

KYOTO UNIVERSITY
SOCIETY-ACADEMIA
COLLABORATION

HANDBOOK



Kyoto University
Office of Society-Academia Collaboration for Innovation (SACI)

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Kyoto University: Addressing Social Issues through Diverse and High Advanced Research.

01

01

Kyoto University's Vision and Social Contribution

Kyoto University emphasizes academic freedom in its research and education activities, an approach which has helped secure its position among the world's leading research institutions. As an institution that highly values its connection with global society, the university seeks to contribute to harmony within the world's community and ecology. Within the university, over 3,000 researchers dedicate themselves daily to such work.

Kyoto University actively engages in collaboration with the industrial and government sectors in order to share the benefits of the cutting-edge knowledge generated on its campuses, and to seek solutions to the complex multi-faceted issues that our societies face.

02

02

A Comprehensive Research University Pursuing Diverse Fields of Research

Kyoto University comprises eighteen graduate schools and numerous other education and research institutes and facilities, including the largest number of government-designated joint-usage research centers in Japan. Through that rich academic environment, the university advances integrated basic and applied research in the natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences. Integrating the diverse knowledge generated across multiple disciplines, the university seeks to comprehensively tackle social issues.

03

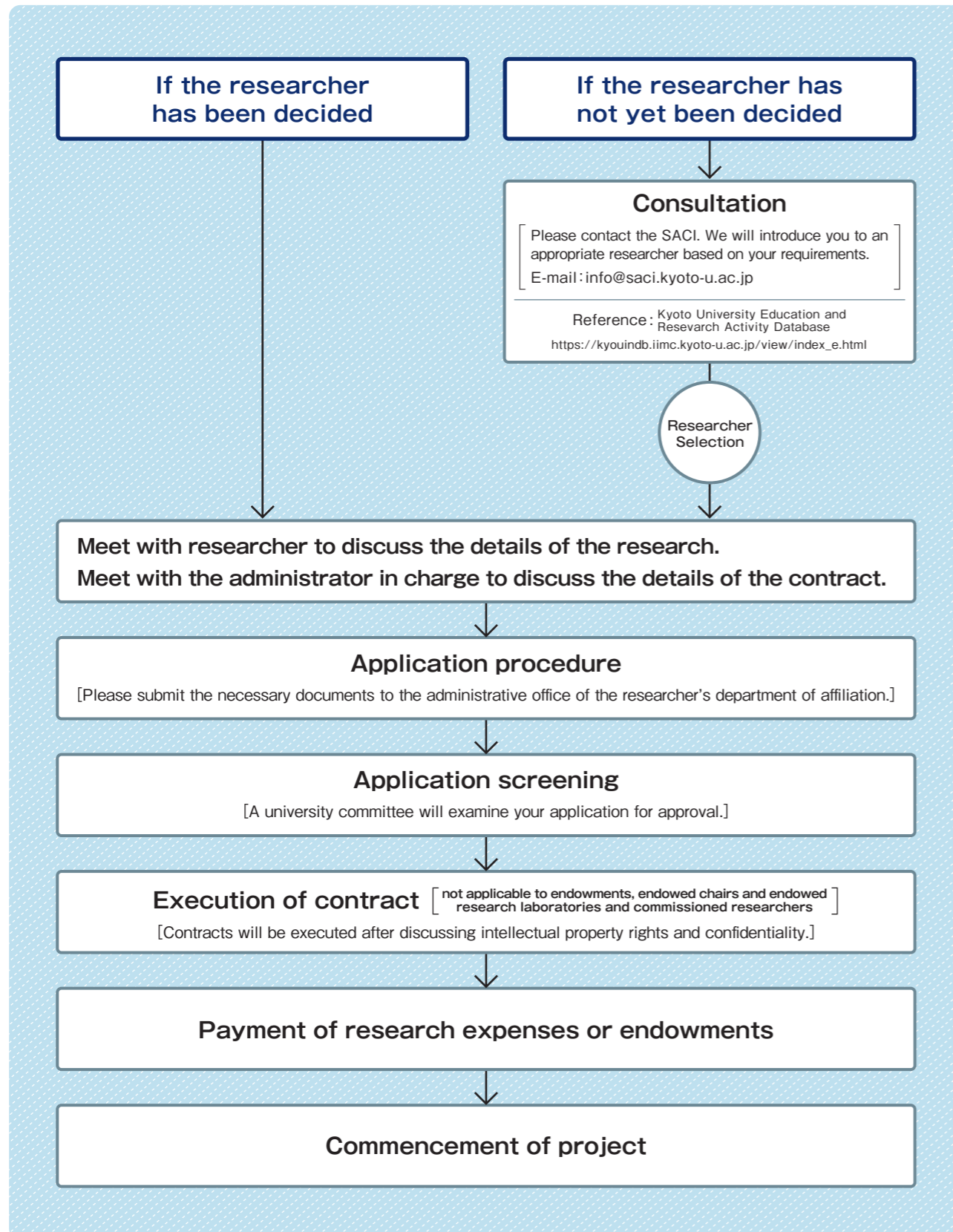
03

A Legacy of Pioneering Research

Throughout its history, the achievements of Kyoto University researchers have been consistently acknowledged by major international accolades, including nine Nobel Prizes, beginning in 1949 with Japan's first Nobel laureate, the physicist Dr. Hideki Yukawa. Other prestigious awards, including the Fields Medal, Lasker Award, and Gairdner Foundation International Award have also been presented to Kyoto University researchers. Through such cutting-edge research, and utilizing its extensive domestic and international network, the university seeks to address the multiple issues facing rapidly-changing contemporary society and to help develop new social values for the future.

