution), if any of the companies for which submission of financial statements or securities reports is mandatory had ordinary profit that was negative in at least 1 of the most recent 3 periods, submission is mandatory only for that company. If mandatory documents are not submitted, the application will be accepted due to a deficiency in the required documents, from the perspective of fairness.
- Regarding the (National Tax) Tax Payment Certificate (Part 1), please refer to the National Tax Agency "[Procedure Name] Request Procedure for Issuance of Tax Payment Certificate" (<https://www.nta.go.jp/taxes/nozei/nozei-shomei/01.htm>).

2.7.2. Notes on Preparing Application Documents

- Please prepare the application documents, etc. with the cooperation of the principal investigator as well as all related parties participating in the R&D project (entrepreneurial support personnel, and in Step 2, the commercialization promotion institution, management candidate personnel, etc.).

- In Step 2, please have the commercialization promotion institution take the lead in describing the application, especially regarding business conception and project management.
- When preparing the project budget draft, please carefully confirm whether the expenses are necessary for promoting the R&D project, whether there are any issues with the use of funds, whether they comply with the regulations and rules concerning expense execution of the university to which the principal investigator belongs and JST, and whether they are appropriate amounts corresponding to the scale of the project.

2.7.3. Submission Procedure

- Please submit the form described in "2.7.1 Application Form Formats" to the reception department of the university that is the KSAC Lead Institution or SU Creation Collaborative Institution to which the principal investigator belongs, by the submission deadline (October 30, 2026 (Fri) noon [Strict]). For the reception department, please refer to "4. Application Submission / Contact Information" described later.
- Furthermore, when submitting the forms described in "2.7.1 Application Form Formats", please rename the files as follows for each form.

Form No.	Renamed File Name
0	00_様式 0_研究代表者要件確認書_〇〇大学_研究者氏名
1	01_様式 1_研究開発課題の概要_〇〇大学_研究者氏名
2	02_様式 2_課題予算案_〇〇大学_研究者氏名
3	03_様式 3_面接審査資料_〇〇大学_研究者氏名
4	04_様式 4_事業化推進機関の概要_〇〇大学_研究者氏名_事業化推進機関名
5	05_様式 5_事業化推進機関の財務状況_〇〇大学_研究者氏名_事業化推進機関名
—	06_決算報告書_〇〇大学_研究者氏名_事業化推進機関名_決算年月（20〇年〇〇月）
—	07_納税証明書_〇〇大学_研究者氏名_事業化推進機関名
—	08_確認書_〇〇大学_研究者氏名

※ Form 3 must be submitted only by principal investigators who passed the document screening (the submission deadline will be notified after the document screening).

2.8. R&D Projects Selection Process

The selection of R&D projects is conducted via a two-stage screening process, namely document screening and interview screening, by screening committee members selected by the KSAC Startup Creation Program Management Committee.

- The screening processes will all be conducted entirely privately taking into consideration conflicts of interest between the principal investigator and commercialization promotion institution; and the screening committee members.
- For the interview screening, the principal investigator and the commercialization promotion institution (Step 2 only) will attend, and for Step 2, the entrepreneurial support personnel in charge should also sit in. It is desirable for the entrepreneurial support personnel to sit in for Step 1 as much as possible, and regarding the handling of other related parties sitting in Step 1 or Step 2, please follow the advance guidance for the interview screening.
- The date of the interview screening will be decided based on the availability of the screening committee members. Please note that presenters cannot designate the date and time.

2.9. Conflict of Interest Management

From the perspective of conducting fair and transparent evaluation and research fund allocation, based on JST provisions, the following conflict of interest management measures will be implemented.

① Conflict of Interest Management for Those Involved in Selection

From the perspective of conducting a fair and transparent evaluation, the interested parties listed below in relation to applicants, etc. shall not participate in the selection. (Specifically, they will not screen projects involving a conflict of interest in the document screening; when holding an interview, etc. with an applicant, the interested party shall leave the room; and they shall not make statements concerning the target project in general deliberations, etc.)

