

Application Guideline for Specially Appointed Assistant Professor (Tenure-track)
at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, JAXA

1.	Position and Number of Positions	Specially Appointed Assistant Professor (Tenure-track), One
2.	Affiliation	Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS) After appointment, the successful candidate may be assigned to one of five Departments under Research Director of ISAS, based on the candidate's expertise, research plan, and the institute's hosting arrangements.
3.	Work Location	JAXA Sagami-hara Campus (3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Chuo-ku, Sagami-hara, 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.
4.	Starting Date	April 1, 2027 or the earliest possible date thereafter
5.	Employment Status	Full-time
6.	Term of Employment	The contract term shall be within the same fiscal year, with renewals limited up to 5 years starting from the initial hiring date.
7.	Job Duties	The appointee will promote academic research on near-Earth objects (NEOs), including their observation, exploration, orbital analysis and orbit determination/evaluation, and Earth impact risk assessment, as well as data analysis and modeling related to these activities. In addition, the appointee is expected to emphasize collaboration with domestic and international institutions and researchers, and to contribute to academic research and related activities that support planetary defense. After appointment, taking into account the appointee's expertise and affiliated Department, the appointee will participate in the activities of the JAXA Planetary Defense Team. As necessary, the appointee may hold concurrent appointments and will contribute to the translation of academic outcomes into societal applications.
8.	Detailed Job Duties and Desired Candidate Profile	The Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS), JAXA, recognizes efforts toward the discovery, tracking, physical characterization, orbital analysis and orbit evaluation, and assessment and mitigation of Earth impact risks of near-Earth objects (NEOs) as one of the key challenges in space science. Advancing this field requires individuals who can work across observational, space exploration and mission-related, theoretical, data

science, and social implementation domains. It is also essential to promote research development in collaboration with domestic and international researchers and related institutions, leveraging the institute's function as an inter-university research institute.

In this call, we seek a Specially Appointed Assistant Professor (Tenure-track) who will promote academic research in one or more of the following areas: observation, exploration, orbital analysis, and risk assessment of NEOs, as well as data analysis and modeling related to these topics. The selected candidate is expected to grow into a leading researcher in this field. In particular, we seek candidates who are motivated to expand their expertise into this interdisciplinary domain while collaborating with domestic and international observation sites, universities, research institutions, relevant projects, and global planetary defense initiatives.

The responsibilities of the Specially Appointed Assistant Professor (Tenure-track) are as follows:

- To promote academic research on NEO observation, exploration, orbit analysis, Earth impact risk assessment, and/or related data analysis and modeling, and to continuously produce high-quality research outputs.
- To collaborate with domestic and international observation facilities, universities, research institutes, and related organizations, contributing to the advancement of observation, analysis, data sharing, and evaluation methodologies for NEOs.
- To participate in NEO-related missions, observation campaigns, and international planetary defense activities by leveraging the appointee's expertise.
- After appointment, to participate in the activities of the JAXA Planetary Defense Team, taking into account the appointee's expertise and affiliated Department, and to contribute to bridging academic outcomes with social implementation.
- To promote research in collaboration with scientists and engineers within and outside the institute, as well as with universities and industry partners.
- To contribute to the education of graduate students.
- To participate in research and development activities and projects within JAXA.

		<p>In light of the above responsibilities, applicants for this position must meet at least the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrated excellent research achievements or strong potential in NEO observation, exploration, orbital mechanics, risk assessment, data science, or related fields. ● Prior direct involvement in planetary defense activities is not required; however, candidates must have a strong motivation to contribute to this field by building upon their expertise in relevant academic disciplines. ● Ability to promote research in collaboration with domestic and international researchers and organizations, and to contribute to the development and strengthening of collaborative networks in the future. ● Strong motivation to engage in interdisciplinary research by leveraging their advanced expertise. ● Ability and willingness to contribute to the education and supervision of graduate students, or to assist in such activities. <p><Scope of changes> None (If there is a change beyond the work related to the above content, the contract will be revised)</p>
9.	Goal Setting	<p>The successful candidate is expected to set his/her own goal in line with the following tenure review perspectives.</p> <p>(Notes) After tenure is granted, the associate professor must develop activities appropriate to the position, demonstrating leadership in ISAS, to present his/her vision to academic communities, and fostering a group that shares the vision.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Demonstrated the qualities as a key member by applying his/her expertise in the performance of project-related duties and, as a result, achieved notable results held important by the project. 2) Promoted project activities and produced research results including those related to them in a balanced manner. The research results should be highly regarded or recognized for their potential in relevant academic fields both domestically and internationally. 3) Provided guidance or assistance to early-career researchers, including graduate students, early-career project members, and corporate engineers through leadership that led to smooth progress of the project and development of research. 4) Acquired a vision for the future in one of the fields of space science, based on

