Application Guideline for academic staff Position
at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, JAXA

1.	Position	Assistant Professor
2.	Number of Positions	One
3.	Affiliation	Department of Solar System Sciences, Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS)
4.	Work Location	JAXA Sagamihara Campus (3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Chuo-ku, Sagamihara, Kanagawa, JAPAN) <Scope of changes> Locations determined by the agency in the case of changes due to personnel transfers, organizational restructuring, etc. When telework is performed according to the organization's rules, its location is also included.
5.	Starting Date	September 1st, 2026 or the earliest possible date thereafter
6.	Term of Employment	Non fixed term
7.	Term of Probationary	6 months from the date of hire
8.	Job Duties	Research, development, and graduate education related to solar system science
9.	Detailed Job Duties and Desired Candidate Profile	Department of Solar System Sciences, ISAS/JAXA advances two research areas: Heliospheric System Science, which aims to "Understanding the mechanisms and impacts of the dynamically changing heliosphere system, and learning about the past and future evolution of the solar system" and Planetary Science, which aims to "Revealing the formation processes of the Solar System based on observational evidence, and exploring the evolution and transport of source material through the Solar System." These objectives are achieved through collaborative efforts with universities and external research institutions, involving satellite-based observational research, related theoretical studies, planning and execution of exploration missions to achieve the goals, and development of new scientific instruments for spacecraft. Department of Solar System Sciences possesses a long history and experiences in in-situ observation made by spacecraft-born science instruments and is continuously advancing the development of new science instruments for spacecraft, which are key to the future missions. In particular, the technology for measuring charged particles through in-situ observation is at the world's leading edge. Furthermore, by applying this technology, the research and development efforts are expanding into the development of planetary mass spectrometers for performing in-situ mass analysis of planetary surface materials. In-situ neutral particle mass spectrometers for spacecraft, including mass spectrometers for planetary exploration, are science instruments required for both future planetary exploration and heliospheric system science exploration. Furthermore, for future landing missions to gravitational bodies such as the Moon and Mars, they provide fundamental information such as the elemental composition and isotope ratios of atmospheres and surface materials, contributing to the resolution of major scientific questions concerning the origin and evolution of the materials composing celestial bodies. In developing the mass spectrometer, it is necessary to simultaneously develop new components for planetary atmospheric observation, such as an atmospheric sampling unit, and for landing exploration, such as a new preprocessing unit for analyzing non-volatile materials, including in-situ analysis of organic compounds.

		The Assistant Professor recruited this time is expected to play a central role in developing science instrument for in-situ particle measurement that will be a key instrument for both planetary exploration and heliospheric system science exploration. Simultaneously, the candidate is expected to play a central role in planning and executing future solar system science exploration missions. The duties of the Assistant Professor position being recruited for this time are as follows. 1) Lead the instrument development team, including manufacturers, in collaboration with researchers from other universities and ISAS engineers, to conduct the development of in-situ particle measurement instruments for scientific satellites and probes across all stages from fundamental development to payload integration. 2) Lead and execute the construction and the maintenance of ground-based experimental facilities necessary for developing in-situ particle measurement instrument for scientific satellites and spacecraft. 3) Actively participate in planning and executing future solar system science exploration missions. Considering these duties, the Assistant Professor recruited this time must meet at least the following requirements: 1) Possess expertise in in-situ observation for planetary exploration, including Earth, and have experience developing particle measurement instruments (including mass spectrometers for laboratory or spacecraft) or related equipment. 2) Demonstrate enthusiasm for establishing and maintaining the laboratory facilities necessary for instrument development. 3) Possess the capability to educate and supervise graduate students. ISAS/JAXA functions as a hub for the space science activities in Japan. While ISAS is a science institute of Japanese space agency JAXA, it is also embedded in the collaboration network among Japanese universities. Flight projects are the keys to promoting space science. In the network, ISAS, teaming up with other JAXA members as well as academic members outside JAXA, plays the special role of materializing flight projects. Thus, ISAS members are expected to play vital roles in running the projects. We are looking for a highly motivated staff who can carry out his/her academic research in a project-oriented style, in collaboration with university researchers under the inter-university framework. Active participation in various JAXA projects and R&Ds to demonstrate his/her academic expertise is also expected. Human resource development for future space development and utilization is anticipated as natural outcome of the above-mentioned activities. <Scope of changes> Scope of job defined by the agency.
10.	Goal Setting	The assistant professor is expected to become an indispensable researcher for space science in general, by making important contributions to the promotion of various projects without being confined to their own areas of expertise. Based on these expectations, the candidate is required to state their own goal in the document “(5) Future research plan”.