- (a) A person who is related to the applicant, etc.
- (b) A person belonging to the same department, major, etc., or the same company as the applicant, etc., at a research institution such as a university. The same department, major, etc. mentioned here refers to a grouping one level higher than a laboratory or a research team, which is the smallest research unit.
- (c) A person belonging to the same research institution such as a university as the applicant, etc., who is involved in the operation of this project (a person whose name is listed in the participant list of the plan), and a person in the industry-academia collaboration department.
- (d) A person conducting close joint research with the applicant, etc. or who has conducted such research in the past. (For example, this refers to the execution of a joint project, the writing of a co-authored research paper, research members of the same objective, or a joint researcher, etc. within the research project of the proposer, and a person who is considered to practically belong to the same research group as the proposer)

- (e) A person who is in a close master-apprentice relationship or a direct employment relationship with the applicant, etc.
- (f) A person who is in an academic competitive relationship with the research project of the applicant, etc., or a person belonging to a company that is in a competitive relationship in the market.
- (g) Other persons whom the JST secretariat or the platform's secretariat determines to be interested parties.

② Conflict of Interest Management Between the Proposer and Planned Participating Institutions

If there is an institution among the planned participating institutions that has any of the following conflicts of interest with the proposer (commercialization promotion institution and principal investigator), please state it in Application Form Format 1. Note that, for (a) and (b), the same treatment applies not only to the commercialization promotion institution and the principal investigator, but also to the spouse and first-degree relatives of the commercialization promotion institution and the principal investigator.

- (a) An institution established based on the R&D results of the commercialization promotion institution, principal investigator, etc. (Includes cases where they do not directly engage in management but only hold a title such as technical advisor, and cases where they only hold shares.)
- (b) An institution where the commercialization promotion institution, principal investigator, etc. serves as an executive (including CTO, but excluding technical advisor).
- (c) An institution in which the commercialization promotion institution and principal investigator possess shares.
- (d) An institution from which the commercialization promotion institution and principal investigator receive licensing fee income.

2.10. Screening Criteria and Focus Points for R&D Projects

Regarding the screening of R&D projects in this program, the R&D projects to be adopted will be determined based on a comprehensive judgment of the respective focus points for the items below.

Screening Item	Focus Points
Clear Milestones Setting	• Are the milestones envisioned by the fund project appropriately set? • Are the milestones envisioned for each recruited program appropriately set?

Technology Seeds / IP Status	• Is there novelty and originality? • Are there any problems with technological development capability and feasibility? • Is the intellectual property strategy appropriate?
Business Viability	• Is the business model (envisioned products, services, customers, etc.) concrete? • Size, growth potential, and expected market share of the market to be entered via market-in approach • Is the process up to commercialization (business plan, funding plan) reasonable?
Implementation Structure for Achieving Goals by the End	• Is a structure in place that can steadily advance the R&D project in both the R&D aspect and the business commercialization aspect?
Competitor Analysis	• Regarding technology seeds, is there an advantage over competing technologies? • In business, is there an advantage over competing companies and is differentiation being achieved?
Social Impact	• Does it generate an impact on society and the economy, and possess the potential to achieve business growth including international expansion? • Is it leading to the creation of new value for society? • Is it a proposal that contributes to solving social issues such as SDGs and carbon neutrality (Social contribution)?

2.11. Application Period and Selection Schedule

The schedule for application and selection is as follows.

Application Period Start	October 1, 2026 (Thu)
Online Application Briefing	1st: September 30, 2026 (Wed) 12:00-13:00 2nd: October 1, 2026 (Thu) 12:00-13:00 3rd: October 1, 2026 (Thu) 18:00-19:00 The contents of the briefing will be the same in all sessions.
Application Documents, etc. Submission Deadline	October 30, 2026 (Fri) noon [Strict]
Primary Screening (Document	November 24, 2026 (Tue) - December 11, 2026 (Fri)

Screening)	
Secondary Screening (Interview Screening)	Scheduled for 4 or 5 days from any of the following February 9, 2027 (Tue) February 10, 2027 (Wed) February 12, 2027 (Fri) February 15, 2027 (Mon) February 16, 2027 (Tue)
Notification of Adoption Result (Informal)	Around late February 2027
Program Start	After April 2027. Note that after the project adoption by KSAC the submission of a research plan, etc. to JST and approval by JST are required for the implementation of the relevant project. After approval, procedures for concluding a related contract with JST will be carried out.