Research and Consultation Flowchart

In general, the procedure to initiate industry-government-academia collaboration projects at Kyoto University follows the process illustrated in the flowchart below. For details, please contact the administrative office of the department of affiliation of the researcher concerned. If you are not sure which office to contact, please ask the researcher, or contact the Office of Society-Academia Collaboration for Innovation (SACI).



Methods of Industry-Government-Academia Collaboration

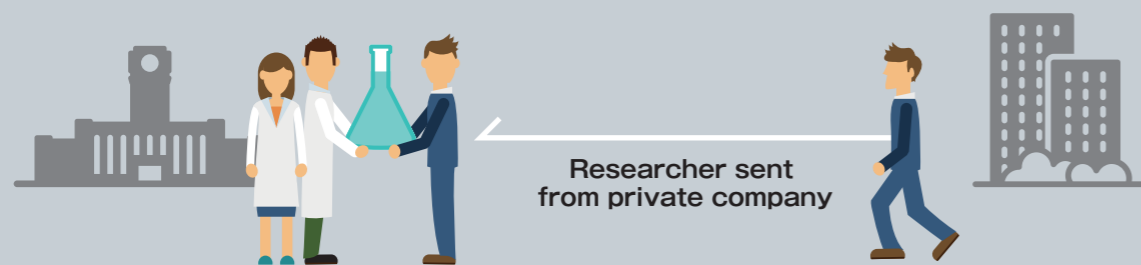
Kyoto University offers a range of different methods for industry-government-academia collaboration. For details, please refer to the relevant page for each method.

Method 1.	Collaborative Research	P.5
	Collaborative research with industry etc.	
Method 2.	Industry-Academia Collaboration Courses and Industry-Academia Collaboration Research Laboratories	P.6
	Organizations by industry-academia collaboration projects established within the university.	
Method 3.	Comprehensive Collaborative Research (at the Organizational Level)	
	Inter-organizational collaboration to identify an issue of common concern and conduct research.	
Method 4.	Commissioned Research	P.7
	The university can be commissioned by companies to conduct research and then provide the results.	
Method 5.	Commissioned Researchers	
	Experts etc. from companies are hosted by the university.	
Method 6.	Endowments	P.8
	Endowments can be used to fund education and research activities in accordance with the sponsor's interests.	
Method 7.	Endowed Chairs and Endowed Research Laboratories	
	Endowed chairs and endowed research laboratories can be established at the university in accordance with the sponsor's interests.	
Method 8.	Academic Consulting	P.9
	Researchers at the university can provide technical guidance and consulting to companies.	
Method 9.	Technology Transfer	
	Intellectual property owned by the university can be made available for use.	

