

**February 2022**

**Ministry of Science and ICT**

**National Research Foundation of Korea**

|  |
| --- |
| Table of Contents |

Ⅰ. Overview 1

1. Purpose 1

2. Direction 1

3. Eligibility for Brain Pool Fellows 1

4. Supported Areas 1

5. Eligibility for Application 2

6. Utilization of Brain Pool Program 2

7. Duration and Details of Support 3

8. Selection Evaluation 7

9. Program Procedures 9

Ⅱ. Management of Brain Pool Program 10

1. Management Procedures of Brain Pool Program 10

2. Major Details 10

3. Roles and Responsibilities of Each Party 10

4. Management, etc. of Brain Pool fellows 11

5. Notes on Application and Participation 12

6. Follow-up Management of Research Outcomes 12

Ⅲ. Program Application 13

1. Application Method 13

2. Document Submission 14

3. Eligibility 15

4. Contact Information 15

5. Schedule 16

Ⅳ. Information on Research Position in Korea (RPIK) 17

|  |
| --- |
| **Ⅰ. Overview**  **1. Purpose** |

* Strengthen R&D capabilities and promote innovative growth in Korea by attracting outstanding overseas scientists through various research activities in R&D fields in Korea.

**2. Direction**

* In order to attract overseas-based scientists of various nationalities, the number of scientists selected from each country (except Korea) may be restricted to no more than 20 percent of the total number of scientists who are selected in each application call.
* In cases the selected scientist fails to enter Korea and abandons the agreement without any justifiable cause, a three-year participation ban for the same program will be imposed as a penalty to Korea Host PI and overseas scientist.

**3. Eligibility for Brain Pool Fellows**

① Ph.D. conferred scientist who is living overseas (outside of South Korea)

② With five years or more of on-site R&D experience at an overseas(outside of South Korea) company in cases where the host institution is a corporate or corporate research institute\*.

\* In cases where a corporate research institute is inviting outstanding overseas scientists as a host, Brain Pool candidates with five or more years of on-site R&D experience in an overseas corporation may apply regardless of their possession of a doctoral degree.

\* Outstanding overseas scientists must be residing overseas (outside Korea) at the time of the application receipt, except in cases of reapplication.

\* A completed project under the same program (same Host PI and overseas scientist) is eligible to reapply.

**4. Supported Areas**

* Supported areas: All fields in science and technology

- Preferred fields: Fields related to 8 leading industry technology fields, 3 strategic investment fields, 13 key innovative growth engines and National Essential Strategic Technology field

|  |
| --- |
| \* (3 Strategic Investment Fields) ① Data Economy (Big Date/Block Chain/Sharing Economy)  ② Artificial Intelligence (AI) ③ Hydrogen Economy  \* (8 Leading Industry technology fields) ① Smart Factory ② Smart Farm ③ Smart City  ④ Fin-tech ⑤ New Energy Industry ⑥ Drone  ⑦ Future Automobile ⑧ Bio-health  \* (13 Key innovation growth engines) ① Big Data ② Next Generation Communications  ③ Artificial Intelligence ④ Autonomous (Driving) Vehicles  ⑤ Drone ⑥ Customized Healthcare ⑦ Smart City  ⑧ Virtual and Augmented Reality ⑨ Intelligent Robot  ⑩ Intelligent Semiconductor ⑪ Advanced Materials  ⑫ Innovative New Drugs ⑬ New and Renewable Energy  \* (National Essential Strategic Technology field) ① Semiconductors and displays ② Storage Batteries ③ 5G and 6G ④ Advanced Robots and Manufacturing ⑤ Advanced Bio ⑥ Cybersecurity ⑦Space and aviation ⑧Hydrogen ⑨artificial intelligence ⑩Quantum |

**5. Eligibility for Application**

* Host Institution: Government-funded research institutes, national/public research institutes, universities, research institutes affiliated with universities, nonprofit research institutes and corporation, corporate research institutes\*
* Host Researcher (BP Applicant, PI): Full-time employee at an R&D institution holding a position equivalent to or higher than assistant professor, senior researcher, director of a corporate research institute.

※ Host researcher cannot apply for Type 1 and 2 simultaneously with the same overseas scientist.

**6. Utilization of Brain Pool Program**

* The host institution may directly recruit prospective outstanding overseas scientists.

- The host institution is required to verify the necessity of recruiting employees from overseas, the

capabilities and growth potential of the Brain Pool fellow also establish a support system for the research activities and administrative affairs of the Brain Pool fellow.