- ※ The schedule after the primary screening above is tentative and may be changed in the future.
- ※ Online briefing sessions concerning the application period of this program will be held on the above dates. Please apply via the prescribed procedure by the day before each session.
- ※ Regarding the schedule for the secondary screening (interview screening), the KSAC Secretariat will contact applicants who passed the primary screening (document screening) as soon as the date and time are finalized.

2.12. Overall Program Process

The content is mainly described in terms of the flow from proposal to the initial year.

1) Submission of Application Forms
• Please prepare application documents, etc. with the cooperation of the principal investigator as well as all related parties participating in the R&D project (entrepreneurial support personnel, and in Step 2, the commercialization promotion institution, management candidate personnel, etc.).
[Submission Deadline] October 30, 2026 (Fri) noon [Strict]

2) Screening
• A primary screening (document screening) and secondary screening (interview screening) by screening committee members selected by KSAC will be conducted.

- For conflict of interest management, the presence or absence of conflicts of interest with institutions planned to be responsible for screening will be checked.
- In the interview screening, for Step 1, the principal investigator shall attend and take the lead in explaining the overall project plan. For Step 2, the principal investigator and commercialization promotion institution shall attend, and the commercialization promotion institution responsible for project management shall take the lead in explaining concerning the plan of the overall project plan (including details of technology seeds). Regarding details of technology seeds, the principal investigator may also provide an explanation, but the commercialization promotion institution also needs to understand the technology when aiming for entrepreneurship.

[Screening Schedule (Plan)] Primary screening: Scheduled for November 24, 2026 (Tue) - December 11, 2026 (Fri), Secondary screening: Scheduled for around mid-February 2027



3) Determination of Adopted Projects

- Based on the screening results by the screening committee members, KSAC will determine the projects to be adopted.
- KSAC will notify all applicants of adoption or rejection.
- On the KSAC website, the name of the principal investigator, the name of the affiliated institution, the name of the adopted project etc., will be posted.

[Notification of Adopted Projects Schedule] Around late February 2027



4) Preparation of R&D Plan, etc.

- For Step 1, the principal investigator, and for Step 2, the principal investigator and the commercialization promotion institution jointly, shall prepare the R&D plan, etc. to submitted to JST.

[Submission Deadline] Late February - Early March 2027



5) Program Start of KSAC-GAP Fund

- At the Lead Institution, the R&D plans, etc. of each institution will be compiled and submitted to JST. At JST, Once the submitted research plans, etc. are approved, it is expected that the program can be started and implemented. The formal start date will be notified to each institution via the Lead Institution and the Secretariat.
- Note that after approval by JST, joint research contracts will be concluded between JST and each institution.

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Program Start Scheduled Date] After April 2027 |
|---|

3. Promotion of R&D Projects after Adoption

3.1. Preparation of R&D Plans, etc.

Regarding R&D projects adopted in this program, it is necessary to prepare prescribed R&D plans, etc. before the start of the program and submit them to JST (Details will be communicated after adoption is determined). Note that depending on the contents of the R&D plans, etc. submitted to JST, the adoption may be canceled by JST.

Regarding adopted R&D projects, information will be disclosed on the KSAC website using the format specified by JST.

3.2. Promotion of R&D Projects

After being adopted in this program, the principal investigator or the commercialization promotion institution shall recognize their respective roles shown below and promote the R&D project towards achieving the set milestones.

3.2.1. Main Roles of the Principal Investigator

The principal investigator is responsible for research and development. Through this program, they will advance research and development towards commercialization of the core seeds of the business. In Step 1, research and development will be implemented while appropriately consulting with the entrepreneurial support personnel of the affiliated university and commercialization promotion institutions, and in Step 2, under the project management of the entrepreneurial support personnel and commercialization promotion institution, research and development will be implemented jointly.

