**(a) Research Area Objectives, Background, etc.**

Form S-71: Research Area Proposal (forms to be uploaded)

Describe the objectives, background, etc. of the research area. In particular, details shall be given clearly with a focus on the following points (within 4 pages).

1) How the proposal is relevant to a basic research area (including the area aiming for development from basic to applied research) which is expected to generate renovation and/or transformations in academic areas so as to create emerging and interdisciplinary areas transcending the existing framework of academic disciplines or a truly drastic advancement of the leading-edge portions of a particular academic discipline.

2) Background and history leading to the application of the research area.

3) Whether the research area has superiority from the perspective of international research trends, or has (or is expected to have) creativity and novelty that are unique to Japan or unprecedented in Japan or abroad (to be described based on hitherto research activities (current level of research and achievements)).

**Notes to observe when preparing the Research Area Proposal**

\*Delete this entire text box when completing this form.

***\* Notes 1:***

1. *The aim of this research category is to promote the research by research groups comprising diverse researchers that overturns conventional concepts with new ideas, discoveries, tools, etc. born from the experience cultivated in research up to now, and leads to radical transformation of and change in existing frameworks and/or direction of research.*
2. *In the preparing of the proposals, the proposal document should be prepared with potential to enable dramatic progress that leads to the transformation of research frameworks by radically changing an important existing concept and leading to the creation of absolutely new paradigms.*
3. *The proposal document should be prepared with consideration that it will be reviewed from diverse viewpoints by a review committee review sections consisting of reviewers with different backgrounds.* *(cf. Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research)*

***\* Notes 2:***

1. *Read carefully the Procedures for Preparing and Entering a Research Area Proposal when preparing the document.*
2. *The document should be written with font size 10-point or larger.*
3. *The title and instructions on the upper part of each page should be left intact.*
4. *Do not exceed the maximum number of pages specified in the instructions. In case blank page(s) occur, leave them as they are (do not eliminate any page).*

**(b) Research Area Management System**

Describe the research area management system. In particular, details shall be given clearly with a focus on the following points (within 3 pages).

1) Head Investigator’s visions on the operation and promotion of the research area and status in the preparation stage:

Explain the basic approach as to what kind of framework the Head Investigator, as leader, has apart from the research, for the smooth operation of the organization and promotion of the research area, in facilitating a multiple number of researchers so as to enable the research organization to exert integrated strength in forwarding the research area. Include a description of the status of the management system during the preparatory research and preliminary studies stages leading to the application. If the Head Investigator does not participate in any of the Planned Research other than Administrative Group as Principal Investigator, Co-Investigator or Research Collaborator, specifically indicate how he/she will oversee and manage the entire research area from the position of being only a member of the Administrative Group which does not conduct actual research.

2) Organic coordination system with the Head Investigator playing the central role and consisting of researchers who can provide substantial support in the promotion of the research area:

Describe the constitution of the research area. Use conceptual diagrams to show the organization chart, etc. of the entire research area to clearly indicate the roles and content of activities of the Administrative Group and each project group.

3) Roles and content of activities of the Administrative Group and each project group:

・Explain the basic approach to the operation policy and roles of the Administrative Group, constitution of the project groups, and roles and activities of each project member in promoting the research area. List the names and areas of expertise of the project members, and whether he/she is a Principal Investigator or a Co-Investigator. Clearly describe how the members will formulate the overall research policy for the research area and adjust each research group and Planned Research.

・Describe the systems and plans of the Administrative Group in order to efficiently and effectively provide research support (provision of support for international activities, purchase, development, and operation of equipment and devices shared in the research area, and provision of experimental samples and materials, etc.).

**Ability to Conduct the Research**

To show the feasibility of the research plan by the Head Investigator and Principal Investigators (PIs) of each Planned Research, describe the hitherto research activities (including main research achievements) of the Head Investigator and PIs of each Planned Research (within 5 pages).

If the Head Investigator or any of PIs has conducted any international efforts related to his/her research plan (such as his/her records of joint international research and research history in overseas institutions), they should be included as necessary in the description of hitherto research activities. Also, if the Head Investigator or any of PIs has taken leave of absence from research activity for some period, he/she may choose to write about it therein.

\*Delete this entire text box when completing this form.

***\* Notes:***

1. *The description in this column is to explain the feasibility of the research plan. On citing research achievements (research papers, books, patents, invited talks, etc.) they should be given not as an exhaustive list but as supporting evidence to prove the applicant’s ability to conduct the proposed research.*
2. *Sufficient information should be given so that the reviewers can identify the research achievements.*

*In the case of a research paper, for example, the relevant bibliographic information, including the title of the paper, the author(s), the title and the volume of the journal, the publication year, and the pages of the article should be given.*

1. *The research papers that can be cited are only those already published or accepted for publication.*

○Read the above important notes carefully before preparing this form. Delete this entire text box when filling in this form.○

**(1) Head Investigator**

**(2) Principal Investigators (PIs) of each research plan**

**(c) Outline of Plan to Promote the Research Area**

Give the following information on the promotion of the research area. Use conceptual diagrams as necessary (within 2 pages).