**<Procedures for Utilizing Outstanding Overseas Scientists>**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Announcement** |  | **Exploration and recruitment** |  | **Application** |
| Announcement of eligibility and conditions of the Brain Pool program | Identification of outstanding overseas researchers in relevant fields and review the candidates independently based on the excellence and conditions of the researcher |  | Preparation and submission of the project proposal  Further discussion regarding the project proposal with the prospective Brain Pool fellow |
| MSIT/NRF | PI/Host institution | PI/Prospective BP fellow |

\* In order to help identify outstanding overseas scientists, Research Position in Korea (RPIK), a laboratory-researcher matching system ([rpik.or.kr](http://rpik.or.kr), refer to page 18), provides talent matching between outstanding overseas scientists and institutions based in Korea, as well as recruitment information.

**7. Duration and Details of Support**

* Support duration: (Type 1) 6 to 12 months, (Type 2) up to 3 years

- (Type 1) Corporations may apply for a period ranging from 3 to 12 months.

- (Flexible Research Duration) Scientist may apply for a ranging from 6 to 12 month over 3 years.

※ (Type1, 2) Re-application is possible

※ The Brain Pool fellow must enter Korea to begin research within 4 months from the selection date. (In cases of global crises, natural disasters, etc., the duration may be subject to change and specified separately.)

* Support Details: Personnel costs for the Brain Pool fellow, research activity expenses (invitation expenses), and indirect costs

- Subject to the itemized breakdown and calculation standards of funding as follows

**[Support Details]**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type** | **Program Duration** | **Personnel Costs**  **\*Housing allowance included** | **Invitation Expenses** | **Indirect Costs** |
| **【Type 1】** Short-term  support | **6~12months**  ※ Corporate (or research institutes)  may apply  for 3~12 months.  ※ Flexible Research  Duration may apply  for 6-12 months  for 3 years. | Based on the  Brain Pool fellow’s  annual salary level  at original affiliation  (Min. KRW 5 mil. ~ max. KRW 25 mil. per month)  ※ For type 2, Max. KRW 12 million/year of housing allowance will be supported. | Airfare, moving expenses,  insurance premiums,  child education subsidies and other invitation expenses\*  ※ Housing Allowances available for Type 2 applicants  (Max. KRW 12 million) | Max. KRW  5 million  (Including subsidies  for assigned staff) |
| **【Type 2】** Long-term  support | **Max. 3 years** |

\*Other invitation expenses : Korean language course fee, Quarantine fee, visa issuance fee, thesis publication fee, business trip fee and etc.

※ In case of corporation(or corporate research institutes), under the「National R&D Plan Act」will receive support for 50%(corporations that does not belong to SMEs or medium market enterprises)/70%(medium market enterprises)/75%(SMEs) of the total supports.

* **Method of Support**

- Allocation of Brain Pool funds: The host institution will be provided with the Brain Pool funds following the project selection and the conclusion of an individual agreement between the host institution and the NRF (the host institution shall submit the Brain Pool fellow’s entry certificate with a copy of their passport to the NRF after their entry into Korea).

**※ Following project selection, an individual agreement shall be concluded according to each research project commencement date and research expenses will be subsequently paid in order to prevent the need to reimburse R&D expenses if the Brain Pool fellow fails to enter Korea.**

