

Call for Applications: Core Research Cluster for Materials Science Award 2026

The Core Research Cluster for Materials Science at Tohoku University (hereinafter referred to as "CRC-MS") has established the Core Research Cluster for Materials Science Award (hereinafter referred to as "CRC-MS Award") in 2021 to honor young researchers who have produced outstanding academic or industrial application results in materials science in a broad definition of the term. We are now accepting applications for the CRC-MS Award 2026 as follows. We look forward to receiving your application. We also expect you to encourage outstanding researchers in your area to apply for the award.

For those with achievements in spintronics:

The Center for Science and Innovation in Spintronics (CSIS) might be planning similar awards in spintronics. For details, please contact CSIS.

1. Purpose of the award

To honor young researchers who have conducted research and development based on their own initiative in the field of materials science in the broad definition of the term, and who have produced excellent academic or industrial application results, and to encourage further development of their research.

2. Eligibility requirements

The applicant must be a self-nominated individual and meets all of the following requirements.

- (1) The applicant must be engaged in materials science research in the broad definition at the Tohoku University (regardless of the department he/she belongs to). Any position as long as the research activities at the University are approved. (faculty, specially-appointed faculty, postdoctoral researcher, etc., including those who are not employed by the University such as JSPS PD)
- (2) (I) In principle, it must be less than 13 years after obtaining a doctoral degree as of April 1, 2026.

(II) For those who have not been able to devote themselves to research due to childbirth or childcare within 13 years after obtaining their doctoral degree, 18 years or less after obtaining their doctoral degree as of April 1, 2026.

(III) For those who have been unable to devote themselves to research due to nursing care or other reasons within 13 years of obtaining their doctoral degree, the condition in (I) will be increased by the amount of the relevant period (maximum of two years).

If (II) or (III) applies, please submit a copy of the mother-child handbook, a copy of the certificate of nursing care required, etc. with the application form.

3. Number of awards

About 3 awards

4. Selection process

(1) Perspectives of selection

- ① The results of the research & development are based on the applicant's research concept.
- ② Excellent research results in academic and/or industrial application

(2) Selection method

The winners will be selected by the CRC-MS Directors Committee based on the review results by the CRC-MS Expert Committee. If a CRC-MS Expert Committee member determines that a review by a proxy is necessary, he or she may have the proxy review the application, provided that the CRC-MS Director approves it.

5. Awarding

Along with the award certificate, a supplementary award will be given.

6. Obligations of the awardee

Award winners must give a presentation at the awards lecture, which will be held between Monday, November 9 and Friday, November 13 (Presentation scheduled for November 11).

7. How to apply

Complete the application form and submit it as a PDF file as an email attachment.

Submission deadline: Monday, August 3, 2026. (23:59 JST)

E-mail for submission: crcms_office@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

The subject title of the e-mail should be "CRC-MS Award 2026 Application (Applicant's Name)".

8. Contact information

Core Research Cluster for Materials Science Award

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E-mail: crcms_office@grp.tohoku.ac.jp