JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Overseas Researchers 2020
Frequently Asked Questions

This document is being updated regularly in light of questions which are being asked. Please keep referring to it.

1. **I am an Independent Scholar – am I eligible to apply?**
   Applicants need not be necessarily based at a UK HEI or other research institution at the time of applying, nor have a UK employment contract for the duration of their fellowship in Japan.

2. **Does the 'Head of Department' reference need to be written by the HoD in Japan, or by the host researcher I'll be working with?**
   It can be either - whoever you and your proposed HI think would be best placed to advise on your proposal and suitability.

3. **By the time I start the fellowship I will have finished my PhD/left my current institution. Should I apply as an independent scholar?**
   No, you should apply using your current institution, as you will need them to approve your application and to provide you with a reference.

4. **Is the money awarded to successful Fellows paid direct to them, or to their Host Institution?**
   The funds come from JSPS Tokyo and can only be remitted to a bank account in Japan. If the fellow does not have a bank account in Japan, we recommend they nominate funds to be received by the host researcher at first.

5. **My application form is complete, but the ‘submit’ button isn’t appearing. What can I do?**
   Your application may appear complete on the Summary page, however you will need to check that your referee and/or Head of Department have completed their pages and marked them as complete. Once this has been done, and all the other pages have been completed, the ‘submit’ button should appear.