- Execution of Brain Pool funds: The host institution pays the Brain Pool fellow’s salary at a flat rate every month after signing an agreement with the Brain Pool fellow, and research activity expenses (invitation expenses) shall be provided in accordance with the payment guidelines as below.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A. Compilation by Expenditure Item in e-R&D & Integrated Ezbaro System   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Section | | Compilation of Specified Expenditure Items in e-R&D System | Notes | | Expenditure Item | Executable Expenditure Item | | Personnel costs | Personnel costs for invited researchers | Personnel costs – Internal labor costs | Expense for Host PI’s labor costs should be entered unpaid. | | Research activity expenses  (invitation expenses) | Airfare,  Insurance Premium | Other expenses | All should be followed by Brain Pool program Guidelines  (Note that this is different from regular research activity expenses) | | Moving Expense  (relocation expenses) | | Child education subsidies | | Business travel expenses | Business travel expenses | | Admission fees for academic conference(annual membership fees),  article publication fee | Research expenses | | .  .  . | .  .  . | | Subsidies | Assigned staff expenses | Subsidies |  | | Institutional overhead expenses |   B. Amount executable by expenditure item   * Personnel costs: Payment of KRW 5 million to 25 million at a flat rate every month * Brain Pool fellows will be paid on a sliding scale according to the calculation criteria that reflects their level of salary as follows:  |  | | --- | | <Pay Calculation Criteria>  \* Payment of KRW 5 million to 25 million per month based on the annual salary at the Brain Pool fellow’s original affiliated organization at the time of being hired.  \* Any annual salary-related documents submitted (in Korean or English) are considered to include the Brain Pool fellow’s monthly salary, four major insurances (respective contributions by the fellow and the host institution) withholding tax, severance pay, and other statutory contributions. The Brain Pool fellow's salary for the relevant year will be calculated by multiplying their monthly salary\* at the original affiliated institution and the research period for the year (number of months).  (\* When calculating personnel costs, the applicable exchange rate is the one posted by Seoul Money Brokerage Services on December 31, 2021 (USD 1 = KRW 1,185.50))  \* Upon being selected as a Brain Pool fellow, it is necessary to submit pay stubs for the past one year for the calculation of personnel costs, and the failure to submit the pay stubs may lead to the cancellation of the selection.  \* For type 2, housing allowance (Max. 12Mil. Per year) will be additionally offered under the personnel cost.  \* In case of corporation(or corporate research institutes), under the「National R&D Plan Act」will receive support for 50%(corporations that does not belong to SMEs or medium market enterprises)/70%(medium market enterprises)/75%(SMEs) of the total supports.  \* In the event that the Brain Pool fellow is invited as a full-time employee, the host institution may paid the personnel costs of the fellow as “personnel costs of the full-time employee” in Host institution. |  * Research activity expenses (invitation expenses): Any amount that exceeds the maximum limit for the specified expenditure items shall be paid by the Brain Pool fellow or the host institution.   - Airfare and insurance premiums will be paid based on actual expenses upon proof of payment within the amount specified as follows.  (Unit: KRW 1,000)   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Region | Airfare + Insurance Premiums | | | | 3–5 Months | 6–9 Months | 10–12 Months | | Japan, China, Taiwan | 3,400 | 5,300 | 6,200 | | Southeast Asia | 3,600 | 5,700 | 6,600 | | India, West Asia, Middle East | 4,100 | 6,700 | 7,600 | | North America (West Coast), Australia, Europe, Russia | 5,100 | 8,700 | 9,600 | | North America (Central and East Coast, Canada) | 5,600 | 9,700 | 10,600 | | Latin America, Africa | 6,600 | 11,700 | 12,600 |   **※** Airfare: The shortest direct round-trip airfare (including transportation expenses in Korea) for the Brain Pool fellow only may be supported with one payment.   * + - If the project duration is 12 months or longer, a round-trip airfare for one accompanying family member may be supported with one payment.     - Type 1 Flexible Research Duration projects may be provided with airfare once a year and up to three times within three years.   **※** Injury and disease compensation insurance: Insurance premiums for accidents and illnesses shall be paid based on the actual premiums charged by local insurers for an insurance plan that offers coverage for injuries, deaths, resultant disabilities, and treatment for illnesses (payment based on actual expenses).  **- Moving expenses** (relocation expenses) will be paid based on actual expenses within the amount specified as follows.  (Unit: KRW 1,000)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Region | Support Amount | | Japan, China, Taiwan | 500 | | Southeast Asia | 600 | | India, West Asia, Middle East | 800 | | North America (West Coast), Australia, Europe, Russia | 1,100 | | North America (Central and East Coast, Canada) | 1,300 | | Latin America, Africa | 1,600 |   \* Moving expenses will be provided only for the Brain Pool fellow whose project duration is 12 months or more to move to and from Korea. In cases where a Brain Pool fellow who is residing in Korea is reapplying for the program, moving expenses will be supported with one payment (payment based on actual expenses).  \* For Type 2, if the minimum period (12 months) has not been reached since the commencement of the research, the stay and moving expenses must be returned.  - **Child education fees** (Nuri Course, etc.) will be supported up to KRW 5 million per year.  **※** Tuition and nursing fees for the Brain Pool fellow’s child or children aged 3 to 5 years attending nursery\* or daycare (Nuri Course) will be supported, if applicable.  \* Applicants can apply only to public or private kindergartens that have been approved or approved by the Office of Education. Kindergarten licenses are checked in the kindergarten notification (https://e-childschoolinfo.moe.go.kr/main.do)  **※** Child education fees for elementary, middle and high school, and enrollment fees (registration fees) and annual tuition fees in the case of international school (private) will be supported.  - **Other invitation expenses**\* will be executed with the remaining balance after the full payment of expenditure items for airfare, insurance premiums, moving expenses and child education subsidies,  \* Include domestic/overseas travel expenses, conference attendance fees (annual membership fees), Korean language course tuition fees, thesis publication fees, visa issuance fees, self-isolation costs due to COVID-19, etc.   1. Domestic/overseas travel expenses can be requested only for work-related travel for the project under the Brain Pool program, and the execution of expenses shall comply with the host institution’s travel expense regulations. 2. Visa issuance fees and quarantine costs due to COVID-19 may be supported. 3. Conference attendance fees and thesis publication fees can be paid based on actual expenses, only when a conferences or thesis is related to the project under the Brain Pool program.   **※** Conference attendance fees can be paid for the Brain Pool fellow only, and annual membership fees can be supported for the entire project duration.  **※** Thesis publication fees can be executed only for a thesis notated acknowledgement sentence of Brain Pool.   1. Korean language education expenses: Language course tuition fees for Brain Pool fellows to improve their Korean language skills and application fees for the Test of Proficiency in Korean will be provided based on actual expenses.   **※** Airfare, insurance, moving fee and child education fee are supported within the finalized(confirmed) amount and if it exceeds that amount, BP fellow or host institution should take care of it(exceeding amount cannot be spent from ‘Research activity expenses’.   * Subsidies: Up to KRW 5 million per year (Including subsidies and assigned staff expenses) |

