Announcement of Korea Research Fellowship (KRF) for Postdoctoral Researchers – (2nd round in 2019)

The MSIT (Ministry of Science and ICT) and NRF (National Research Foundation of Korea) welcome applications from host researchers in South Korea who wish to invite prospective overseas Ph.D. researchers to join the Korea Research Fellowship (KRF) program. This program is designed to help overseas post-doc researchers produce outstanding achievements and pursue mutual growth in South Korea. Interested applicants are requested to file an application in accordance with the relevant procedures.

Eligibility of KRF candidates: Overseas post-doc researchers or *Korean national post-doc researchers currently residing overseas within the past five years as of **August 31, 2019**

*Korean Nationals - limited to those who are residing overseas and hold a Ph.D. degree from universities in Korea or abroad are eligible.

Fields of Research: All fields in science and technology

* Preference fields: high correlation fields related to "#8 leading industry technology fields" and "#3 strategic investment fields"

- #8 leading industry technology fields : Smart Factory, Smart Farm, Smart City, FinTech, New Energy Industry, Drone, Future Vehicle, Bio Health
- #3 strategic investment fields : Data Economics(Big Data/Block Chain/Shared Economy), Artificial Intelligence, Hydrogen Economy

※ Preferences for specialized fields of research projects in research-oriented universities designated by Ministry of ICT

Duration of Fellowship: 3~5 years (support for each fiscal year)
(Less than a 3 year research period will be not be acceptable)

Level of Funding:

-Type 1 (Inviting researchers residing overseas): Up to KRW 70 million per annum (personnel costs, living expenses, etc. for KRF fellow)

Quota for the 2nd Round of 2019: Around 50 fellows (only for Type 1)

Qualifications:

- **Host institution:** Government supported research institutes, national and public research institutes, universities and university-affiliated research institutes, corporate

research institutes* and nonprofit research institutes.

* Corporate research institutes are those established under Article 14 (1) of the Basic Research Promotion and Technology Development Support Act and Article 16 (1) of the Enforcement Decree of the same Act.

- **Overseas post-doc researchers(KRF Candidates)**

(Type 1) Foreign national or *Korean national post-doc researchers currently residing overseas that have received their doctoral degree within the past five years **(as of Aug. 31, 2019)**

*Korean nationals - limited to those who are residing overseas and hold a Ph.D. degree from universities in Korea or abroad are eligible.

** Please note that upon being selected, KRF fellows need to submit their physical doctoral degree certificate or diploma which must be conferred within the past five years as of Aug. 31st, 2019 **(Sep. 1st 2014 ~ Aug.31st 2019).**

*** KRF candidates need to have obtained their physical doctoral degree certificate or diploma as of the date of August 31st 2019. As a rule, provisional certificates are not accepted. Proof of work as a postdoctoral fellow without submitting the copy of actual degree certificate is not accepted.**

※ Major preferences and amendments comparing to 2018 announcement

-Minimum selection quota (30%) for ethnic Koreans or Korean nationals residing overseas.

-8 innovation growth engine* and 3 strategic investment** technology fields

* Smart factory, smart farm, smart city, fintech, new energy industry, drone, future car, bio health

** Data economy (big data, bloc chain, sharing economy) artificial intelligence (AI), hydrogen economy

※ Preferences for projects in research-oriented universities designated by Ministry of ICT

- Korean nationals residing overseas who hold a Ph.D. degree from universities in Korea are eligible

How to apply:

A. Recruitment announcement period: June 14th (Fri.) 2019 ~ July 31st (Wed.) 2019 by 18:00

B. Application submission period: July 10th (Wed.) 2019 ~ July 31st (Wed.) 2019 by 18:00

※ Approval from their host institutions on ERND: by Aug. 1st, 2019 by 18:00 **(Thur.)**

(Date/Time is based on Korea Local Time (UTC/GMT +9 hours)

2) Application from the Host Researcher in South Korea

Applications for the KRF program must be submitted to ERND system of NRF by host researchers in South Korea through the head of his/her institution. Overseas researchers wishing to participate in the KRF program are advised to establish contact with a host researcher in their field and to ask him/her to submit an application.

3) Submission of KRF Application: Online submission via the research support system (ERND) of the National Research Foundation of Korea (http://ernd.nrf.re.kr) by the host researchers by July 31st 2019, and approved by their host institutions by Aug. 1st 2019.

※ Applications will be accepted only for projects that obtain approval from their host institutions within the application period.

※ Application should be uploaded on the ERND system by the host researcher (KRF applicant)'s ERND account not by the KRF candidate's.

※ Please confirm the deadline (the application shall be prepared within the deadline and make certain the KRF application and necessary documentations required uploaded in time)

※ A host researcher can apply to host only one KRF candidate for each round.

4) Necessary documents to be submitted: Further 'Note and Appendix Documents' will be announced on June 28th (Fri.), 2019 (Scheduled).

※Please make the KRF application around total 30 pages except for cover, summary, attachments, and guidelines

5) Contact Information

[Contact]	
Program Inquiry	**Global R&D Cooperation Team** **National Research Foundation of Korea(NRF)** **☎ 02-3460-5647, 5624 (For Korean, English) / E-mail: bpkrf@nrf.re.kr** **※ If the line is continuously busy, please send us your inquiries via email**
Inquiries for Online Application	**Research Advisory Center (Call Center)** **National Research Foundation of Korea** **☎ 1544-6118**

- Introducing 2019 Research Host Matching Service -

- 2019 Research Host Matching Service –

For interested postdoc researchers residing overseas who have not secured the host institutions in Korea may submit their full CVs with required information via email.

For host researchers in Korea interested in Research host matching service, please contact us regarding your interested KRF candidates that are posted on the KRF announcement of NRF website, we will email you the candidate's CV via email.

