

On-site Laboratory Initiative

Kyoto University

The pursuit of “a flexible and dynamic approach to knowledge creation” is one component of Kyoto University’s strategy as a Designated National University. As part of those efforts, the university is implementing an initiative to establish locally-managed “on-site laboratories” in cooperation with overseas partner universities and research institutions, as detailed below.

1. Definition of “On-site Laboratory”

On-site laboratories are locally managed laboratories established by Kyoto University’s education and research organizations in cooperation with overseas partner universities and research institutions. The requirements described in item 4, below, must be satisfied for the establishment of an on-site laboratory. There are three types of on-site laboratory, as follows:

(1) Outbound type

An on-site laboratory established on the campus of an overseas partner institution at which Kyoto University faculty members, etc. engage in education and research activities.

(2) Inbound type

An on-site laboratory established on the campus of Kyoto University at which researchers from overseas, etc. engage in education and research activities.

(3) Cross-bound type

On-site laboratories established on each other’s campuses at which faculty members, researchers, etc. from Kyoto University and an overseas partner institution engage in education and research activities.

2. Purposes of the On-site Laboratory Initiative

The purposes of the on-site laboratory initiative are:

- Enhance research collaboration with overseas universities and research institutions to further develop world-leading, cutting-edge research and explore new domains of academic endeavor.
- Promote the recruitment of talented international students and collaboration with industrial partners by leveraging personal relationships developed among faculty and staff members through the collaborative research.

- Strengthen, as much as possible, the infrastructure and systems that enable the university to be active at the vanguard of international academia, and ranked among the world's leading universities.

3. Authorized Period of Operation

In principle, no specific period shall be set for authorized operation as an on-site laboratory.

4. Requirements for Authorization as an On-site Laboratory

The following requirements (1) to (3) must be satisfied to obtain authorization to operate as an on-site laboratory.

- (1) Researchers from the non-hosting institution of the on-site laboratory must be constantly stationed in and engaged in research activities at the laboratory.
(Note: the same individuals do not need to be stationed continuously.)
- (2) Each on-site laboratory is expected to be self-sufficient (i.e. maintained with its own funding).
- (3) The activity of each on-site laboratory is expected to have a positive ripple effect extending to the university as a whole.

5. Authorization Procedures

The Planning Committee examines each application for authorization as an on-site laboratory, and establish an authorization plan. The plan will be considered by the Deans and Directors Meeting, and then by the Board of Executive Directors. Authorization will be granted based on the decision of the Board of Executive Directors.

6. Authorization Criteria

Based mainly on the following criteria, the Planning Committee determines whether applications meet the requirements specified in item 4 above.

- (1) Does the application include a system for the on-site laboratory to be jointly managed by an education and research organization of Kyoto University and the overseas partner university or research institution?
- (2) Does the application include a system for faculty members and researchers from both institutions to engage in research year round?
- (3) Can the on-site laboratory be maintained for the medium to long term, and have the financial resources required to do so been secured?

- (4) Is the activity of the on-site laboratory anticipated to have a positive ripple effect that will enhance the functions of Kyoto University as a whole?

Considering the following criteria, the Planning Committee determines whether the activities of the on-site laboratory can be expected to fulfill the purposes described in item 2.

- (5) Does the on-site laboratory have a system to provide Kyoto University students and researchers with opportunities to be involved in high quality international education and research, and collaborate with counterparts overseas?
- (6) Does the on-site laboratory have a system to contribute to the cultivation of students and young researchers who can be active internationally?
- (7) Does the on-site laboratory encourage free and flexible interaction between faculty members from different organizations within Kyoto University?
- (8) Does the on-site laboratory contribute to the development of world-leading, cutting-edge research?

7. Operational Support

The university shall provide successful applicants with start-up funding as required, and the International Strategy Office shall provide other necessary support, such as consultation and the provision of information.

8. Revocation of Authorization

In the following circumstances, the authorization of on-site laboratory status shall be terminated on the authority of the Board of Executive Directors.

- (1) If the education or research organization that established the on-site laboratory applies to the executive vice-president for planning requesting the termination of the authorization.
- (2) If the on-site laboratory has failed to meet any of the requirements described in item 4.