2026-2 Recruitment Announcement for Research Positions and Postdoctoral research associates at the Korea Virus Research Institute

Institute for Basic Science (IBS) is a national research institute established pursuant to Article 14 of the Special Act on the Establishment of and Support for International Science and Business Belts. IBS aims to discover creative knowledge and secure original technologies through world-class basic science research.

The Korea Virus Research Institute (KVRI) was established under IBS on July 1, 2021, in response to the growing global threats of viral and infectious diseases. KVRI aims to contribute to the infectious disease preparedness and security of the Republic of Korea by strengthening fundamental and core research capabilities in virus research.

We invite creative and dynamic individuals to join KVRI and contribute to advancing fundamental virus research and strengthening national infectious disease security.

☐ Major Research Areas

Center / Group	Major Research Areas
Center for Study of Emerging and Re-emerging Viruses (Director Young Ki Choi Group)	Research to combat viral diseases through the study of emerging and re-emerging viruses 1. Elucidation of the pathogenesis of emerging and re-emerging viral diseases with the potential to cause societal disasters 2. Research on potential Disease X and neglected tropical viral diseases, and elucidation of their potential pathogenic mechanisms 3. Elucidation of the pathogenesis of vector-borne zoonotic viral infectious diseases 4. Development of novel diagnostic methods for high-risk viral infectious diseases and broadly applicable disease-control technologies
Center for Study of Emerging and Re-emerging Viruses (Junior CI Hyunjoon Kim Group)	Research on Host-Specific Viral Transcriptomes and Virus-Host Interactions in Zoonotic Viruses 1. Establishment of heterologous host infection models for zoonotic viruses (wildlife organoids) 2. Establishment of a database of host-specific transcriptomes of zoonotic viruses 3. Characterization of host-specific innate immune features and investigation of host protein functions during heterologous infections with zoonotic viruses
Center for Viral Immunology	1. Elucidation of the mechanisms underlying germinal center responses during viral infections and vaccination 2. Elucidation of plasma cell dynamics and mechanisms of immune aging in antiviral immunity 3. Investigation of stromal-immune interactions within tissues 4. Study of human adaptive immunity in viral diseases
Center for Virome and Applied Platform Systems Virology and Spatial Immunomics Group	1. Development of Foundation Models for Cell-Gene Regulatory Networks 2. Development of an Omics-, Robotics-, and AI-Based Research Platform for Analyzing Virus-Immune Interfaces 3. Functional Engineering of Immune Cells and Multi-Organ Human Tissue Models through Cell and Tissue Engineering

□ Recruitment Positions

1) Center for Study of Emerging and Re-emerging Viruses, Director Young Ki Choi Group (Daejeon)

Category	Position Level	Field	Required Qualifications	Number of Positions
①	Postdoctoral research associate	Research on viral infection and pathogenesis	▪ Degree: Ph.D. obtained within five years prior to the expected appointment date (March 1, 2027), or expected to obtain a Ph.D. within three months after the expected appointment date ▪ Major: Microbiology, biology, virology, immunology, or a related field	3
Total				3

2) Center for Study of Emerging and Re-emerging Viruses, Junior CI Hyunjoon Kim Group (Daejeon)

Category	Position Level	Field	Required Qualifications	Number of Positions
②	Postdoctoral research associate	Research related to developmental biology and viral RNA	▪ Degree: Ph.D. obtained within five years prior to the expected appointment date (March 1, 2027), or expected to obtain a Ph.D. within three months after the expected appointment date ▪ Major: Developmental biology, cell biology, virology, or a related field	2
③	Researcher (Research Positions)	Research related to developmental biology and viral RNA	▪ Degree: Bachelor's degree or higher as of March 1, 2027 ▪ Major: Biology, molecular biology, cell biology, biochemistry, bioinformatics, or a related field	2
Total				4

3) Center for Viral Immunology (Director Yeonseok Chung, Daejeon)

