

## Center for Medical Transformation (CMX) Young Scientists Collaborative Research Project Application Guidelines for FY2026

### I .Purpose of the Grant

To promote collaborative and international joint research among young researchers in line with the mission of the Center for Medical Transformation (CMX), this program supports developmental collaborative research projects that are expected to contribute to the future of the CMX.

### II . Eligible Research

#### 1. Research Categories

##### Type A:

Collaborative research projects conducted either

- (i) between young researchers within CMX, or
- (ii) between young researchers within CMX and young researchers in this Graduate School (excluding CMX),

utilizing one or more of the following equipment:

- (1) Xenium
- (2) Mantra2
- (3) (Cryo-)Electron Microscope
- (4) Confocal Laser Scanning Microscope

##### Prior Consultation Requirement

Applicants must conduct in advance with the relevant faculty members listed below and formulate a feasible research plan. For Item (4), prior consultation is recommended but not mandatory.

Applicants should contact the relevant faculty members by June 22, 2026, approximately two weeks prior to the application deadline.

##### Equipment and Contact Faculty

- (1) Xenium

Professor Masafumi Horie, Department of Molecular Pathology

E-mail: mhorie@med.kobe-u.ac.jp

- (2) Mantra2

Assistant Professor Takayuki Kodama, Department of Molecular Pathology

E-mail: takodama@med.kobe-u.ac.jp

- (3) (Cryo-)Electron Microscope

Professor Ryo Nitta, Department of Structural Anatomy

E-mail: ryonitta@med.kobe-u.ac.jp

- (4) Confocal Laser Scanning Microscope

Professor Junichi Kikuta, Department of Immunology

E-mail: jkikuta@med.kobe-u.ac.jp

For collaborative research conducted entirely within CMX, collaboration across different research field (e.g., "intractable cancer" and "drug discovery and medical devices") is encouraged.

Multiple applications from the same laboratory are permitted; however, adjustments may be made during the review process if necessary.

##### Type B:

Collaborative research between young researchers within CMX and young researchers in other faculties or departments of Kobe University.

##### Type C:

International collaborative research between young researchers within CMX and young researchers affiliated with overseas research institutions.

## **2. Eligibility (Definition of "young researchers")**

Eligible applicants are young researchers (excluding graduate students) who meet either of the following criteria:

- under 44 years old, (or under 46 years old of the age for those who graduated from a sixth-year university program), or
- within ten years after obtaining a doctoral degree.

It is preferable that either the Principal Investigator or Co-investigator is under 40 years old age.

Age is determined as of the application deadline.

## **3. Expenses covered by the grant**

Expenses necessary for the joint research will be covered.

(excluding, in principle, capital equipment and fixtures as defined by the university's accounting rules).

Only direct expenses are covered; indirect expenses are not supported.

## **III. Details of the Grant**

### **1. Grant Amount**

This grant is provided as one-time funding for a single fiscal year; carryover to the following fiscal year is not permitted.

- **Type A:**

Total funding of 1.5 to 3.0 million yen for one fiscal year  
(approximately, 750,000 to 1,500,000 yen per researcher)

\*To be equally distributed among the Principal Investigator and Co-investigator

- **Type B:**

Total funding of 0.75-3.0 million yen for fiscal year  
(allocated only to young researchers within CMX)

- **Type C:**

Total funding of 0.75-3.0 million yen for one fiscal year  
(allocated only to young researchers within CMX)

Approximately 3-4 projects across Types A to C will be selected.

The principal investigator and co-investigators shall share equal responsibility for the appropriate use of the budget.

### **2. Grant period**

The grant must be used within FY 2026.

Funding is scheduled to become available from late August 2026.

By approximately the first quarter of the following fiscal year, the Principal Investigator (or Co-investigator) will be required to report on the research progress in writing and at a workshop, meeting, or conference organized by CMX.

## **IV. Application Procedures**

### **1. Application Form and Submission**

Using the designated application form, two young researchers must jointly submit a proposal. One applicant shall be designated as the Principal Investigator, and the other as the Co-Investigator.

For proposals submitted by a pair consisting of a young researcher within CMX and young researcher outside CMX (including those from other graduate schools, faculties, departments, or overseas institutions), the young researcher within CMX must serve as the Principal Investigator.

## **2. Continuing Proposals**

When applying as a continuation or development of a research proposal adopted in the previous fiscal year by the same collaborative research team, the Research Progress Report submitted in mid-March of the previous fiscal year must be submitted together with the application.

## **3. Submission Method**

Applications must be submitted by e-mail with the subject line below.

- Submission address : k9shien@med.kobe-u.ac.jp

(Research Support Division / Attn: Amo (Ms.))

- Subject line: Application for FY 2026 CMX Young Scientists Collaborative Research Project

## **4. Application Deadline**

Noon, Monday, July 6, 2026