3.2.2. Main Roles of the Commercialization Promotion Institution

The commercialization promotion institution provides advice to the principal investigator and entrepreneurial support personnel through this program. Also, when participating as a joint applicant in a Step 2 R&D project, they are responsible for the business development of the research results. Based on a deep understanding of the seeds, they formulate an appropriate commercialization plan for the university-launched SU to be created through analysis of the market environment, etc., and a necessary R&D plan (including setting achievement goals and commercialization milestones and R&D

milestones), lead the R&D project, and conduct business nurturing towards acquiring investment from the private sector (including bringing it into consideration for their own investment decisions). Furthermore, to build a structure towards entrepreneurship, they will cooperate with the matching of management candidate personnel conducted by KSAC, and if necessary, are expected to selection/recommendation management candidate personnel themselves, and nurture management candidate personnel through participation in the R&D project.

3.2.3. Notes on Promoting R&D Projects

- In Step 1 R&D projects, for the purpose of the researcher themselves gaining new perspective on entrepreneurship based on their own R&D results, the principal investigator shall take the lead in cooperating with entrepreneurial support personnel and commercialization promotion institutions, etc., and conduct several interviews with potential customer, etc.
- In Step 2 R&D projects, in cases where a larger-scale expansion is sought early on, it will be possible to apply to the " Program for creating Deeptech startups with Global reach (D-Global)" of this fund project during the implementation period of this program. However, if the project is adopted, support under this program shall be discontinued at that point. Regarding details, please consult with the entrepreneurial support personnel of your affiliated university.
- A Demo Day is planned to be held around the end of the implementation period of this program as an opportunity to present the business model and R&D results towards the commercialization of the R&D project. All principal investigators of R&D projects adopted in this program will be requested to participate.
- In promoting the R&D project, please carefully examine the timing of entrepreneurship. Towards development after entrepreneurship, the entrepreneurship team should begin dialogues early on with institutions envisioned as stakeholders for the next step, such as the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (hereinafter referred to as "NEDO") and venture capital firms (hereinafter referred to as "VCs"), etc. Please also keep in mind the perspective of stakeholders regarding investments, etc. and take care to establish the startup at an appropriate time.

3.3. Hands-on Support by Entrepreneurial Support Personnel

For R&D projects adopted in this program, entrepreneurial support personnel of the university to which the principal investigator belongs will provide hands-on support. The entrepreneurial support personnel shall recognize the roles shown below and, through collaboration with the principal investigator and commercialization promotion institution, promote the R&D project.

3.3.1. Main Roles of Entrepreneurial Support Personnel

In addition to conducting project discovery within KSAC, entrepreneurial support personnel implement use-case hypothesis design and milestone design towards applying to this program in collaboration with researchers, manage the progress of R&D projects, and conduct commercialization promotion activities, etc. in cooperation with commercialization promotion institutions.

3.4. Progress and Outcome Reporting

3.4.1. Progress Report Meetings

If an R&D project is adopted, progress report meetings shall be held periodically (about once every 2 to 3 months) hosted by the entrepreneurial support personnel. Towards achieving the set milestones, the entrepreneurial support personnel will confirm whether the project is progressing as described in the research plan in both the R&D aspect and the business commercialization aspect. please coordinate the date and time of each meeting among the related parties.

3.4.2. Reporting of Outcomes

After the implementation of this program ends, it is necessary to submit an outcome report to JST within 2 months after the end of the program. Regarding the details, we will communicate separately at the end of the implementation period. Furthermore, even after the implementation of the program ends, we may ask you to report on the subsequent progress of commercialization, etc., as appropriate.

3.4.3. Reporting of Startup Formation

If a startup is formed during or after the implementation period of this program, a report to JST is required. Please consult with the entrepreneurial support personnel before forming a startup, and contact the KSAC secretariat through the entrepreneurial support personnel.

3.5. Continuation of Support after Startup

In this program, to enable startups formed with support from this program to smoothly proceed to support in the seed stage, such as investment by VCs and support from NEDO in the early stage of startup formation, continued support can be provided to R&D projects at a certain stage in the early stage of startup formation, subject to prior confirmation and approval. Note that prior confirmation and approval are required to receive such support.

3.5.1. Types of Support and Eligible Institutions

Support that can be received after the entrepreneurship of a university-launched SU includes:

- ① Continued support implemented by the current project promotion structure and the university-launched SU created through the project (hereinafter referred to as "SU Direct Support".)
- ② Continued support implemented by the current project promotion structure without including the university-launched SU (hereinafter referred to as "Continued Support".)

