Application Guidance for Assistant Professor Position, Faculty of Agriculture, Iwate University

The Faculty of Agriculture, Iwate University, invites applications for one Assistant Professor position as outlined below. Selection will be conducted in accordance with the procedures established by the university.

1. Position Information

(1) Position Title

Assistant Professor, Faculty of Agriculture, Iwate University

Specialization in any of the following areas:

・Grassland Science

・Animal Nutrition and Livestock Management

・Animal Morphology and Physiology

・Animal Product Utilization Science

(2) Affiliation

Course of Animal Science, Department of Animal Science and Fisheries Science, Faculty of Agriculture

(3) Application Period

November 27, 2026 – February 5, 2027

(4) Number of Hires

One (1)

(5) Expected Starting Date

As early as possible on or after April 1, 2027

2. Employment Conditions

(1) Affiliation

Undergraduate Program：

Course of Animal Science, Department of Animal Science and Fisheries Science, Faculty of Agriculture

Graduate Program：
Graduate Course of Animal Science, Division of Agriculture, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (Master's Program)

(2) Area of Specialization and Teaching Responsibilities
Applicants will teach courses in one of the following fields.

(A) Grassland Science

・Expected Undergraduate Courses
General Theory of Animal Science (shared responsibility) *
Animal Science Laboratory II (shared responsibility) *
Graduation Research
Grassland Science (planned)
Practicum in Comprehensive Knowledge of Agricultural Science (shared responsibility) *
Introduction to Animal Science and Fisheries Science (shared responsibility) *
Introduction to Biology
Other liberal arts and foundational agricultural courses (shared responsibility) *

* These courses are taught by multiple instructors. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching one or several class sessions within each course.

・Expected Graduate Courses
Advanced Research in Animal Science
Advanced Grassland Science (planned)
Other interdisciplinary and common graduate courses

Additional Responsibilities:
Courses offered by the United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, including:
Special Research
Special Seminar
Special Lectures in Agriculture
Advanced Topics by Major

(B) Animal Nutrition and Livestock Management)

・Expected Undergraduate Courses
General Theory of Animal Science (shared responsibility) *
Animal Science Laboratory II (shared responsibility) *
Graduation Research
Animal Nutrition and Livestock Management (planned)
Practicum in Comprehensive Knowledge of Agricultural Science (shared responsibility) *
Introduction to Animal Science and Fisheries Science (shared responsibility) *
Introduction to Biology
Other liberal arts and foundational agricultural courses (shared responsibility) *

* These courses are taught by multiple instructors. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching one or several class sessions within each course.

・Expected Graduate Courses
Advanced Research in Animal Science
Advanced Animal Nutrition and Livestock Feeding (planned)
Other interdisciplinary and common graduate courses

Additional Responsibilities:
Courses offered by the United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, including:
Special Research
Special Seminar
Special Lectures in Agriculture
Advanced Topics by Major

(C) Animal Morphology and Physiology

・Expected Undergraduate Courses
General Theory of Animal Science (shared responsibility) *
Animal Science Laboratory II (shared responsibility) *
Graduation Research
Animal Morphology and Physiology (planned)

Practicum in Comprehensive Knowledge of Agricultural Science (shared responsibility) *
Introduction to Animal Science and Fisheries Science (shared responsibility) *
Introduction to Biology
Other liberal arts and foundational agricultural courses (shared responsibility) *

* These courses are taught by multiple instructors. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching one or several class sessions within each course.

・Expected Graduate Courses
Advanced Research in Animal Science
Advanced Animal Biological Mechanisms (planned)
Other interdisciplinary and common graduate courses

Additional Responsibilities:
Courses offered by the United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, including:
Special Research
Special Seminar
Special Lectures in Agriculture
Advanced Topics by Major

(D) Animal Product Utilization Science

・Expected Undergraduate Courses
General Theory of Animal Science (shared responsibility) *
Animal Science Laboratory II (shared responsibility) *
Graduation Research
Animal Product Utilization Science (planned)
Practicum in Comprehensive Knowledge of Agricultural Science (shared responsibility) *
Introduction to the Department of Animal Science and Fisheries Science (shared responsibility) *
Introduction to Biology
Other liberal arts and foundational agricultural courses (shared responsibility)

* These courses are taught by multiple instructors. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching one or several class sessions within each course.

・Expected Graduate Courses
Advanced Research in Animal Science
Advanced Animal Product Utilization Science (planned)
Other interdisciplinary and common graduate courses

Additional Responsibilities:
Courses offered by the United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, including:
Special Research
Special Seminar
Special Lectures in Agriculture
Advanced Topics by Major

Notes on General Education Responsibilities
The successful candidate will be required to contribute to university-wide education by teaching at least one General Education Course or Basic Specialized Course and, when assigned to teach a General Education Course in their field of expertise, developing on-demand online learning content and a video syllabus equivalent to either two 1-credit courses (7 sessions × 100 minutes each) or one 2-credit course (14 sessions × 100 minutes).