Category	Position Level	Field	Required Qualifications	Number of Positions
④	Senior Research Fellow (Research Positions)	Research in immunology	▪ Degree: Ph.D. degree as of the expected appointment date (March 1, 2027), or a master's degree with at least five years of post-master's research experience ▪ Major: Immunology, virology, life sciences, or a related field	1
⑤	Senior Researcher (Research Positions)	Research in immunology	▪ Degree: Ph.D. degree as of the expected appointment date (March 1, 2027), or a master's degree with at least five years of post-master's research experience ▪ Major: Life sciences, immunology, bioinformatics, or a related field	1
⑥	Postdoctoral research associate	Research in immunology	▪ Degree: Ph.D. obtained within five years prior to the expected appointment date (March 1, 2027), or expected to obtain a Ph.D. within three months after the expected appointment date ▪ Major: Immunology, life sciences, virology, or a related field	1
⑦	Researcher (Research Positions)	Research in immunology	▪ Degree: Bachelor's degree or higher as of March 1, 2027 ▪ Major: Immunology, pharmacy, life sciences, or a related field	2
Total				5

※ Duplicate applications across different positions (fields) or Centers/Groups are not permitted.

※ The final number of hires may be subject to change depending on the results of the recruitment process. For detailed information on job categories and grades, duties, and preferred qualifications, please refer to the Job Description.

☐ Common Eligibility Requirements and Preferred Qualifications

[Common Eligibility Requirements]

- Applicants must have no grounds for disqualification from appointment under Article 33 of the State Public Officials Act or the Institute's regulations.
- Applicants must not be subject to employment restrictions as a result of dismissal for misconduct pursuant to Article 82 of the Act on the Prevention of Corruption and the Establishment and Management of the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission.
- Applicants must be eligible to travel abroad. Male applicants must have completed their mandatory military service or be exempt from it.
  - Applicants serving as Specialized Research Personnel (전문연구요원) may apply even if they have not completed or been exempted from mandatory military service. However, only those eligible for transfer to another institution may apply.
- Applicants must meet all eligibility requirements as of the application deadline.

[Preferred Qualifications]

- Preference will be given to persons with disabilities as defined in Articles 3 and 4 of the Enforcement Decree of the Act on the Employment Promotion and Vocational Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities, and persons eligible for employment support under Article 29 of the Act on the Honorable Treatment of and Support for Persons of Distinguished Service to the State. Additional points will be awarded at each stage of the recruitment process.
  - Applicants with disabilities who submit a Certificate of Disability will receive an additional 5 points on a 100-point scale.
  - Applicants eligible for veterans' employment support who submit a Certificate of Eligibility for Employment Support will receive an additional 5 or 10 points on a 100-point scale, as applicable.

※ Pursuant to Article 31(3) of the Act on the Honorable Treatment of and Support for Persons of Distinguished Service to the State, additional points will not be awarded to applicants eligible for employment support if their evaluation score at any stage of the recruitment process is below 40 points. Additional points will also not be awarded for positions with three or fewer openings, unless the number of applicants is equal to or less than the planned number of hires.

※ If an applicant qualifies for multiple additional points, only the highest applicable score will be awarded.

- Preference will be given to women scientists and engineers pursuant to Article 2 of the Enforcement Decree of the Act on Fostering and Supporting Women Scientists and Technologists.