1) Basic research strategies (if research groups are established, include the approach of each group).

2) Specific content of research in the research area (if research groups are established, include the content of research of each research group).

3) The necessity of each research group and each Planned Research, and specific methods to pursue organic coordination between research groups and Planned Research projects.

**(c) Plan and Methods to Promote the Research Area (1)**

Give information on the plan and methods to promote the research area. In particular, details shall be given clearly with a focus on the following points (within 2 pages).

1) Specific goals to be achieved by the research area and each Planned Research.

2) Specific plan and methods to achieve 1) above (including efforts for collective research, shared use of equipment, and training of young scientists, etc.). In this column, describe the specific research plan and methods to achieve the research objectives.

3) Efforts for dissemination of information in the country and abroad.

**(c) Plan and Methods to Promote the Research Area (2)**

Give information on the plan and methods to promote the research area. In particular, details shall be given clearly with a focus on the following points.

4) Outline of research organization and content of research of each Planned Research other than Administrative Group:

Give a concise description on the title of research project, research organization (planned number of researchers, Principal Investigator, and names, institutions, positions, areas of expertise, and research roles of Co-Investigators) and research summary for each Planned Research other than Administrative Group so as to explain the roles and necessity in promoting the entire research area. In preparing the summary, use approximately 1/2 page for each Planned Research.

Note that a plan in which Planned Research is intended to be added during the research period is not permitted.

**(c) Plan and Methods to Promote the Research Area (3)**

Give information on the plan and methods to promote the research area. In particular, details shall be given clearly with a focus on the following points (within 1 page).

5) Role of the Publicly Offered Research

A call for proposals for Publicly Offered Research for FY2027-2028 is organized in the first year of the set period of the area, and a call for proposals for FY2029-2030 is organized in the third year. Describe the positioning of the Publicly Offered Research in promoting the research area, and what kind of research is expected for the research area as a whole. Indicate approximately how many publicly offered research projects are needed and approximately how much research expenditure is necessary for each research project. When setting up the budget for Publicly Offered Research, please post annual budget enough to achieve research. Publicly Offered Research should be set to exceed either of the following minimum standards:

・Each number of research projects scheduled to be adopted exceeds 15 in the first year and the third year.

・The total amount of budget for Publicly Offered Research (the total of FY2027-2030) exceeds 15% of the budget (the total for five years) for the whole research area.

The total amount allotted to the adopted Publicly Offered Research of the research area will be set within the “research expenditure” of “Publicly Offered Research” indicated in the Research Area Proposal.

**(d) Potential for Development from Research Areas, etc. Adopted in the Past (for Relevant Research Area Only)**

Explain the potential for development from research areas, etc. adopted in the past. In particular, details shall be given clearly with a focus on the following points (within 1 page).

1) In the case of proposals to further develop the research area adopted in ” Grants-in-Aid for Transformative Research Area (A/B)”, “Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Innovative Areas (Research in a Proposed Research Area)”, or other research fund programs in the past, were results expected from the grants-in-aid in question sufficiently achieved (also indicate the results of interim assessments and ex-post assessments (limited only to those conducted by the grant-allocating institution of the grants-in-aid in question) if these assessments have been conducted in the past research areas), and do the contents aim for further significant and dramatic development of the leading-edge portions (also indicate the differences between the research plans under the research area in question)?

2) Indicate if “Not applicable” is selected for any of the application information (to be entered in the website).

**(e) Research Expenditures (1)**

Describe the necessity and adequacy of the research expenditures to be applied based on the content of research and research organization of the research area and in connection with the research period (within 1 page).

If the research grant will be allocated heavily to a certain fiscal year within the research period, or if the total amount of budget (including Administrative Group and Publicly Offered Research) in a certain fiscal year exceeds the maximum limit for each research area of 300 million yen, explain the necessity and why expenses cannot be covered with 300 million yen per year.

Keep in mind that only the Planned Research can begin research, etc. in the first year.

**(e) Research Expenditures (2)**

Give the breakdown of each expense item and major equipment costs for each Planned Research. In particular, details shall be given clearly with a focus on the following points. Include the Administrative Group in the Planned Research hereunder (within 2 pages if possible, and within 3 pages if necessary).

1) Refer to the Procedures for Preparing and Entering a Research Area Proposal and concisely indicate the breakdown of each expense item for each Planned Research for each planned fiscal year. Make sure it is clear which Planned Research it belongs to. At the bottom, indicate the totals of each expense item.

2) For major equipment costs for each Planned Research, indicate the name of the device, quantity, estimated price, fiscal year of installation, place (institution) of installation, and the reason why existing equipment at the place of installation cannot be used. Describe the reason and relevance when purchasing devices or equipment for any Planned Research apart from the devices or equipment being purchased to be shared in the research area.