**8. Selection Evaluation**

1. **Procedures**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Qualification Review |  | Expert Evaluation |  | Comprehensive  Evaluation |  | Final Selection |
| Review of submitted documents to verify eligibility, etc. | Panel-based selection evaluation | Selection for the Brain Pool program | Confirmation by the MSIT and notification by the NRF |
| NRF | Selection Evaluation Committee | Operation Committee | NRF |

* Qualification review: The eligibility of the host institution, principal investigator, and prospective Brain Pool fellows are reviewed.
* Expert evaluation: A panel of experts in each field evaluates projects, selects projects with an average of 80 or higher scores, and produces a shortlist for comprehensive evaluation.
* Comprehensive evaluation: The operation committee of the Brain Pool program evaluates the submitted projects comprehensively and selects the final projects in line with basic policy direction.
* Final selection: The final list is confirmed by the Ministry of Science and ICT, and the National Research Foundation notifies host institutions.

1. **(All Type) Evaluation items and scoring for selecting a new project**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Evaluation Item** | | **Evaluation Criteria** | **Allotted Score** |
| Evaluation of the research project  (30) | Excellence and creativity of the research project | ▪ Excellence and ingenuity of the research project and proposal  ▪ Necessity of government support and utilization of the Brain Pool fellow in the relevant research area and project | 10 |
| Principal investigator’s capability | ▪ The principal investigator’s capability to utilize the Brain Pool fellow (research capabilities, etc.) | 10 |
| Level of utilization and expected impact of the research project | ▪ The research project’s potential for domestic and international linkage and cooperation | 10 |
| Research proposal of the prospective Brain Pool fellow (30) | Research proposal of the prospective Brain Pool fellow | ▪ Research proposal of the prospective Brain Pool fellow  ▪ Plan for continued networking after project completion | 15 |
| The host institution’s commitment to support | ▪ Soundness of the research support plan made by the principal investigator and the host institution (research funds, research space, research environment, administrative support, etc.)  ▪ Settlement support plan for the Brain Pool fellow (accommodations, etc.) | 15 |
| Capabilities of the prospective Brain Pool fellow (40) | Roles of the prospective Brain Pool fellow | ▪ Specified work-related duties of the Brain Pool candidate and the host institution’s specific utilization plan for the Brain Pool candidate  ▪ Whether the prospective Brain Pool fellow possesses highly advanced technology  ▪ Validity and viability of the objectives and indicators of a joint research project | 15 |
| Capabilities of the prospective Brain Pool fellow | ▪ Academic degree(s) and research career of the prospective Brain Pool fellow  ▪ Academic achievements in the recent 5 years such as thesis published in SCI-enlisted journals, patents, etc.  **※** In cases where the host institution is a corporation, academic achievements can be replaced by technological and industrial achievements including patents, technology transfer, and technology commercialization. | 15 |
| Expected impact  and commitment to job fulfillment | ▪ Ripple effects of the outcome of joint R&D  ▪ Activeness of the Brain Pool candidate’s motivation for applying for the Brain Pool program | 10 |
| **Total** | | | **100** |

**※** Scientists (Host PIs and overseas scientists) who complete a Brain Pool program and receive the highest score at the final evaluation will be granted extra points for the selection evaluation if they apply for the same program for the following year.

**9. Program Procedures**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Establish Program Implementation Plan** |  | The Ministry of Science and ICT(MSIT) |
| **↓** |  |  |
| **Establish Specific Program Plan** |  | The National Research Foundation of Korea(NRF) |
| **↓** |  |  |
| **Conclude Overall Agreement** |  | The Ministry of Science and ICT ↔ The National Research Foundation of Korea |
| **↓** |  |  |
| **Call for Research Projects** |  | The Ministry of Science and ICT, The National Research Foundation of Korea |
| **↓** |  |  |
| **Establish Evaluation Plan** |  | The National Research Foundation of Korea |
| **↓** |  |  |
| **Project Selection Evaluation** |  | Qualification Requirements Review → Expert Evaluation → Report to the Ministry of Science and ICT by the Specialized Institution (The National Research Foundation of Korea) → Approval by the Ministry of Science and ICT → Final selection |
| **↓** |  |  |
| **Conclude**  **Individual Agreement for Each Project** |  | The Ministry of Science and ICT ↔ The National Research Foundation of Korea |
| **↓** |  |  |
| **Initiate Brain Pool Program** |  | Program management: The National Research Foundation of Korea  Research implementation and project management: Host institution |
|  |  |  |
| **Conduct Annual and Final assessment, and Settlement** |  | The National Research Foundation of Korea → Host institution → Principal investigator / Brain Pool fellow |
| **↓** |  |  |
| **Follow-up Management** |  | The Ministry of Science and ICT, The National Research Foundation of Korea |

