NAOJ Postdoctoral Researcher Stationed at Shunan University

Job Description:
The NAOJ (National Astronomical Observatory of Japan) ALMA Project invites applications for a Project Researcher (equivalent to postdoctoral researcher) for ALMA Joint Scientific Research Program to conduct the research project "ALMA DenseGAS Survey: Testing the (non-)universality of the dense gas star formation scaling relation" using ALMA data (including archival data). The successful candidate will spend 100% of their time for this project in collaboration with Assistant Professor Tomonari Michiyama at Shunan University (Yamaguchi, Shunan, Japan). The successful candidate is required (1) to publish one first-author paper per year, and (2) to submit one ALMA proposal per year. The successful candidate may supervise students for the purpose of carrying out this project.
（Scope of possible changes） no changes

See below for further information.

- The ALMA Joint Scientific Research Program:
  https://researchers.alma-telescope.jp/e/support_programs/alma_joint_scientific_research_program
- The research project:
  https://researchers.alma-telescope.jp/j/files/almagrant_2027-33a_e.pdf

The successful candidate will be employed by NAOJ, and will be stationed at Shunan University. In case the PI of the project (Assistant Professor Tomonari Michiyama) moves to another university or institute, the successful candidate is expected to accompany the PI. However, if the PI of the project moves to the NAOJ or other institutions where the successful candidate cannot follow the PI, the successful candidate will be relocated to NAOJ in Mitaka and continue the proposed research project. In this case, the employment is terminated at the end of the employment contract at that time without extension.
（Scope of possible changes） Place determined by NINS/NAOJ

Vacant Post: Project Researcher (equivalent to postdoctoral researcher), one position

Term of Appointment:
In principle, the term is for two years from the starting date, and the probation period of six months is included. The starting date is April 1, 2027 or October 1, 2027. NAOJ will conduct a review based on the mid-term performance report submitted by the PI and may extend the

term for an additional year. If, following appointment, circumstances such as long-term medical treatment, childbirth, or childcare arise, these circumstances will be taken into consideration during the interim review process. If the successful candidate had been employed as a National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS, which is an executive institute that manages NAOJ) within six months retroactively from the start date, the term will be set so that the total employment period does not exceed ten years.

Qualifications:
The applicant must have a PhD degree or is expected to have it by the starting date.
Any researcher who has been employed as an NAOJ Project Researcher (including Project Research Fellow) or a Researcher (Part-time Contract Employee) for a total of five or more years is not eligible to apply for this position.

Submission:
Please access the following URL for registration:
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/LSL5mCm3mD
After you submit the registration form, you will receive an email showing the URLs for (a) uploading your application documents and (b) for your reference letters.

- Please ask your references (Material (6)) to upload their letters via the URL (b).
- Please upload the application documents (from Material (1) through Material (5) and Material (7)) via the URL (a). These files must be in PDF format (max 50MB each, 100MB in total, at most 10 files).

Required Application Materials:
(1) Cover letter with the title of the research project.
(2) Curriculum vitae
(3) Publication list (Separate refereed papers from others. State your role for co-authored papers.)
(4) PDF files of up to three relevant papers
(5) Statement describing your commitment and plans for the job
(6) Two or more reference letters (must be sent by the reference persons themselves directly to the submission URL(b) before the deadline.)
(7) Your e-mail address and phone number

Application Deadline:
The application deadline is December 8, 2026, 15:00 (JST)

Contacts:

Inquiries about application process

job11-pjt-researcher1_atmark_nao.ac.jp (replace _atmark_ with @)

Inquiries about research project

michiyama_atmark_shunan-u.ac.jp (replace _atmark_ with @)

General inquiries

alma-grant-inquiry_atmark_ml.nao.ac.jp (replace _atmark_ with @)

Selection Process:

Qualified candidates who will proceed into the final selection may be interviewed by the selection committee either via the internet or in person. The expense for the interview will not be covered by NAOJ.

The NAOJ Fixed-Term Employee Selection Committee will make the final decision for the appointment.

Remarks:

This position is a full time position. The fellow will receive a monthly salary of 350,000 JPY plus compensation for commuting expenses up to 150,000 JPY each month. Social insurance, such as national health insurance, will be covered. Bonus and retirement allowances are not provided. The working hours and holidays will be in accordance with Shunan University's regulations:

- Work days: 5 days per week (from Monday to Friday);
- Work type: Discretionary work (standard work hours: 8:45 a.m.-5:30 p.m. with an hour intermission);
- Holidays: Saturdays, Sundays, National Holidays, New Year Holidays (December 29 - January 3),
- Paid Leave: shall be provided (annual paid leave),
- Special Leave: Special leave shall be provided, including bereavement leave, short-term sick leave, family caregiving leave, and leave for nursing or caring for a child
- Smoking is prohibited on the premises excluding designated outdoor smoking areas.

It is possible to continue receiving external funds such as Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI) that have been approved prior to the employment, or apply for your own research funding after the employment, but the NAOJ ALMA Project will have to confirm whether the funding application conforms to this ALMA Joint Scientific Research Program.

Policy for Equal Employment Opportunity: Abiding by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women, NAOJ is committed to the realization of a society with gender equality. If two candidates are deemed equal in their performance evaluation, NAOJ will take positive action to employ women. For details, see
https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~open-info/gender-equality/en/

NINS implements the program to support staff members (young researchers) who received educational loans
(scholarships) from the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) and are now repaying them. For details, see
https://www.nins.jp/about/folder7/dairihenkan.html

NINS does not tolerate any form of sexual harassment against job applicants or prospective applicants in connection with job search and recruitment activities. For information on the relevant rules and consultation services, please refer to the basic policy available through the link below.
https://www.nins.jp/open/assets/j_hara_nins20260910.pdf

Information submitted in your application documents will not be used for any purpose other than the selection process and for contacting you with necessary notices in connection with the selection. Once the selection process is complete, we will securely dispose of all application documents and personal information, except for those submitted by the successful candidate.

Name of Recruiter:
Inter-University Research Institute Corporation, National Institutes of Natural Sciences, National Astronomical Observatory of Japan