☐ Recruitment Process

Stage	Schedule	Details
Application Submission	Nov. 26, 2026 (Thu) – Dec. 14, 2026 (Mon) 18:00 (KST)	▪ Apply online through the IBS website: https://www.ibs.re.kr/prog/recruit/kor/sub04_01/list.do ▪ Required documents: publication list, research statement, and consent form for the provision of personal information
Document Screening	Dec. 21, 2026 (Tue) – Dec. 24, 2026 (Thu)	▪ Evaluation: relevance to the recruitment field, excellence of research achievements, work capabilities, potential for growth, etc. ▪ Selection criteria: – Research Positions: Applicants who achieve an average score of 80 points or higher will be selected in descending order of scores, up to seven times the number of positions to be filled. – Postdoctoral research associates: Applicants who achieve an average score of 80 points or higher will be selected in descending order of scores, up to five times the number of positions to be filled ※ Results will be notified by email and text message.
Interview	Jan. 5, 2027 (Tue) – Jan. 8, 2027 (Fri)	▪ Evaluation: expertise in the recruitment field, presentation skills and attitude, problem-solving skills, potential for growth, etc. ▪ Selection criteria: Applicants with an average score of 80 points or higher will be selected in descending order of scores, up to the number of positions to be filled. ※ Results will be notified by email and text message. ※ Selection of Reserve Candidates (up to twice the number of positions to be filled in each field)
Appointment	Mar. 1, 2027 (Mon)	▪ The appointment date may be negotiated up to June 1, 2027 (maximum of three months from the expected appointment date). ※ Research Positions: Applicants expecting to obtain their degree after March 1, 2027, are not eligible to apply. Only applicants who have obtained their degree by March 1, 2027, are eligible. ※ Postdoctoral research associates: Applicants expecting to obtain their degree after May 31, 2027, are not eligible to apply. Only applicants who have obtained their degree by May 31, 2027, are eligible.

※ The above schedule is subject to change depending on the circumstances of IBS.

※ Reserve candidates may be selected up to twice the number of positions to be filled. The validity period of the reserve candidate list shall be limited to three months from the earlier of the expected appointment date and the actual appointment date of the final successful candidate.

※ During the validity period of the reserve candidate list, reserve candidates may be appointed in order of ranking in the following cases: (1) a final successful candidate declines the appointment or is found to be ineligible for appointment; or (2) an additional hire is required due to the resignation of an appointed employee.

☐ Documents to Be Submitted at Each Stage of the Recruitment Process

Stage	Documents
At the time of application	▪ Required Documents – List of Publications → Upload under 'Publications' (use the attached template; PDF format) Research Plan → Upload under 'Research Statement' (use the attached template; PDF format) Consent to Collection and Use of Personal Information (use the attached template; PDF format) ※ A flexible blind recruitment process will be applied. Personal information that may give rise to bias will not be disclosed to the screening committee members.
	▪ Optional Documents – Letters of Recommendation → Enter the referees' information under 'References' (free format; to be prepared and submitted directly by the referees) ※ Based on the information entered during online application, a submission link will be sent to each referee. Only letters submitted directly by the referees will be accepted. (Referees must click the 'Send' button to complete submission.) ※ As emails may not be delivered successfully, applicants are advised to contact their referees separately to confirm receipt of the submission request. ※ Only letters of recommendation submitted by the application deadline (December 14, 6:00 p.m.) will be accepted. – Scanned Copies of Certificates of Disability or Eligibility for Employment Support (if applicable) ※ These certificates will be used solely to verify eligibility and apply preferential treatment in accordance with the recruitment notice. They will be treated as confidential and blinded throughout all stages of the recruitment process, including document screening.

For successful interview candidates only	▪ Certificate of the Highest Educational Qualification (or Expected Graduation Certificate) or Degree Certificate ※ Applicants who submit an expected graduation certificate must submit their final graduation certificate within one month of appointment.
	▪ Academic Transcripts for All Years of Education at the Undergraduate Level and Above
	▪ Copies of Professional Certificates or Licenses (if applicable)
	▪ Certificates of Employment or Work Experience (if applicable)
	▪ Pre-Employment Medical Examination Report (May be replaced with the results of the National Health Screening Program or the Notification of Substitution for the Pre-Employment Health Examination.)
	▪ Research Papers and Supporting Documents for Research Achievements (if applicable) ※ Submit supporting documents verifying the applicant's research achievements, such as the first page of each publication bearing the applicant's name (one page per publication). ※ The submitted documents must exactly match the research publications listed under 'Other Information' in the application form.
	▪ Certificate of Disability or Eligibility for Employment Support (if applicable)
	▪ Certificate of Resident Registration (주민등록초본), including Military Service Records, and Certificate of Resident Registration (주민등록등본)
	▪ Certificate of Family Relations
	▪ Other Documents Required for Appointment (if necessary; details will be provided separately)