		The Research Director of Solar System Sciences will discuss their career path together, considering the overall achievements during about 5 years after being employed.
11.	Benefits and Conditions	(1) Salary Salary will be determined under the provision of JAXA wage rules and regulations, considering qualifications and experience. (2) Working Hours In principle, the Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work shall be applied. Working hours are basically from 9:30-17:45. The break time shall be 45minutes if the working hours per day exceed 6 hours, and 1 hour if the working hours exceed 8 hours. Regardless of the above, those who apply the Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work shall have deemed working hours of 7 hours and 45 minutes per day. Overtime work may be required depending on the work situation. (3) Holidays Saturdays and Sundays, National Holidays, New Year Holidays (December 29th - January 3rd), others when JAXA deems it necessary, etc. (4) Vacations and Leave Paid Annual leave, WLB (Work Life Balance) annual leave, celebration or condolence leave, maternity leave, child-care leave, care leave, nursing leave, etc. (5) Retirement Age Retirement age is 65. (6) Accommodations Depending on business necessity, individual situation, and vacancy status, either single or family accommodation will be provided, or a housing allowance will be issued according to the agency's regulations. However, the period of availability for the same housing is limited to 7 years.. (7) Social insurance Several types of social insurances (health insurance, pension plan, etc.) will be provided.
12.	Research Funding	Research funding is determined according to the budget situation of each year. *FY2025: Professor; ¥800,000, Associate professor; ¥800,000, Assistant professor; ¥400,000
13.	Required Qualifications	PhD degree in Science or relevant fields (including expected PhD by the date of adoption)
14.	Application Documents	(1) Curriculum vitae (2) Research history and summary (3) List of published papers (with DOIs) (4) List of awarded research funds through competition. Specify a type of funds, amount, and a role (e.g. principal investigator/co-investigator) (5) Future research plan (including contribution to projects and ambitions for educational activities) (6) Declaration of past criminal penalties, administrative penalties, disciplinary measures, etc., including sexual harassment, assault and violence (Disclose all penalties on freeform, can also be stated in (1) CV.) (7) Names, affiliations and contact details (phone numbers and email addresses) of two individuals who can provide opinion about the candidate.

		(8) Copies of major research papers (up to 5) published in peer-reviewed or refereed academic journals
15.	Submission	Applicants are required to apply via the following website. Please access the application form at the following URL: https://isas-appli-form.jaxa.jp/forms1/1770856675 (Notes) ・ All the documents must be submitted in pdf format. ・ Note that documents (2) to (6) should be merged into one PDF file. ・ Application delivered in person or by mail shall not be accepted.
16.	Application Deadline	April 16th, 2026, noon (JST) ・Data entry and submission of all the required documents must be completed by this deadline through the website.
17.	Screening Method	Screening will be conducted by the Advisory Council for Research and Management of ISAS, JAXA. The council will conduct a document screening, and interview those who have passed the document screening. This process is subject to change.
18.	Contact Information	Director of Department of Solar System Sciences Prof. Yoshifumi Saito Email: saito.yoshifumi[at]jaxa.jp * For inquiries regarding application submission as in Section 15: Human Resources Section / Management and Integration Department E-mail: ISAS-JINJI [at]ml.jaxa.jp * *Please replace [at] in the email address with @.
19.	Name of Recruiter	Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency（JAXA）
20.	Others	(1) Information submitted in your application documents will not be used for any purpose other than the employment selection. Once the selection process is complete, we will securely dispose of all application documents and personal information, except for those submitted by the successful candidate. (2) In order to properly implement security export control based on Japan's Foreign Exchange and Foreign Exchange Act, it is necessary to submit a declaration pertaining to "Specific category" regulated by the act. Depending on the contents of the declaration, necessary adjustment for appropriate duties such as scope of secondary careers could be made. (3) Please also check the notes on JAXA website* before applying. * https://global.jaxa.jp/about/employ/index.html