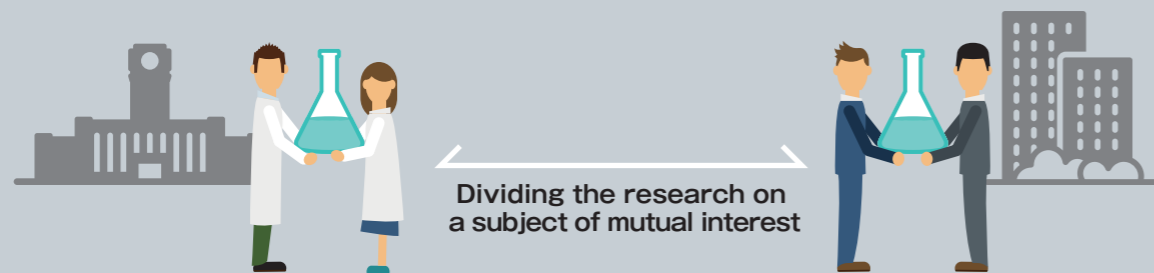
Collaborative Research

The university provides a system for researchers from private companies and from the university to collaborate on research subjects of mutual interest in an equal partnership. Under this system, the companies and the university mutually pool researchers, research expenses, and facilities so that the human resources and R&D capability of the university can be effectively used. Depending on the type of research, the following two methods are available:

1 The university hosts a researcher from a private company and collaborative research on a subject of mutual interest is conducted on campus.



2 The private company and the university divide the necessary tasks and work separately at their own premises on a subject of mutual interest.



*For either method, research expenses and other necessary expenses must be provided to the university.

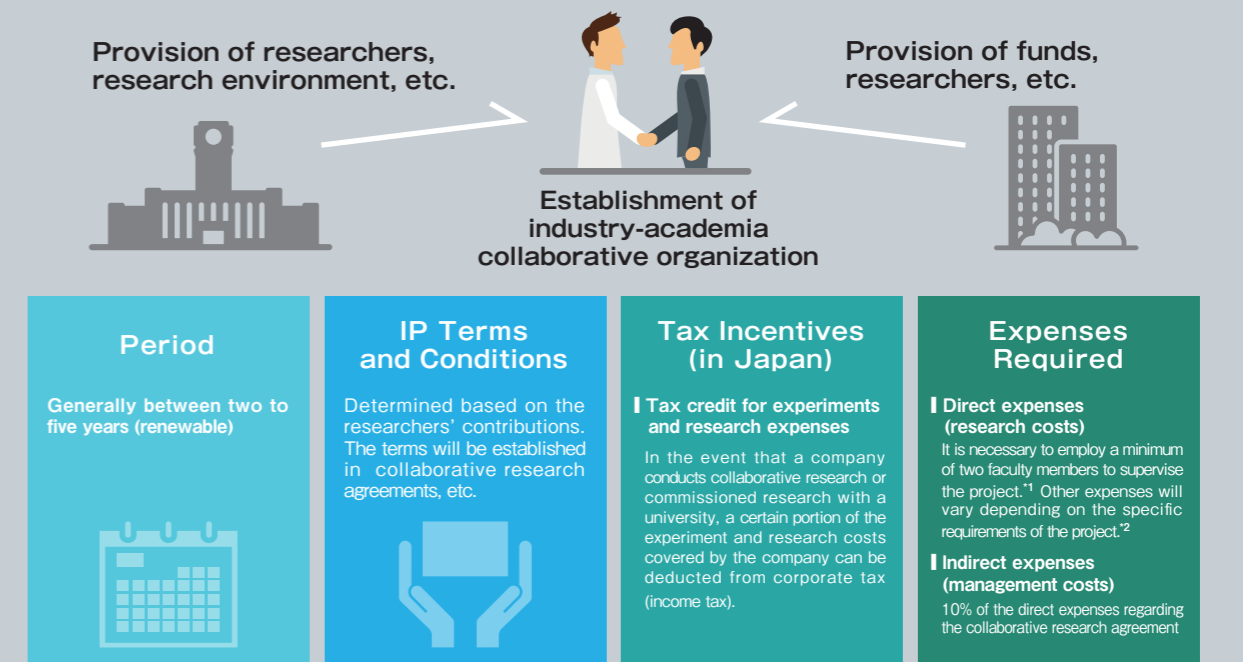
Period	IP Terms and Conditions	Tax Incentives (in Japan)	Expenses Required
Flexible—can be established according to the requirements of the research project.	Determined based on the researchers' contributions. The terms will be established in a collaborative research agreement.	Tax credit for experiments and research expenses In the event that a company conducts collaborative research or commissioned research with a university, a certain portion of the experiment and research costs covered by the company can be deducted from corporate tax (income tax). https://www.nta.go.jp/taxanswer/hojin/5443.htm (National Tax Agency of Japan website)	Direct expenses (research costs) Researcher fees^{*1} ¥432,000 per annum (or ¥216,000 for six months) Indirect expenses (management costs)^{*2} 10% of the direct expenses

***1 Researcher fees**
Expenses required to host a researcher from a private company at the university to engage in collaborative research (while concurrently maintaining their position at the company).