Ⅱ. Management of Brain Pool Program

1. Management Procedures of Brain Pool Program

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Notification of selection** | ➜ | **Brain Pool fellow’s entry into Korea and conclusion of an agreement** | ➜ | **Implementation of research** | ➜ | **Interim evaluation**  **(annual consulting and evaluation by state)** | ➜ | **Final assessment**  **(following program completion)** | |

2. Major Details

* (Discussions on invitation terms and conditions) Once the selection outcome is notified, the host institution will submit the consents to the NRF regarding invitation conditions between the host institution and the Brain Pool fellow. (Host institution → The National Research Foundation of Korea)
* (Submission of relevant documents after selection) The Brain Pool fellow is required to submit documents to verify their annual salary and academic degrees such as pay stubs, etc.

**※** Further notice about documents submission will be provided following the selection announcement.

* (Conclusion of an agreement and submission of a project plan for the agreement) The head of the host institution shall complete all preparations for the Brain Pool fellow to enter Korea and begin the project, and then conclude an agreement with the head of the NRF in line with the commencement date of the research project.

**※** A project plan for the agreement, the contract between the host institution and the Brain Pool fellow, the Brain Pool fellow’s entry documents (passports, etc.) and written pledge must be attached at the time of concluding the agreement with the NRF.

* (Payment of BP funds and commencement of the Brain Pool program) Following the conclusion of the agreement, the NRF will deposit BP funds into the host institution’s account and the Brain Pool fellow will commence research.

**※** The Brain Pool fellow is required to enter Korea and commence the Brain Pool program within 4 months (by December 2022 at the latest) from the date on which the selection result is notified (any delay of entry into Korea may lead to the withdrawal of the selection).

※ In case of global pandemic and natural disaster, etc., the commencement date can be different per situation.

* (Execution of the Brain Pool program and management of research expenses) The Brain Pool program will be conducted in accordance with the program guidelines and the research proposal.

※ Any significant change to the research proposal must be reported to the NRF for approval.

* (Interim Evaluation) The president of the NRF shall not conduct an interim evaluation during an ongoing phase, and instead conduct an annual consultation on the annual report, with a phase-based evaluation conducted at the end of each phase.  
  - Annual consultation: Reinforces responsibility of the host institution for the utilization of the Brain Pool fellow by presenting research achievements and inspection details in the annual report, and taking the initiative in checking research performance. (Type 2)   
  - Phased evaluation: Evaluates research achievements at each phase and research proposals for the next phase, then determines whether to continue research support based on the evaluation results.
* (Final evaluation) The host institution and the principal investigator shall submit outcome reports within 60 days after the completion of the Brain Pool program, and the NRF will conduct a final evaluation.

3. Roles and Responsibilities of Each Party

* Each party is obligated to observe the following roles and responsibilities.

※ For Brain Pool fellows, research support (research space, research equipment, research expenses, administrative support) and support for living in Korea (residence, living, family members, etc.) must be provided by the R&D institution (principal investigator).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Division | Roles and Responsibilities |
| Host Institution | • Research performance and research expense management   * Retrieving and returning BP funds in cases of project abandonment or canceled agreement   • Overall management such as supporting Brain Pool fellows’ research and achievements under the BP Program   * Supporting Brain Pool fellows’ settlement by providing accommodation, living support, etc.   • Security management for the BP project and compliance with ethical standards of research |
| Principal investigator | • Managing the attendance, performance, progress, and achievements of Brain Pool fellows  • Managing research expenses, and overall research performance   * Research space, research equipment, research expenses, administrative support   • Supporting joint research systems with Korean researchers and enhancing their capabilities |
| Specialized  organization  (NRF) | • Examining and managing the progress of the BP Program, and providing promotional and policy support   * Conducting final evaluation and follow-up management of fellows and their achievements |

4. Management, etc. of Brain Pool fellows

○ (Attendance) Brain Pool fellows are required to fully engage in full-time research at the host institution.

※ Flexible Research Duration projects may apply for 6-12 months over 3 years.

* (Lecture and research performance) Upon obtaining approval from the head of the host institution and the principal investigator, the Brain Pool fellow may give university lectures (up to two subjects) or participate in another R&D project related to the research project under the BP program (up to 30 percent of appropriation for the personnel costs).
* (Paid leave) The number of days for paid leave is subject to the regulations of the host institution.

※ If the number of days used as paid leave exceeds the permitted period, personnel costs corresponding to the amount exceeded, calculated on a daily basis, must be returned.

※ If the BP program is suspended, the number of days for paid leave will be recalculated based on the actual period of the program.

* (Overseas business travel) Up to 10 percent of the program period (actual research period) is available.