○ Overview of Research Host Matching Service

- Target :

- Outstanding post-doc overseas researchers who are eligible for Type 1 conditions and have not secured hosts in Korea to apply for the KRF program
- Host researchers in Korea who are eligible to be a KRF applicant as a host PI and wish to host outstanding post-doc overseas researchers via the KRF program.

- Procedures

For host researchers : Host Researchers request candidates' CV via email -> confirm the eligibility of KRF candidates based on the KRF regulations by host PI -> Apply for the KRF program by host PI

○ How to apply :

- **Eligibility** : Same as the eligibility of the KRF program

How to apply :

- Host researchers contact us via an email stating their interested candidates. (upon requested, NRF provided candidate' CV to host PI)
- For overseas researchers (KRF candidates)
  : Please send your CV via an email stating your nationality, field of research and official PhD conferral date (provisional certificates are not acceptable)

Reminders

- Once research host matching is completed, an official decision is made to host the candidate in order to apply for KRF program after confirmation with their respective host institution and the KRF candidate
- Application and evaluation procedures will be the same with other applications in which host PIs secures their candidate on their own. (No extra scores for application via research host matching service will apply)

- Please apply for the "Research Host Matching Service" if needed as earliest as possible, in order

to prepare the application in time after confirmation with the candidate and time to prepare the a pplication form.

- The eligibility of the KRF candidates shall be screened and confirmed by host researchers

○ **Inquiries and application submission :**

shongk@nrf.re.kr (in Korean) / matching@krf-help.net (in English)

Evaluation Procedures

Reviewing Requirements	➡	Selection Evaluation	➡	Final Selection
Screening qualifications		(1) Document Review (2) Panel Review		Announcement on selection results
NRF		Evaluation Committee		Operating Committee

◆ Criteria for Evaluation

Division	Evaluation Item	Evaluation Indicator	Indicator	Marks
Research plan	Superiority of the research plan and the necessity for a support	◦ Clarity of program objectives and the superiority of the project plan - Concreteness of the plan for attaining objectives - Composition and operation of the project implementation plan and the detailed program - Expected effect of the research and the appropriateness of the utilization plan ◦ Necessity for a budget support from the government - Necessity for a government support and attraction of foreign professionals in connection with the relevant field and projects	Qualitative	20
Capability of the Fellow	Research performance and capability of the Fellow	◦ Research performance and capability of the Fellow - Superiority of the representative research performance of the Fellow (i.e., number of papers, patents, representative outstanding thesis)	Qualitative	10

		◦ Whether the Fellow has a potential research capability and experience (know-how) in the relevant field - A university who has conferred a doctorate on the Fellow and the reputation of his/her academic advisor - Superiority of the related research experience (for Fellows with a related experience after receiving his/her degree) ◦ The Fellow's possible contributions to the Korean research field and the necessity of attracting the Fellow - Concreteness and superiority of the research plan that is supported by the capability of the Fellow and the possible contributions of such plan	Qualitative	20
	Roles and attraction effect	◦ Contribution to and the ripple effect on the Korean research field - Introduction of technology and construction of networks at home and abroad through the Fellow	Qualitative	15
Utilization and support of the Fellow	Plan for the utilization and development of the Fellow	◦ Appropriateness of the utilization plan for the Fellow - Capability of the host researcher and the roles and necessity of the Fellow - Securing of research funds and exchanges with Korean research professionals and others - Securing of research professionals and equipment and an education support system ◦ System for supporting the development of the Fellow such as career development and others - Support for the Fellow's development such as education and capability promotion for the KRF Program period (five years) and others - Plan for the continued utilization of the Fellow and a long-term vision such as an employment after the termination of the KRF Program period	Qualitative	20
	Structure and support system of the host institution	◦ Host institution's intention to implement and support - Plan for supporting the office space and life of the Fellow - Plan for assisting the Fellow through a budget and administrative support ◦ Construction of infrastructure of the host institution (i.e., plan for utilization of the staff and others) - Plan for utilization of the assigned staff - Operation of the specialized team in charge of foreigners and plan for supporting the specialized team - Building of a cooperation network with foreign researchers for the adjustment of the Fellow	Qualitative	15

	Research funds	◦ Appropriateness of the level of the personnel costs - Present status of the personnel costs in the related fields, and appropriate personnel costs based on the capability of the Fellow	Qualitative	
Total				100

<Schedule>

Schedule	Details
June 14th(Fri.) 2019	Announcement of the 2nd round KRF program of 2019
July 31st (Wed.) 2019	Application closed **(18:00 Korea time)**
Aug. 1st (Thur.) 2019	Approval from host institutions on ERND closed **(18:00 Korea time)**
August 2019	Selection evaluation
Early Sep. 2019	Final selection

Restrictions to Application or Participation

- KRF fellows are required to enter the Republic of Korea and commence research by within 3months from the date of final selection.

- Host researchers subject to restrictions for participation in national R&D projects are allowed to apply and participate only if the period of such restriction terminates before the deadline for application submission.

- This program is excluded from the projects subject to the restrictions (The number of R&D projects that can be simultaneously conducted by a host researcher shall not exceed five, among which the number of R&D projects that can be simultaneously conducted as a principal investigator (PI) shall not exceed three) referred to in Article 32 of the Regulations on Management, etc. of National Research and Development Projects.

※ This guideline has been translated from original Korean documents with regards to Korean research. Therefore, this translation has focused on providing the main contents and points to overseas researchers for better understanding and subject to change without prior notice. **In the event of any discrepancy between the Korean original and this English translation, the Korean original shall prevail.** We assume no responsibility for this translation or for direct, indirect or any other form of damage arising from the translation.

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