***2 Indirect expenses (management costs)**
Expenses required for the university-wide promotion of industry-government-academia collaboration, including the acquisition and maintenance costs of intellectual properties, personnel employment costs, and costs for strategic support in obtaining external funds.

Industry-Academia Collaboration Courses and Industry-Academia Collaboration Research Laboratories

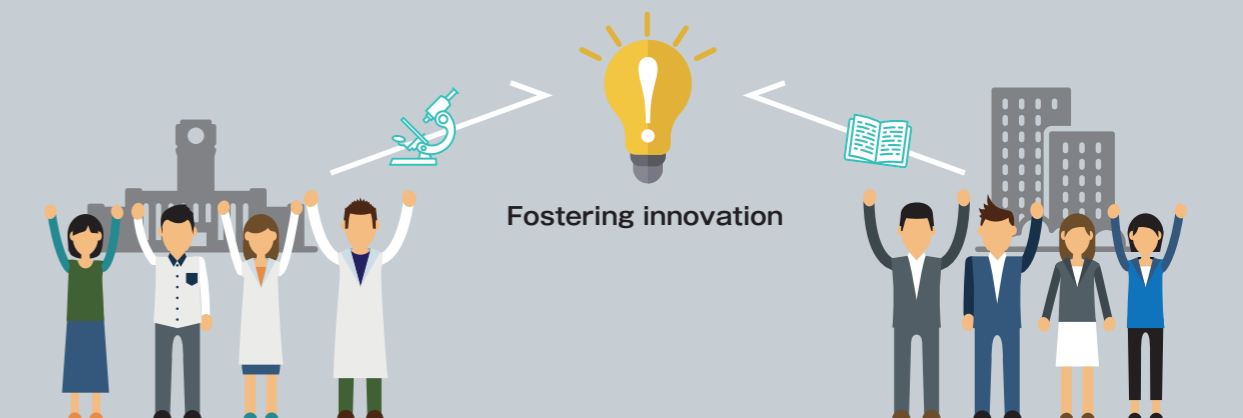
Through this method, an industry-academia collaborative organization is formed on campus using funds provided by a private company. In comparison to other forms of collaborative research, this method provides for the establishment of a more stable foundation and facilitates regular close contact among the researchers working together on the project, as well as their contact with other researchers at Kyoto University. These benefits can significantly enhance the development and progress of the research. It is also possible for researchers from the company to be stationed on campus to conduct the collaborative research. If an industry-academia collaborative organization is established within a graduate school, it will be established as an industry-academia collaboration course. If it is established within an institute, center, or other facility, it will be established as an industry-academia collaboration laboratory. This system was launched in November 2017, as a development of the collaborative research course and research laboratory. It is possible to include the name of the company within the name of the course or research laboratory.



*1 Researchers from the funding company etc. may be employed as project supervisors (subject to employment screening procedures).
 *2 Personnel costs such as the salaries of faculty members (approx. ¥6 million–¥12 million per person per year) + maintenance and operation costs (the costs of electricity, water, fuel, facility fees, and the costs of employing personnel such as administrators) + research costs.