These two types of support are collectively referred to as "Post-Entrepreneurship Support". The institutions eligible for each type of supports are as shown in the table below. For details, please refer to JST "Handbook for Post-Entrepreneurship Support". Regarding specific procedures within KSAC, please confirm with the person in charge at each affiliated institution. Also, the procedure requires a considerable amount of time (application must be submitted 4 to 5 months in advance), so if the timing of entrepreneurship becomes clear, please promptly contact the Lead Institution or the Secretariat.

<Target Institutions for Post-Entrepreneurship Support>

	SU Direct Support	Continued Support
University, etc.	○	○
Commercialization Promotion Institution	○ (However, no budget measures)	○ (However, no budget measures)
University-launched SU	○	- (No support)

3.5.2. Direct Support for SUs

(1) Target of Support

- Support is provided to R&D projects adopted in Step 2 of this program that result in startup formation based on those results during the implementation period, in addition to providing support to the university-launched SU created through the project. Step 1 falls outside the scope of SU Direct Support.
- Supports is provided for research and development / business development at the university-launched SU, as well as research and development that is highly likely to be conducted at universities, etc. The commercialization promotion institution is required to continue practicing, but no budget is provided after entrepreneurship.
- ※ It is not permitted to charge personnel expenses (excluding researchers), such as those for a CEO or other employees, and or rent that should appropriately be borne by the

university-launched SU, or activity expenses that should appropriately be recorded by the commercialization promotion institution, to the university-launched SU or university, etc.

(2) Conditions for Support

- The establishment date of the university-launched SU is within the implementation period of the relevant R&D project.
- The target university-launched SU is a Japanese corporation (Foreign corporations are not eligible).
- The commercialization promotion institution in Step 2 continue to be included in the implementation structure.
- The R&D issues for the university-launched SU to procure funding are clear, and support is required.
- An appropriate and realistic business plan is formulated.
- A feasible fund acquisition plan that can be implemented after the end of this support is in place.
- Note that, when the milestones aimed for in this support are achieved, the submission of an investment consideration confirmation letter is required on the condition that the supporting commercialization promotion institution or another investment institutions brings the matter before a decision-making body such as an investment committees. (A firm commitment to execute the investment is not requested).
- In Step 2, the aim is to form a university-launched SU and reach a level at which VCs can make investment decisions. If the university-launched SU cannot procure funding from VCs at the time of entrepreneurship, it is considered that there has been a change in the initial plan or investment requirements. Therefore, if the commercialization promotion institution does not invest at the time of entrepreneurship, please provide the commercialization promotion institution's position at the time of application.

(3) Support Period

- It shall be a maximum of 1 year from the support start date (upper limit is 1 year after the end of the current implementation period of the R&D project). However, it shall be up to the end of FY2029 when this fund project ends. For examples of support period, please refer to the JST "Handbook for Post-Entrepreneurship Support".
- In principle, SU Direct Support starts as early as possible after the establishment date of the university-launched SU. However, as an exception, it is also possible to adjust the start of startup support to within 6 months after entrepreneurship and within the current implementation period. However, it is necessary to present the reason at the time of application and have it approved in the screening.

(4) Support Amount

- In the Co-creation Program, it is possible to request an increased in support of up to 20 million yen (direct cost) for the entire R&D project in the "KSAC-GAP Fund".
- ※ The upper limit shall, be the average outsourced research expenses per year throughout the current implementation period.
- JST will separately pay indirect costs (upper limit 30%) to the institution based on the outsourced research contract.

(5) Application Deadline

- After undergoing approval screening within KSAC, The necessary documents must be sent to JST no later than 3 months prior to the scheduled establishment date of the university-launched SU. Therefore, taking into consideration the time required for the approval screening procedures within KSAC, please submit the application documents to the KSAC Secretariat through the affiliated institution, in principle, by 5 months prior to the scheduled establishment date of the university-launched SU.

(6) Screening Method

- At KSAC, we plan to establish a committee comprising external experts, etc., and conduct an interview screening (assuming a structure equivalent to the GAP Fund screening structure at the time of Step 2 adoption). The screening results will then be confirmed and approved by JST.