		the experience of promoting research while working on projects as an assistant professor. Presented his/her vision to the relevant academic community and formed a group to share the vision, or have a high potential to do so.
10.	Interim and Tenure Reviews	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) After being hired, the specially appointed assistant professor will discuss the goal he/she has set for himself/herself with the research director, the program director of space science, the project manager of a relevant space science project team, and the director of a relevant department to which he/she belongs, based on the contents provided upon application. In this discussion, the research plan will be detailed with the goal of being granted tenure within five years. 2) An interim review will be conducted approximately two years after the hire date to confirm the progress of the research plan. 3) After the interim review, tenure reviews will be conducted up to two times before the end of a fixed term. If the Advisory Council for Research and Management of ISAS/JAXA determines that the specially appointed assistant professor have been achieved the set goal, he/she will be employed as a tenured associate professor. If his/her achievements will be outstanding, an early tenure review will be conducted at the same time as the interim review. 4) The interim and tenure reviews will be conducted by a committee composed of experts in the relevant fields including who are not affiliated with ISAS.
11.	Research Support	An ISAS internal committee will provide advice to achieve the goal of attaining leadership in an academic community through mission realization. ¥1,000,000 is provided as traveling and research expenses every year.
12.	Salary	Salary will be determined under the provision of JAXA wage rules and regulations, considering qualifications and experience.
13.	Working Hours	<p>In principle, the Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work shall be applied.</p> <p>Working hours are basically from 9:30am-17:45pm. 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 45minutes per day.</p> <p>Overtime work may be required depending on the work situation.</p>

14.	Holidays	Saturdays and Sundays, National Holidays, New Year Holidays (December 29th - January 3rd), others when JAXA deems it necessary, etc.
15.	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.
16.	Social Insurance	Social insurances (health insurance, pension plan, etc.) will be provided.
17.	Required Qualifications	<p>(1) PhD degree is required (including expected PhD by the date of adoption).</p> <p>(2) At the time of employment, the candidate must have degrees earned within the last 8 years, or is expected to earn by the date of employment. However, with regard to “within the last 8 years”, the duration of maternity/postnatal leave, child-care leave, and other special circumstances taken after degree acquisition shall be excluded.</p>
18.	Application Documents	<p>(1) Curriculum vitae</p> <p>(2) Research history and summary</p> <p>(3) List of published papers (with DOIs)</p> <p>(4) List of awarded research funds through competition. Specify a type of funding, amount, and a role (e.g. principal investigator/co-investigator)</p> <p>(5) Goal to be set (must be based on "9. Goal Setting")</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>(7) Names, affiliations and contact details (phone numbers and email addresses) of two individuals who can provide opinion about the candidate.</p> <p>(8) Copies of major research papers (up to 5) published in peer-reviewed or refereed academic journals</p>
19.	Submission	<p>Applicants are required to apply via the following website. Please access the application form at the following URL:</p> <p>https://isas-appli-form.jaxa.jp/forms1/1781759196</p> <p>(Notes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •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.
20.	Application Deadline	September(Month), 30th (date), 2026(year), noon (JST)

		<p>•Data entry and submission of all the required documents must be completed by this deadline through the website.</p>
21	Contact Information	<p>Research Director Prof. Tetsuya Yoshida Email: yoshida.tetsuya[at]jaxa.jp *</p> <p>For inquiries regarding application submission as in Section 19: Human Resources Section / Management and Integration Department E-mail: ISAS-JINJI[at]ml.jaxa.jp *</p> <p>*Please replace [at] in the email address with @.</p>
22.	Others	<p>(1) Applications will be examined and selected by the Advisory Council for Research and Management of ISAS, JAXA.</p> <p>(2) 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.</p> <p>(3) In order to properly implement security export control based on the 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.</p> <p>(4) Please also check the notes on JAXA website* before applying.</p> <p>* https://global.jaxa.jp/about/employ/index.html</p>