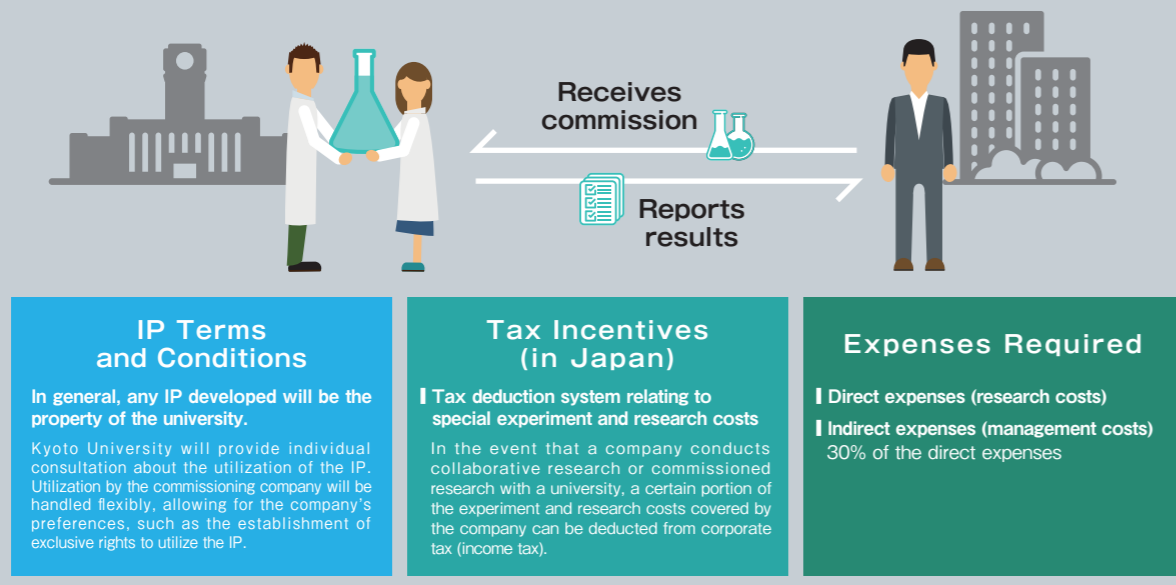
Comprehensive Collaborative Research (at the Organizational Level)

This method enables collaborative research to be implemented between multiple Kyoto University researchers and either a single company or multiple companies (including companies from different sectors). Research conducted via this method is not constrained to a specific area of research or specific researchers. This approach seeks to foster innovation in diverse fields of research—from the humanities and social sciences to the natural sciences—and explore new ways to benefit society.



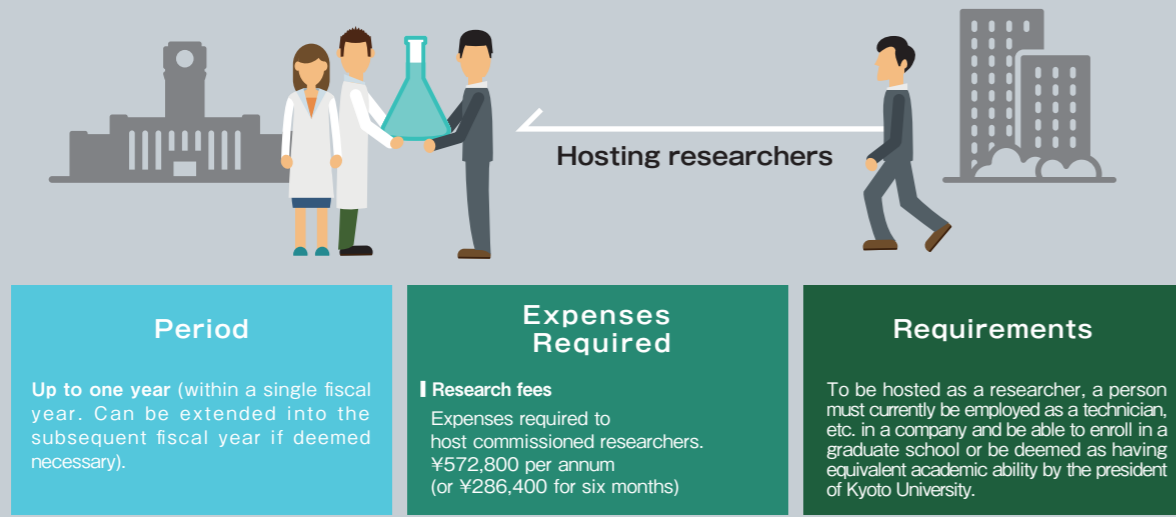
Commissioned Research

The university can be commissioned by companies to conduct research and then provide them with the results.