- If the aggregate number of days spent on overseas business trips exceeds 10 percent of the program period (actual research period) or if the number of days for one business trip exceeds 10 days, the trip must be approved in advance by the head of the host institution, which, in turn, must submit an official approval report and the business trip plan to the NRF.

- After returning from an overseas business trip, Brain Pool fellows are required to submit a report for the trip to the head of the host institution in accordance with its regulations of the host institution.

※ If any overseas business travel is not admitted as an official business trip, it will be deducted from the number of days for paid leave. If the duration exceeds the maximum number of days for paid leave, personnel costs corresponding to the excess will be retrieved.

* (Others) Details regarding the management of Brain Pool fellows such as leave and overseas business travel shall comply with the contract between the host institution and the Brain Pool fellow.

5. Notes on Application and Participation

○ Brain Pool fellows are required to enter Korea within 4 months from the selection date and begin research.

※ In cases of global crises, natural disasters, etc., the duration may be subject to change and specified

separately.

○ Pursuant to the National Research and Development Innovation Act, researchers under participation restrictions are neither eligible for apply for nor participate in the program.

○ Pursuant to the Article 64 of the National Research and Development Innovation Act and the Enforcement Decree of the same Act, the program is not subject to the provision limiting the maximum number of R&D projects that can be carried out simultaneously by a researcher (3 for a principal investigator and 5 for a regular researcher).

※ In case of the overseas researcher who is selected as Brain Pool fellow becomes PI, Brain Pool project is applied the above law.

○ If the invited scientist withdraws without any justifiable reasons after the agreement completed, they may receive a penalty of a 3-year restriction from applying for the Brain Pool program with the same principal investigator or overseas scientist.

※ **The invited scientist is required to have a close consultation with the host institution on personnel costs and invitation period before applying for the BP program.**

○ The projects which are not persist for minimum duration(12 months) without offering any justifiable reasons, moving expenses and housing allowances must be returned ※ Only for Type 2 applicants

○ In principle, for type 1, housing for the BP scientist should be provided by the Host institution.

○ For more information, please visit NRF(www.nrf.re.kr) website.

-Since the website is written in Korean, we kindly ask you to give email to [bpkrf@nrf.re.kr](mailto:bpkrf@nrf.re.kr) for English version.

6. Follow-up Management of Research Outcomes

* All tangible and intangible rights obtained from the program, such as intellectual property rights, are owned by the host institution, to be decided in accordance with the institution’s regulations or by mutual agreement.
* Any publication of research outcomes must include the following acknowledgement in both Korean and English.

※ 국문표기: 본 연구는 한국연구재단을 통해 과학기술정보통신부의 「해외우수과학자유치사업」의 지원을 받아 수행되었음(연구과제번호)

※ English: This research was supported by the Brain Pool program funded by the Ministry of Science and ICT through the National Research Foundation of Korea (grant number).

III. Program Application

1. Application Method

ㅇ The host institution identifies outstanding overseas scientists and files an online application via the NRF e-R&D website ([ernd.nrf.re.kr](http://ernd.nrf.re.kr)).

☞【Program Classification】Training and Human Resources Development (H1) - Global Researcher Invitation Programs (H1D3) - Brain Pool Program (H1D3A2)



**[**e-R&D Application Procedures]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Update KRI information of the principal investigator and the Brain Pool fellow (degree information, etc)  \* Access the Korean Research Information (KRI) website <http://www.kri.go.kr> | ➡ | <Host Researcher>  Submit the required documents online, including an R&D proposal  (via e-R&D) | ➡ | < Host Institution>  Review and approve the registered information  (via e-R&D) | ➡ | Application complete  (An application receipt number will be created) |

※ Information of principal investigators and Brain Pool fellows (mandatory fields) must be updated three to four days in advance as each host institution may vary in terms of the method and period through which updates are reflected on the KRI system.

※ Applications should be uploaded on the e-R&D system through the Korean principal investigator’s e-R&D account. The principal investigator should submit the application by the due date and check if the necessary documentation has been uploaded onto the system.