(7) Use of Outsourced Research Funds from JST

- Only expenses truly necessary for research and development and business development in the relevant R&D project are eligible for support. Income-generating activities using outsourced research funds are not permitted. In addition, for business development, expenses that are necessary and incidental to research and development (for example, investigation expenses for examining the direction of future research and development, etc.) are eligible for support, while expenses related to sales or sales expansion are not eligible.
- Outsourced research funds shall be used entirely by the university-launched SU or university, etc.

(8) Others

- In cases where support is permitted, modification contract procedures (or new contract procedures in the case of a university-launched SU) will be carried out as necessary.
- A university-launched SU entering into a new contract with JST under this support shall be treated as an "SU Creation Collaborative Institution (PF-originated SU)" of KSAC.

3.5.3. Continued Support

(1) Target of Support

- Support is provided to the current project promotion structure (the SU that was formed is not included) for R&D projects adopted in this program that result in startup formation based on those results during the implementation period. In Continued Support, Step 1 is also eligible.
- It is possible to request Continued Support not only in cases where SU Direct Support is not desired, but also in cases where SU Direct Support was denied.
- Supports is provided for research and development that is highly likely to be conducted at universities, etc.
- ※ It is also not permitted to charge personnel expenses for a CEO or other employees, rent that should appropriately be borne by the university- launched SU, or activity expenses, etc. that should appropriately be recorded by the commercialization promotion institution, to universities, etc.

(2) Conditions for Support

- The establishment date of the university-launched SU is within the implementation period of the relevant R&D project.
- In cases of receiving Continued Support in Step 2, the commercialization promotion institution is continuously included in the implementation structure.
- The R&D issues for the university-launched SU to procure funding are clear, and support is required.
- An appropriate and realistic business plan is formulated.
- A feasible fund acquisition plan after the end of this support is in place.

(3) Support Period

- It shall be until the earlier of (i) 1 year from the establishment date of the university-launched SU or (ii) the end date of the current implementation period of the R&D project. For examples concerning the support period, please refer to the JST "Handbook for Post-Entrepreneurship Support".

(4) Support Amount

- Can be implement within the range of the current budget amount (no additional support will be provided).

(5) Application Deadline

- After undergoing screening at KSAC, please submit the application documents to the KSAC Secretariat through the affiliated institution, in principle, by 4 months prior to the

establishment date of the university-launched SU (the planned date is acceptable).

(6) Screening Method

- A screening is planned to be conducted at KSAC. JST will confirm and approve the screening results.

(7) Use of Outsourced Funds from JST

- In principle, expenses for research and development are eligible for support. However, activities that generate income using outsourced funds are not permitted.
- Outsourced funds shall be used entirely by universities, etc.

(8) Others

- It is not possible to additionally request SU Direct Support during Continued Support.

3.6. Use of R&D Funds

The R&D funds (GAP funds) for R&D projects adopted in this program are allocated by JST, Therefore, please comply with expense execution rules established by JST and expense execution rules of the university to which the principal investigator belongs, and strive to ensure fair and efficient use.

※ At JST, based on outsourced research contracts, administrative processing manuals, ministry-wide common expense classification tables, etc., rules and guidelines specific to this program are established for certain items. For details, please refer to the latest administrative processing manuals, etc. at the following URL.

"University-Launched New Industry Creation Fund Project FY2026 Documents Pertaining to Outsourced Research Contracts (Universities, etc.)"

3.6.1. Eligible Uses of Funds for R&D Expenses

R&D expenses are expenses directly necessary for the implementation of research and development, including expenses for activities necessary to fill the gap between research results and commercialization towards the achievement of commercialization milestones and R&D milestones set by the principal investigator for the commercialization of research results (examples: setting users and uses, prototype development, business models refinement, data acquisition for hypothesis verification, interviews with potential customers, implementation of technical demonstrations, investigation of markets, regulations, competing technologies, etc.), and can be expended for the following uses.

a Equipment Expenses	Expenses for newly purchasing facilities, equipment, consumables, etc.
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b Travel Expenses	Travel expenses of research personnel in charge and research participants, etc. listed in the research plan.
c Personnel Expenses/ Honorariums	Expenses such as personnel expenses, personnel dispatch, and honoraria for lecture for researchers, etc. (excluding research personnel in charge) employed for this research. ※ Personnel expenses of persons whose personnel expenses are provided by the nation government through management expense grants, private school subsidies, etc. at universities, etc., cannot be expended. ※ Persons registered as research participants in the research plan (excluding management candidate personnel) are not eligible for honoraria.
d Others	Expenses for implementing research and development and program promotion other than a, b, and c. Regarding outsourcing expenses, only contract agreements that do not include research and development elements, for which the service specifications are predetermined and only the work is outsourced, may be charged as direct costs.