Commissioned Researchers

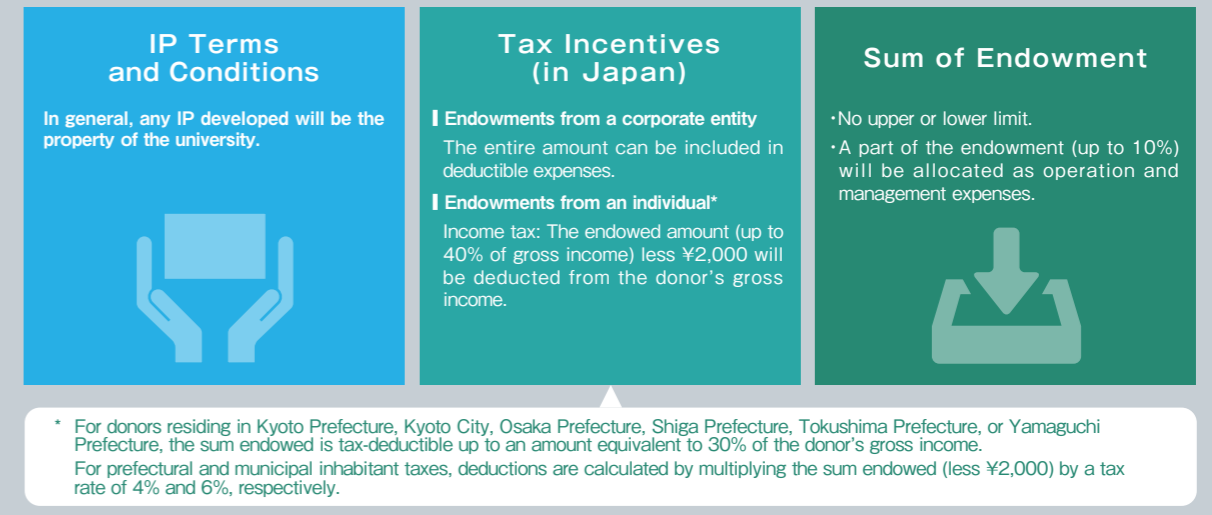
The university can host researchers and engineers from companies, providing them with opportunities to engage in graduate-level research and significantly enhance their knowledge and skills.



Note: Commissioned researchers are not hosted based on a "commissioned research contract." Commissioned research does not involve the hosting of a company's researchers.

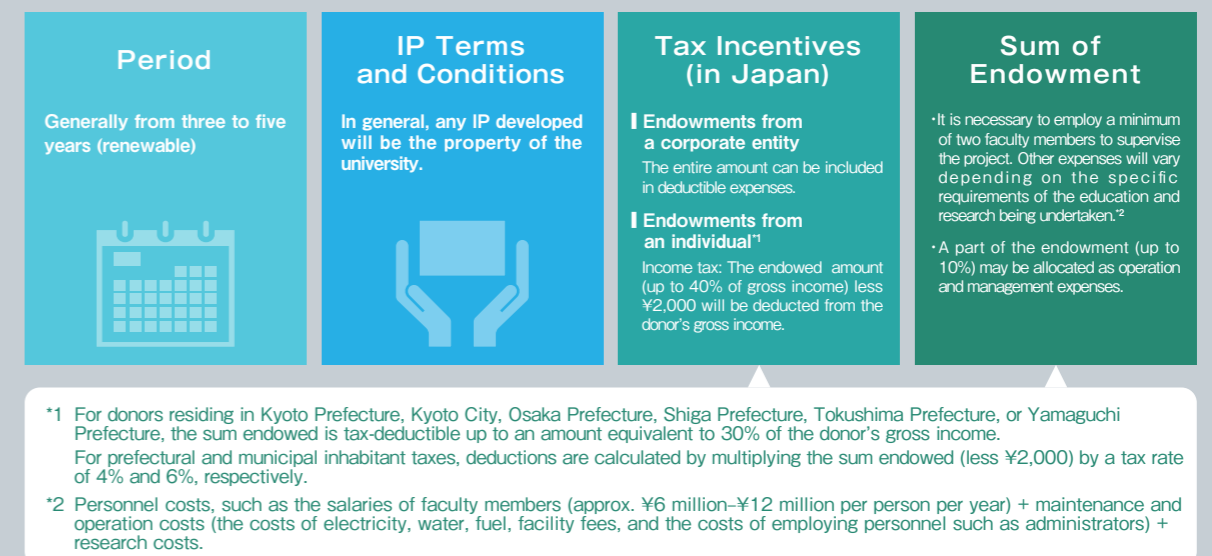
Endowments

Companies and individual donors can make endowments to the university to fund the development of research, education, and university operation. The outcomes of research funded by endowments are not provided directly to the endowment donors, but enhance the research capacity of the university and, in turn, benefit society.