2. Document Submission

|  |
| --- |
| **Required Document for Application** |
| -Brain Pool Application Form  -Scanned Copy of a final degree certificate/proof of employment of Brain Pool Fellow\*  \* Proof of employment is required only for projects request by corporation.  -An invitation acceptance letter written by the Brain Pool fellow  -Consent to the Provision and the Use of Personal and Tax Information(form)  -Pledges of Research Ethics, Integrity and Confidentiality(form)  \*(If necessary) Participation commitment of corporation, proof of eligibility(corporation’s registration certificate/accounting audit report for latest 2 years OR financial statement/type of corporation(conglomerate, medium or small sized corporation)) |
|  |
| **Required Document for the preliminary Selection** |
| - A pay stub for the invited overseas scientist for the past one year  **(For reapplications, a pay stub from the outstanding overseas scientist’s current affiliated organization in Korea)**  - In case of Korean national abroad or overseas Koreans, proof of Korean nationality (or overseas Koreans)  ※ If necessary, aforementioned documents can be submitted before preliminary selection |
|  |
| **Notes on Document Submission** |
| * + - * The R&D proposal should include the cover, summary, attachments, and instructions.       * There is **no designated format** for the invitation acceptance letter written by the overseas scientist. An e-mail containing an electronic signature will also be accepted.       * **The pay stub for the past one year** is **a mandatory document** for the calculation of personnel costs upon the final selection of the project for the BP program. **Failure to submit the pay stub may result in the cancellation of the selection.**       * **Required documents**\* **must be written in Korean or English.** Documents written in other languages should be translated into Korean or English and notarized, and a notarial certificate should be attached.   \* The R&D proposal must be written in Korean by the principal investigator as a rule, but academic content including research details may be written in English so that the research proposal can be shared with the overseas researcher. The “Outstanding Overseas Scientist Overview” section should be written in Korean or English by the outstanding overseas scientist.   * + - * The inclusion of any false information in the documents submitted may result in the cancellation of the final selection. |

3. Eligibility

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Division** | **Eligibility** |
| Host Institution | Government-funded research institutes, national/public research institutes, universities, research institutes affiliated with universities, nonprofit research institutes and corporation, corporate research institutes\*  \* Corporate research institutes that falls under Article 14-2 (1) of the Basic Research Promotion and Technology Development Support Act and Article 16 (1) of the Enforcement Decree of the same Act |
| Principal  Investigator | Full-time employee at an R&D institution holding a position equivalent to or higher than assistant professor, senior researcher, director of a corporate research institute.  To guarantee employment during the program operation period and facilitate commitment to the project  ※ PI should be available for concentrating execution of projects and working in host institution  ※ The principal investigator may not apply for both Type 1 and Type 2 projects with the same outstanding overseas scientist.  ※ Pursuant to Article 64 (2) of the National Research and Development Innovation Act, the principal investigator is not subject to the provision limiting the maximum number of R&D projects that can be carried out simultaneously by a researcher (3 as a principal investigator and 5 as a regular researcher). |
| Brain Pool Fellow | 1. A doctorate-holder residing abroad (outside of Korea) as of the date of application  2. (Corporation or Corporate research institute\*) An R&D researcher without a doctorate degree with more than 5 years of industry experience overseas (outside of Korea)  \* If the invitation is made by a corporate research institute, a science technician, with 5 or more years of R&D experience in an overseas industry is also eligible to apply, even without a doctorate.  ※ A doctoral candidate or a researcher temporarily staying abroad as of the application due date is not eligible to apply.  ※ The invited scientist must be residing abroad (outside of Korea) as of the date of application receipt (except for reapplications).  ※ The same principal investigator and outstanding overseas scientist under the same program will be allowed to reapply. |

4. Contact Information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Contact Information** | |
| Inquiries about the BP Program | International R&D Collaboration Team  at the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF)  ☎ (Korean) +82-2-3460-5629, 5622, 5639 /  E-mail: yokang@nrf.re.kr, joohyenam@nrf.re.kr  ☎ E-mail: bpkrf@nrf.re.kr   * + - * Please contact us via email if you are experiencing difficulties in contacting us by phone. |
| Inquiries about Online Applications | For inquiries about application details and document submission  via Korea Researcher Information (KRI) and the Integrated Research Support System (e-R&D) (https://ernd.nrf.re.kr)  ☎ +82-42-869-7744 |

5. Schedule

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Schedule** | **Description** |
| January 28 (Fri), 2022 | 2022 BP Program Project Recruitment Announcement (January-August, 2022) |
| February 28 (Mon), 2022 | Deadline for the 1st call for project proposals (closing at 6PM) |
| March-April, 2022 | 1st call evaluation (review of qualification requirements, expert evaluation, and comprehensive review) and final selection |
| April 29 (Fri), 2022 | Deadline for the 2nd call for project proposals (closing at 6PM) |
| May-June, 2022 | 2nd call evaluation (review of qualification requirements, expert evaluation, and comprehensive review) and final selection |
| June 30 (Thu), 2022 | Deadline for the 3rd call for project proposals (closing at 6PM) |
| July-August, 2022 | 3rd call evaluation (review of qualification requirements, expert evaluation, and comprehensive review) and final selection |
| August 31 (Wed), 2022 | Deadline for the 4th call for project proposals (closing at 6PM) |
| September-October, 2022 | 4th call evaluation (review of qualification requirements, expert evaluation, and comprehensive review) and final selection |

※ These program guidelines are provided as reference for project applications under the BP program and are subject to change depending on the status of the program. The details provided are in accordance with the project operation management guidelines and agreement.

