

Call for Research Associate, Athlete Cognitive Neuroscience
at IRCN, The University of Tokyo

IRCN has launched the "Athlete Cognitive Neuroscience Project on Yips Research and its Development and Application" in FY2024. This project aims to conduct data acquisition and analysis of skilled athletes' brain activities in Yips state and use these results to help advance IRCN's institutional efforts to develop neuro-inspired AI and conduct research to develop new methods to alleviate Yips. We are looking for a highly motivated Research Associate to assist the project manager (Professor) in contributing to the launch of the project and the establishment/promotion of collaboration with related organizations.

1	Title / Number of positions	Research Associate / One
2	Employment period	From July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2029. Starting date is negotiable
3	Renewable	no
4	Probationary period	14 days from the date of hiring.
5	Place of work	<p>Athlete Cognitive Neuroscience lab, International Research Center for Neurointelligence, The University of Tokyo, Institutes for Advanced Study (7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033 JAPAN)</p> <p>Scope of change: Place designated by the University. (In principle, University academic staff shall not be ordered to be reassigned or assigned to work on an external assignment against their will. Details are in accordance with Article 4 of the University of Tokyo Regulations on Conditions of Employment of Academic Staff.)</p>
6	Job Description	<p>Perform the following duties in "the Athlete Cognitive Neuroscience Project on Yips Research and its Development and Application"*</p> <p>1.Promote Yips research from the perspective of Athlete Cognitive Neuroscience. Specifically, conduct data acquisition and analysis of skilled athletes' brain activities in the Yips state. With the progress of the project, use the results to help advance IRCN's institutional efforts to develop neuro-inspired AI and conduct research to develop new methods to alleviate Yips.</p> <p>2.Assist the project manager (Professor) in contributing to the development of the project and the establishment/promotion of collaboration with related organizations.</p> <p>* This is a project launched at the IRCN in FY2024, with a five-year period ending at the end of FY2028. The period of activity may be extended based on performance and results. Interdisciplinary research based on cutting-edge cognitive neuroscience will be conducted in collaboration with RIKEN and Teikyo University, as well as other departments within the University, to understand the mechanisms of Yips caused by the conflict between human consciousness and performance, and to develop treatment methods. The results obtained can be used to support senior athletes and para-athletes, and to develop new methods of locomotive rehabilitation. The project aims to provide meaningful results for the society in our country, which is becoming increasingly diverse at the same time as the population ages.</p> <p>Scope of change: The University may order employees to be reassigned to different positions, or order them to take up additional positions or to work on an external assignment. (In principle, there is no such thing as being ordered against one's will. Details are in accordance with Article 4 of the University of Tokyo Regulations on Conditions of Employment of Academic Staff.)</p>
7	Working Hours	Under the discretionary work system for specialized work, the employee is considered to work 7 hours and 45 minutes per day.
8	Holidays	Saturday and Sundays; Statutory public holidays of Japan; Year-end and New Year holidays(December 29 through January 3)
9	Paid Leaves	Annual paid leaves, refreshment leave, congratulatory or condolence leave, etc
10	Salary & Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Salary: To be determined based on academic background and work experience. Salary increase system is available. ● Allowances: Bonuses (twice a year), commuter allowance (When conditions apply. JPY55,000 per month at maximum) and other allowances in accordance with UTokyo rules and regulations.

11	Available insurances	Eligible for MEXT Mutual Aid Association (health insurance and pension insurance), employment insurance, and workers' accident compensation insurance in accordance with laws and regulations. *MEXT: Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
12	Qualifications	1) