

AY 2026 Waseda University Qatar Chair Research Project

Application Guidelines

1. Objectives of the Qatar Chair Project

The Qatar Chair at Waseda University aims to advance knowledge and promote high-quality research in the field of Islamic Area Studies. The Chair promotes interdisciplinary and innovative research addressing issues related to the Islamic world across a wide range of fields, including but not limited to arts, language, literature, culture, religion, history, politics, economics, international relations, energy, environment, and science and technology.

The Chair develops and maintains academic partnerships with leading universities, research institutes, and think tanks worldwide. Through these collaborations, it promotes scholarly research projects and organizes lectures, workshops, seminars, symposia, and conferences related to Islamic Area Studies.

The Chair also seeks to foster academic and cultural exchange between Japan and the Islamic world and to train a new generation of scholars with a balanced and informed understanding of the region. Research outcomes are disseminated through academic publications and public engagement activities.

Through these initiatives, the Chair contributes to advancing scholarship on Islamic Area Studies and promotes mutual understanding across cultures, regions, and civilizations.

2. Research Project

To support these objectives, the Qatar Chair invites proposals from Waseda University faculty members for research projects related to Islamic Area Studies.

Each project may receive funding of up to **¥4,000,000 per principal investigator**. Projects are expected to produce academic outputs such as publications and research dissemination activities.

Projects may focus on any historical period and any region of the Islamic world and may employ methodologies from a wide range of academic disciplines.

All projects must comply with the internal regulations of Waseda University and the **Waseda University Research Funds Manual**.

3. Number of Awards

Approximately eight projects will be funded.

4. Eligibility

Applicants must satisfy the following conditions.

A. Research Theme

Applicants must propose a research project related to the broad theme of *Islamic Area Studies*, including but not limited to: arts, language, literature, culture, religion, history, politics, economics, international relations, energy, environment, and science and technology.

B. Applicant Status

Applicants must hold one of the following positions at Waseda University:

- Professor, Associate Professor, and Assistant Professor
- Tenure-track Professor, Associate Professor, and Assistant Professor
- Non-tenured Professor, Associate Professor, and Assistant Professor (“*Koshi*”)
- Faculty or researchers employed by the Qatar Chair Project in AY2026

C. Other Funding

Applicants may apply even if they are currently receiving research funding from other sources.

D. Departure from Waseda

If the principal investigator leaves Waseda University during the project period, the project will be terminated. In such cases, a research outcome report covering the period up to the date of departure must be submitted.

5. Application Requirements

Applications should include the following information:

- A realistic and clearly justified budget (maximum **¥4,000,000 per principal investigator**)
- A description of previous research achievements related to the proposed project
- Expected research outputs, outreach activities, and potential social impact
- Disclosure of external funding (e.g., JSPS grants) for the same or related research topics

6. Research Period

The research period will run until **March 31, 2027 (end of AY2026)**.

Applicants wishing to continue the project in AY2027 must submit a new application.

7. Multiple Applications

Multiple applications are permitted. However, the total amount awarded per principal investigator must not exceed ¥4,000,000.

The transfer of funds between projects is not permitted.

8. Application Procedures

1. Download the application form from the Qatar Chair website:
<https://www.waseda.jp/inst/qatarchair/en>
2. Complete the form and submit it via the designated online submission system:
<https://my.waseda.jp/application/noauth/application-detail-noauth?param=eHiMs4KzJGgV9B1nPomr3g>

9. Application Deadline

May 11, 23:59 JST

10. Evaluation Process

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Academic significance of the research proposal
- Soundness of the research methodology

- Research capability and adequacy of the research environment
- International relevance of the project
- Appropriateness of the proposed budget
- Relevance to the objectives of the Qatar Chair and expected research outputs and social impact

Applications will be reviewed by a screening panel organized by the **Qatar Chair Project Working Group**. Final approval will be granted by the **Qatar Chair Subcommittee of the Global Research Center**.

Applications that fail to meet the requirements or contain significant deficiencies (e.g., incomplete application forms or insufficient research plans) will not be considered.

11. Notification of Results

Applicants will be notified of the results **by email in June 2026**.

12. Responsibilities of Grant Recipients

(1) Research Outcome Report

Grant recipients must submit a **research outcome report** to the Project Working Group by **April 2027**.

The report format will be announced around **December 2026**.

(2) Acknowledgement

Publications must acknowledge the funding using the following statement:

“The research for this article/chapter/book* was funded by the Chair of the State of Qatar for Islamic Area Studies at Waseda University.”

(*Delete as appropriate.)

(3) Use of Research Funds

Research funds may be used for:

- Conference Participation Fees
- Travel and Invitation Expenses
- Symposium Organizing Costs
- Publication Costs
- Personnel & Honoraria
- Others

Research funds **cannot** be used to purchase equipment such as computers, scanners, or cameras.

All expenditures must comply with the internal regulations of Waseda University and the **Waseda University Research Funds Manual**.

(4) Withdrawal

If a recipient must withdraw from the project for unavoidable reasons, a formal request must be submitted.

(5) Suspension of Research

If research must be suspended due to circumstances such as maternity leave or illness, an application for suspension must be submitted. A request must also be submitted when the research is resumed.

(6) Return of Unused Funds

Any unused funds must be returned promptly.

Carryover of research fund to the next fiscal year is not permitted.

(7) Misuse of Funds

If funds are used improperly or if recipients engage in conduct that violates academic or social norms, the Qatar Chair Subcommittee may require reimbursement of all or part of the grant and may revoke eligibility for the project.

13. Confidentiality and Personal Information

Personal information obtained from applicants will be used solely for the purposes of application review and project administration.

To ensure fairness and protect intellectual property, reviewers must maintain strict confidentiality regarding all information obtained during the review process. The intellectual properties acquired in this research project shall be handled in accordance with university regulations.

14. Inquiries

For inquiries, please contact: qatar-chair-project@list.waseda.jp