Endowed Chairs and Endowed Research Laboratories

Through this method, the university uses an endowment from a company to establish a new chair or research laboratory. The chair or research laboratory will be established independently by Kyoto University in accordance with the donor's interests. If it is established within a graduate school, it will be established as an endowed chair. If it is established within an institute, center, or other facility, it will be established as an endowed research laboratory. It is possible to include the name of the company within the name of the chair or research laboratory. Fundamental information, such as the total amount of the endowment, the period, and the subject of the education and research being undertaken will be publicly disclosed.



Academic Consulting

Upon request, researchers from the university can provide guidance and advice to companies, enabling the companies and their activities to benefit from the advisor's knowledge and expertise. Technical guidance and consulting which is not deemed to be of a sufficient scale to warrant the conclusion of a contract or collaborative research agreement can be provided by advisors during their working hours as part of their regular work at the university. Consultation can be provided on or off campus. We can provide short term consulting for reasonable rates, and it is also possible to progress from Academic Consulting to the implementation of collaborative research.

IP Terms and Conditions

In general, any IP developed will be the property of the university.

Expenses Required

Consultation fees*
 From ¥10,000 per hour
 (including a 10% management fee)

*Consultation fees will be paid as commission to the relevant laboratories. Hourly rates will be calculated based on the time required for face-to-face consultation, e-mail correspondence, meetings, preparation, and other requirements as necessary.

Technology Transfer

The products and outcomes of university research, such as materials, patents, and intellectual property can be made available for use under material transfer agreements and licenses. For details, please refer to the SACI website (<https://www.saci.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/>). The website includes details of the patents and technologies offered by the university.

Technology transfer is conducted through the following approved technology licensing organizations:

- Kansai TLO Co., Ltd. <http://www.kansai-tlo.co.jp/english/>
- iPS Academia Japan, Inc. <http://ips-cell.net/e/>

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

Answers to frequently asked questions, such as questions about specific procedures and the differences between different methods of collaboration.

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 What kind of research activities do you conduct?

A Please refer to the Organizational Chart on p.13 for a list of the research departments of Kyoto University. Details of the research activities of individual researchers can be found in the "Kyoto University Education and Research Activity Database."

Kyoto University Education and Research Activity Database
https://kyouindb.iimc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/view/index_e.html

Q2 Is it possible to have a consultation about collaborative research prior deciding the specific research area or researcher?

A Yes, it is possible. The SACI coordinators can help connect you with appropriate researchers. We welcome such consultations. If the topic is decided, we can also introduce you to specific researchers.

Contact: Joint Research Section, Office of Society-Academia Collaboration for Innovation (SACI)
E-mail: liaison@saci.kyoto-u.ac.jp Phone: +81-(0)75-753-7578

Q3 What is the application procedure?

A Each method has a designated application format. Please contact the administration office of the relevant researcher's department of affiliation. If you are unsure of which office to contact, please confirm the correct office directly with the researcher or contact the SACI.

Contact: The Office of Society-Academia Collaboration for Innovation (SACI)
E-mail: info@saci.kyoto-u.ac.jp Phone: +81-(0)75-753-9183

Q4 Approximately how much does collaborative research cost?

A There is no upper or lower limit. Expenses can be decided flexibly in accordance with the requirements of the research and in consultation with the relevant researcher(s). Approximately 35% of collaborative research projects undertaken at Kyoto University cost between ¥1 million-¥3 million. Recent years have seen an increase in comparatively large-scale projects.

Q5 What is the difference between collaborative and commissioned research?

Collaborative Research

A Companies etc. conduct research jointly with the university. Researchers from the companies etc. can work at the university if necessary.

Commissioned Research

A The companies etc. do not conduct any of the research.

Q6 What is a difference between an industry-academia collaboration course / research laboratory and an endowed chair /research laboratory?

