

Faculty Positions for Female Researchers, Tohoku University

As part of a major positive action initiative to support women in research, the Graduate School of Law, Tohoku University is establishing new professor positions exclusively for applicants who identify as female.

This initiative was established under the provisions of Article 8 of the Act on Equal Opportunity and Treatment between Men and Women in Employment (Special Provisions Concerning Measures for Female Workers).

Recruitment:

Permanent Professor at the Graduate School of Law

Summary:

Position:	Professor
Research Fields:	Law and/or Political Science on Gender and Diversity
Number of Positions:	1
Job type:	Permanent
Location:	The Graduate School of Law 27-1 Kawauchi, Aoba-ku, Sendai, Miyagi, Japan
Qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Doctoral degree by the time of appointment• Distinguished record of research achievements• Ability to use Japanese sufficiently to perform professional duties
Submission:	Submit via the application form https://jotform.com/252640500891453
Application Deadline:	May 31, 2026
Starting Employment:	November 1, 2026 or later
For questions contact:	kobo_law@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

Recruitment:

Permanent Professor at the Graduate School of Law

Background and Purpose:

As a strategic measure to further strengthen our research and educational capabilities, the Graduate School of Law, Tohoku University is conducting a targeted recruitment of qualified scholars who identify as female for professor positions.

Welcoming outstanding female researchers from Japan and abroad into leadership positions will bring diverse perspectives to our research fields, serving as a driving force for breakthroughs in existing academic disciplines. Furthermore, the presence of diverse role models will have a profound educational impact on fostering the next generation of talent. With the aim of promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) this recruitment is conducted under the provisions of Article 8 of the Act on Equal Opportunity and Treatment between Men and Women in Employment (Special Provisions Concerning Measures for Female Workers) as a "positive action" initiative. This measure goes beyond merely improving numerical targets; it aims to accelerate the participation of female in research, thereby elevating the University's research excellence and driving its transformation into a world-leading research institution.

The Graduate School of Law, Tohoku University, is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Professor. The selected individual will engage in research and education activities focused on Law and/or Political Science on Gender and Diversity.

This research will also explore potential applications in cutting-edge developments and is expected to produce high-impact publications in the field and actively disseminate research outcomes internationally.

Regular performance evaluations will be conducted based on research achievements. As part of educational activities, the individual will also engage in supervising master's theses (including professional graduate programs) and doctoral dissertations, and teaching undergraduate courses.

Based on Tohoku University's plan to strengthen its research system as a University of International Research Excellence, the Graduate School of Law aims to reinforce foundational research in law and political science that underpins Japanese society and the state, while also advancing applied research and promoting internationalization. Therefore, we seek researchers who will theoretically and empirically explore the nature of law or politics in today's increasingly complex and diverse society from the perspective of gender or diversity. We welcome researchers with an interest in cutting-edge or critical issues in the international community and motivated to conduct advanced research.

Qualifications:

Candidates must have a doctoral degree upon taking up the post and possess Japanese language proficiency at a level sufficient, or close to sufficient, to perform professional duties without difficulty.

Distinguished research achievements in the field of being applied for will be evaluated favorably by the selection committee.

Application Method:

After registering via the pre-application form below, we will send you a separate application form via email. Please upload the required documents as separate PDF files using this application form.

Using this application form, please select your preferred department and upload the following documents 1 through 9 as separate PDF files. For item 3, please enter the information directly into the corresponding field on the application form.

1. Cover letter
2. Curriculum vitae (with photograph attached)
<https://www.tohoku.ac.jp/en/news/documents/resume.xlsx>
3. Researcher ID Information (Scopus Author ID, ORCID iD, Researchmap)
*Please enter directly in the application form.
If you do not have any of the applicable Researcher IDs (Scopus, ORCID, or Researchmap), please additionally submit a complete list of your academic publications.
4. Up to three major research achievements
5. Record of research grants received
6. List of presentations at international conferences
7. Summary of past research activities (approx. 2 pages)
8. Future Research plan related to the goals of the Graduate School of Law (approx. 2 pages)
9. Two letters of recommendation

Documents may be created in either Japanese or English, however, Item 8 (Future research plan related to the goals of the Graduate School of Law) must be written in Japanese.

Application Form: <https://jotform.com/252640500891453>

Application Deadline: May 31, 2026.

Selection:

After a document-based screening by the selection committee, shortlisted candidates may be invited to give a presentation. This may include an in-person visit as part of the evaluation process. In assessing research achievements in the relevant field, the selection committee will place particular emphasis on publications in international academic journals and on the publication record of single-authored books.

Starting Employment:

November 1, 2026 or later

Allocation & Accommodation:

Successful individuals will be allocated a private office on campus at the Graduate School of Law, Kawauchi Campus (27-1 Kawauchi, Aoba-ku, Sendai, Miyagi, Japan). There may also be the opportunity to move into university accommodation if there are any vacancies.

Compensation & Benefits:

The annual salary will be determined in accordance with Tohoku University's employment regulations and will be based on the experience and achievements of the candidate.

Special Funding & Duties

Selected individuals will be provided with annual basic research funding of 500,000 JPY and, in addition, a start-up research fund of up to 8,000,000 JPY per year for a maximum of three years from the time of appointment. The research funds for the first year will be provided on a pro-rata monthly basis depending on the month of appointment.

Welfare:

Successful individuals will be enrolled in the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Mutual Aid Association which will also provide health insurance for any dependents. Tohoku University will also provide pension insurance, employment insurance as well as industrial accident compensation insurance.

Annual Paid Leave:

Employees are entitled to 20 days annual paid leave per year. The number of days provided is reckoned as of January 1. Each year, twenty days are added to any remaining paid leave from the previous calendar year (up to twenty days). Annual leave for the first year of employment is calculated based on the start date (e.g., a start date of April 1 would provide 15 days for the remaining nine months of the calendar year).

Tohoku University's DEI Promotion:

- Tohoku University promotes activities to enhance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).

Tohoku University's website about the DEI Declaration can be found here:

<https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/vision/about/>

- For details on Tohoku University's research support, work-life balance support, and other initiatives related to DEI, as well as collaborative participation efforts, please visit the URL below.

Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Tohoku University Website:

https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/en/support_program/consulting/for_family/

Human Resources and Planning Department website (in Japanese only):

<https://c.bureau.tohoku.ac.jp/jinji-top/external/a-4-kosodate/>

- Tohoku University has the largest on-campus childcare system of all Japanese national universities. This network comprises three nurseries: Kawauchi Keyaki Nursery school (capacity: 22) and Aobayama Midori Nursery school (116), both open to all university employees, as well as Hoshinoko Nursery school (120), which is open to employees working at Tohoku University Hospital. In addition, Tohoku University Hospital runs a childcare room for mildly ill and convalescent children which is available to all university employees
- Tohoku University has published 'Tohoku University-Live as Who You Are-Guidelines for Gender and Sexual Diversity' to provide explanations and details of how those at the university should respond with respect to diverse sexuality. The purpose of the guidelines is to create an environment in which all students, faculty, and staff respect diverse sexuality in their academic, research, and professional activities.

Please see the Tohoku University Center for Gender Equality Promotion website:

https://dei.tohoku.ac.jp/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/EN_GuideLine_2024.pdf