At JST, based on outsourced research contracts, administrative processing manuals, ministry-wide common expense classification tables, etc., rules and guidelines specific to this program are established for certain items. Furthermore, the handling may differ between universities, etc. (universities, public research institutions, public interest corporations, etc. recognized by JST) and companies, etc. (mainly research institutions other than universities, etc., such as private companies). For details, please refer to the latest administrative processing manuals, etc. at the following URL. ["University-Launch New Industry Creation Fund Project FY2026 Documents Pertaining to Outsourced Research Contracts \(Universities, etc.\)"](#)

3.6.2. Patent-Related Expenses

In this program, we aim to enhance the capacity to create university-launched SUs, and acquiring patent rights, including overseas rights, is particularly important for creating startups that operate internationally. In this program, subject to meeting all of the requirements ① to ③ below, we will provide support for patent-related expenses separately from the R&D funds of this program. For details of the support, please inquire with the department in charge of this program at each affiliated institution.

- ① The application must be for research results obtained during the research and development period, or for results that became necessary to apply for as a result of establishing an intellectual property strategy during the research and development period (results obtained before the start of this research and development period).
 - ② In principle, the application must be filed during the period in which KSAC is entrusted by JST with this fund project (planned until the end of FY2027).
 - ③ It must be an independent application by a university, etc., or a joint application by universities, etc. within KSAC (A joint application is possible only in the case of a patent application based on research results obtained when multiple universities, etc. within KSAC jointly implemented this program).
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- ※ When filing a patent application, please sufficiently consider the intellectual property strategy in advance.
 - ※ If necessary from the perspective of the intellectual property strategy, foreign applications (including PCT applications) for patents for which domestic applications have already been filed are also eligible.
 - ※ For expenses to be eligible, a plan document describing the intellectual property strategy and patent applications must have been approved by JST.
 - ※ If there are restrictions on patent applications under research funding systems, etc. that contributed to the creation of the results, please confirm those restrictions in advance.
 - ※ Patent-related expenses eligible for support include expenses required for application, examination, and acquisition of patent rights, such as application fees (including foreign applications), registration fees, patent attorney fees, related travel expenses, procedure expenses, and translation expenses (up to 1 million yen excluding tax per language). However, expenses related to maintenance annuities, registration maintenance annuities (permitted if inseparable from the registration fee), litigation, etc. are not eligible. If it is difficult to determine whether an expense is eligible, please consult with KSAC through the entrepreneurial support personnel.
 - ※ If the implementation period of an adopted R&D project extends beyond the end of FY2027, patent applications during the implementation period (through the end of FY2028) will be permitted only for the relevant R&D project.
 - ※ If filing a foreign application for a patent whose rights belong to a university, etc., JST's "Intellectual Property Utilization Support Project" can also be utilized, so please consult with JST. From the perspective of avoiding duplication of support by from national funds, support from national funds or funds sourced from national funds other than the support provided under this

program cannot be provided for patent applications with identical contents (including foreign applications). In addition, support from national funds or funds sourced from national funds other than this program may be subject to separate requirements. Please confirm these requirements sufficiently in advance.

- ※ For patents filed based on the results of this program, notification to JST ("prior application" or "notification"), is required For details, please consult with the person in charge of intellectual property at your affiliated institution; or refer to the latest administrative processing manuals, etc.

4. Application Submission / Contact Information

The department in charge at the university to which the principal investigator belongs is the submission point for application documents and the point of contact for inquiries concerning this program.

University Name (AIUEO Order)	Reception Department	Email Address
大阪大学	共創機構 ベンチャー・事業化支援室	kyousou-vb@office.osaka-u.ac.jp
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大阪工業大学	学長室 研究支援社会連携推進課	OIT.Kenkyu@josho.ac.jp
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