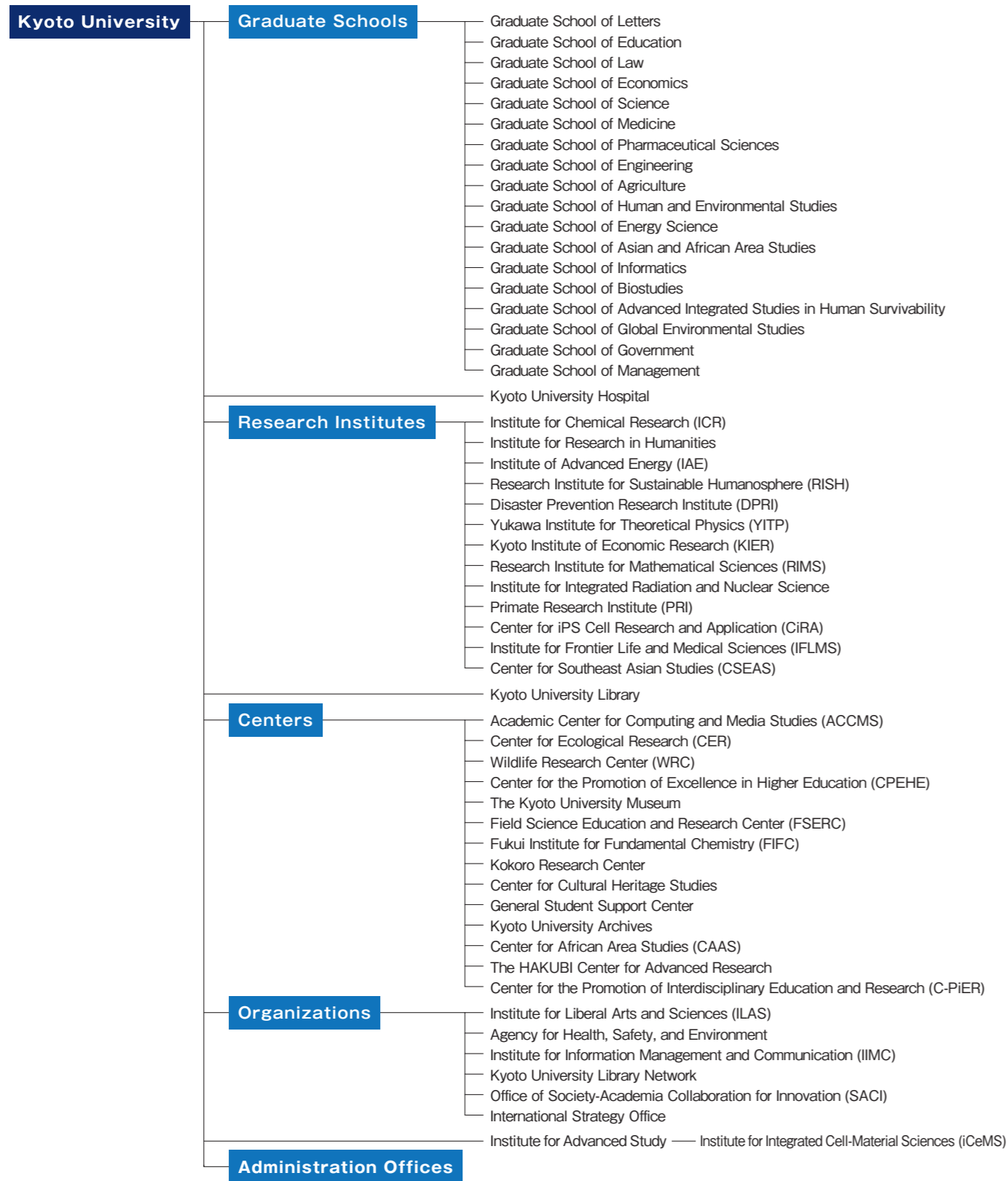
Industry-Academia Collaboration Course / Research Laboratory

A Programs etc. are operated in consultation with the collaborating companies. IP terms and conditions are established in collaborative research agreements. Basically Contents of Course and Research Laboratory are disclosed to the public, however the subject of the research, the researchers involved, financial details, and the companies involved do not need to be publicly disclosed.

Endowed Chair/Research Laboratory

A Programs etc. are operated at the discretion of the university. In general, any IP developed will be the property of the university. Programs will be operated in accordance with the interests of the endowment donor, but cannot be specified directly. Fundamental information, such as the total amount of the endowment, the period, and the subject of the education and research being undertaken will be publicly disclosed.

Organizational Chart



About the Office of Society-Academia Collaboration for Innovation (SACI)

Each of department of Kyoto University has its own administrative office which oversees the administrative procedures (including adoption and execution) of industry-government-academia collaboration. The SACI is responsible for establishing and maintaining the industry-government-academia collaboration strategy for the university as a whole and promoting its collaborative activities, as well as serving as comprehensive point of contact for society-academia collaboration.



Please feel free to contact us with any questions or inquiries:

The Office of Society-Academia Collaboration for Innovation (SACI)
(Research Promotion Department)

E-mail : info@saci.kyoto-u.ac.jp Phone : +81-(0)75-753-9183

SACI Organizational Chart