☐ Employment Conditions

Category	Details
Work Location	▪ IBS Korea Virus Research Institute (KVRI), Daejeon
Contract Terms	▪ **Senior Research Fellow**: Upon successful completion of a separate evaluation conducted before the expiration of the initial two-year contract, the contract may be renewed in two-year increments until the end of the Research Center (Group). The final appointment decision will be made following deliberation by the Personnel Committee after the interview. ▪ **Senior Researcher**: The initial contract may be renewed once, with a maximum appointment period of five years. ▪ **Postdoctoral research associate**: The initial contract may be renewed once, with a maximum appointment period of three years. ※ Research performance will be evaluated upon contract renewal. Renewal is subject to an evaluation score of 70 points or higher. ▪ **Researcher**: The initial contract may be renewed once, with a maximum appointment period of five years. ▪ **Applicable to All Positions: Employment shall be limited to the duration of the relevant Research Center (Group) and shall end upon its termination.**
Salary	▪ In accordance with the Institute's internal regulations (Pay Band system applies).
Expected Appointment Date	▪ March 1, 2027 (Monday) ※ The appointment date may be negotiated. However, the appointment may be canceled if the successful candidate cannot commence employment by June 1, 2027. Applicants expecting to obtain their Ph.D. degree on or after June 2, 2027, are not eligible to apply.

☐ Application Method and Period

○ **(Application Method)** Online application through the IBS website

- Website: https://www.ibs.re.kr/prog/recruit/kor/sub04_01/list.do

○ **(Documents)** Documents must be uploaded in PDF format when submitting the online application.

- **(Required)** List of Publications, Research Plan, and Consent to Collection and Use of Personal Information
- **(Optional)** Letters of Recommendation

○ For letters of recommendation, a submission link will be sent to each referee based on the information provided by the applicant during the online application process. Only letters submitted directly by the referees will be accepted.

※ Applicants are advised to contact their referees separately to confirm submission, as emails may not be delivered successfully.

○ **(Announcement and Application Period)** November 26, 2026 (Thursday) – December 14, 2026 (Monday), by 6:00 p.m. (KST)

☐ Other Information

○ To secure outstanding research personnel with qualifications suited to the specific research fields, the blind recruitment system will be applied flexibly, in consideration of the nature of research positions. Accordingly, a broader range of information may be collected and provided for recruitment purposes, including educational background, degree-awarding institutions, time taken to obtain degrees, recommendation letters (including referee information), and work experience. However, personal information that could directly identify applicants, such as gender and age, will not be included.

○ Under the blind recruitment system, personal information that may give rise to bias will not be provided to the screening committee

members.

○ Applicants are responsible for any disadvantages arising from errors or omissions in their applications or failure to submit the required documents. If any information submitted is found to be false, the applicant's selection will be revoked.

○ Pursuant to Article 4 of the Enforcement Decree of the Fair Hiring Procedure Act, documents submitted at the Institute's request may be returned only if the applicant requests their return within three months of the announcement of the final recruitment results.

○ If an applicant is found to be ineligible based on the results of a background check or pre-employment medical examination, the applicant's selection will be revoked.

○ Applicants subject to employment restrictions due to dismissal for misconduct under Article 82 of the Act on the Prevention of Corruption and the Establishment and Management of the Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission will have their selection revoked.

○ The Institute reserves the right not to proceed with recruitment if no applicants are deemed suitable.

○ The assignment of job category and grade, calculation of work experience, and resolution of tie scores shall be determined in accordance with the Institute's regulations.

○ Recruitment Inquiries: Recruitment Officer, Korea Virus Research Institute (KVRI)
(Tel: +82-42-878-8092, E-mail: kvri_hr@ibs.re.kr)