(3) Tenure-Track System
The successful candidate will be appointed as a tenure-track Assistant Professor for a five-year term, subject to a mid-term evaluation in the third year and a tenure review in the fifth year, and candidates who demonstrate outstanding achievements in education, research, and service may be granted tenure and appointed to a permanent position without a fixed term.
Details of the tenure-track system are stipulated in the Iwate University Regulations on the Tenure-Track System. Applicants are encouraged to consult the regulations available at the following URL (Japanese only):
https://www.iwate-u.ac.jp/about/disclosure/files/regulations/60200040.pdf

3. Compensation and Benefits
(1) Salary and Allowances
Provided in accordance with university regulations under an annual salary system. A retirement allowance will be paid upon retirement.

(2) Working Hours

Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work

Deemed working hours: 7 hours and 45 minutes per day.

(3) Insurance

Enrollment in Employment Insurance, Social Insurance, Workers' Accident Compensation Insurance, and the MEXT Mutual Aid Association will be provided in accordance with applicable regulations.

(4) Holidays

Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, year-end and New Year holidays, and other university holidays as prescribed by university regulations.

4. Initiatives to Promote Faculty Recruitment

Iwate University is committed to promoting diversity. As part of this effort, we are implementing the following measures in relation to this job announcement.

(1) Initiatives to Promote the Recruitment of Early-Career Faculty Members

Provision of Start-up Research Funding

Tenure-track faculty members (Lecturers and Assistant Professors) will receive JPY 2,000,000 in start-up research funding over the first two years from the date of appointment.

(2) Initiatives to Promote the Recruitment of Female Faculty Members

・Priority consideration for female applicants will be given when evaluations of research achievements, qualifications, and overall merit are deemed equivalent.

・Research funding support for female faculty members: Female Lecturers and Assistant Professors appointed to the University will receive JPY 200,000 per year for two years as research funding.

・Consideration of career interruptions: Periods of maternity leave, childcare leave, and/or family care leave will be taken into consideration during the selection process, regardless of gender. Applicants who have taken such leave should specify the period(s) in their curriculum vitae.

・Career support for female researchers:
https://diversity.iwate-u.ac.jp/support/womenreserchers/

・Work-life balance support programs:
https://diversity.iwate-u.ac.jp/support/wlb/

・Available support includes the assignment of research assistants and support staff, a dual-residence allowance program, support for balancing childbirth and childcare with research and work responsibilities, family care support, an on-campus childcare center (available through FY2026), and on-campus childcare spaces.

Note: Work-life balance support programs are available to all faculty members regardless of gender.

5. Qualifications

Applicants must:

・Hold a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or equivalent).
・Be committed to education and research activities based at Iwate University's Ueda Campus.
・Have a strong record of research achievements relevant to the designated field.
・Be capable of teaching and supervising students at both undergraduate and graduate levels.
・Actively engage in outreach activities, social implementation of research outcomes, and regional contribution.
・ Demonstrate cooperative and collaborative attitudes and participate actively in departmental and graduate school administration.
・Possess sufficient proficiency in both Japanese and English to perform the duties required.

6. Application Documents

Applicants must submit the following:

・Faculty Personal Information Form (university format)
・ List of Educational and Research Achievements (prepared according to university guidelines)
・PDF files of five major publications
・ Summary of previous research activities (approximately 2,000 Japanese characters or equivalent; free format)
・Statement of future educational and research plans at Iwate University (approximately 1,500 Japanese characters or equivalent; free format)
・List of research grants previously obtained as Principal Investigator (free format)
Digital photograph taken within the last six months

Additional documents may be requested during the selection process.

Submission Method

All application documents must be submitted as password-protected PDF files via email, with the password communicated separately by the applicant's preferred method; attachments must not exceed 20 MB per email, and larger files should be divided and sent in multiple emails; the subject line should read “Faculty of Agriculture Position Application (Applicant Name)”; applicants who do not receive an acknowledgment of receipt within three business days (excluding weekends and holidays) should contact the person listed below; and all submitted materials will be used solely for the selection process and will not be returned.

7. Submission and Contact Information

Prof. Kazumi KITA
Course of Animal Science
Department of Animal Science and Fisheries Science
Faculty of Agriculture, Iwate University
Email: kitak@iwate-u.ac.jp
Tel: +81-19-621-6163

8. Selection Process

Following document screening, shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in a research presentation in English (approximately 20 minutes, followed by a 20-minute question-and-answer session) and an interview in Japanese (approximately 30 minutes).

Additional Notes

Applicants are responsible for all travel and related expenses incurred in connection with the interview if conducted in person; however, depending on circumstances, interviews may be conducted online, and applicants who have taken maternity leave, childcare leave, family-care leave, or other leave related to significant life events will receive appropriate consideration during the evaluation process, provided that the relevant period(s) are clearly stated in the employment history section of the Faculty Personal Information Form.

9. Notification of Results

Applicants will be notified of the selection results by email.