**6.** **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q Is it possible for invited scientist who are currently in Korea to apply for the BP? What if Ph.D is obtained in Korea?**

A Scientist who temporarily or permanently lives in Korea is NOT eligible for BP program (Except for reapplying). Whether you received Ph.D in or outside of Korea, if you live outside of Korea and have Ph.D then you can eligible for the program.

**Q How to issue national researcher number and register as researcher on KRI?**

A Create an account on IRIS(iris.go.kr) → Get national researcher number after ageing on transfer of researcher information consent → Create an account on KRI(kri.go.kr) → Registered as a researcher

\*BP fellow could register after the final selection (Please see the manual for more information)

**Q Can invited scientist who is a Ph.D candidate apply for the program?**

A Ph.D candidiate is NOT eligible for the program. Applicant must prove that he/she has obtained a Ph.D when applying for the program. In the case of corporate research institutes being the host organization, BP candidates who have five-years or more of on-site R&D experience in the overseas industry may apply regardless of his/her possession of a doctoral degree.

**Q Can foreign host researcher who works at Korean R&D eligible for the BP program? In this case, can application be written in English?**

A Regardless of the nationality, full-time employees of the respective host institutions who have the rank of at least assistant professor, senior researcher, or chair of a research institute (corporate research institute) can apply for the BP program. In principle, R&D plan should be written in Korean, but research contents and etc. can be written in English if it needs to be shared with BP candidate.

**Q If necessary documents such as Ph.D and etc. are not written in Korean or English. Can I still submit them?**

A Documents must be written in Korean or English. Other languages should be translated into Korean or English and the translation should be notarized.

**Q When applying for the BP, do I have to calculate the estimated funding precisely?**

A No. After the selection, NRF will finalize the personnel costs and invitation expenses according to the BP rules and policy. You may put the estimated funding.

**Q If invited scientist does not belong to any institution or does not have a pay stubs(pay slips) over the past year, what does he/she do?**

A Invited scientist can submit the most recently issued pay stubs(annual salary). (Korea or Overseas)

**Q How does the salary system work if invited scientist’s monthly pay is less than KRW 5 million?**

A BP program guarantee Min. KRW 5 million per month.

**Q Can I get support for attending seminars? (registration fees & business trip expenses)**

A Yes, but seminars have to related to BP projects

**Q Is it possible to participate in other R&D projects and get additional pay?**

A Yes, with the approval of the host institution and the host researcher. It is possible to participate in other R&D projects (must be related to BP project) OR to teach class (up to 2 subjects). You could additionally get paid maximum 30% of the labor cost of the BP project.

**Q I would like to get information on visa, airfare, and regarding to Korean life.**

A Please contact Brain Pool Support team (82-70-8806-5152 OR ghd\_nrf@etners.com)

**6.** **Information on Research Position in Korea (RPIK)**

* RPIK is a talent matching platform designed to support the job search and recruitment of overseas researchers and domestic research institutes in Korea.
* Overseas researchers and domestic research institutes can **register online** (at <http://rpik.or.kr>) to use various types of self-directed matching services and one-on-one communication service.
* Talent matching target: A domestic research PI who wishes to attract outstanding foreign scientists and foreign scientists who have not secured a domestic R&D institution in Korea.
* Talent matching process: Domestic research PI and foreign excellent scientist join the RPIK system and autonomously seek for adequate match between interested domestic research PI and foreign excellent scientists

**[RPIK Registration Procedure for Overseas Researchers]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Overseas researchers  (who seek employment at a domestic research institute) | ➡ | Access the RPIK website  URL: <http://rpik.or.kr> | ➡ | Select Individual Member to join as an individual researcher, and enter information such as the field of research, employment history, and desired salary. | ➡ | Registration is completed. (Job search is enabled.) |

**[RPIK Registration Procedure for Domestic Research Institutes]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Domestic research institutes (or research labs)  (Government-funded research institutes, national and public research institutes, universities and university-affiliated research institutes, research institutes run by non-profit incorporated foundations, corporate research institutes, etc.) | ➡ | Access the RPIK website.  URL: rpik.or.kr | ➡ | Select Laboratory Member to join as an institution, and enter information on the lab such as equipment, size, and recruitment announcement | ➡ | Registration is completed.  (Recruitment is enabled.) |

**[Important NOTE]**

- If there is a match, researcher proposal should be written and submitted for a project in mutual consultation

between domestic research PI and foreign (overseas) excellent scientist.

- The evaluation/selection criteria and procedure for BP program applies the same as when the host institution found and applied for excellent scientists abroad.(No extra points)

- Request for talent matching as soon as possible in consideration of the time required for consultation and research plan preparation with foreign(overseas) excellent scientist.

- It is the domestic research PI’s responsibility to confirm the qualification and requirement for foreign(overseas) excellent scientist.

**[Contact for RPIK]**

Tel: +82-2-3460-5639/ E-mail : [joohyenam@nrf.re.kr](mailto:joohyenam@nrf.re.kr)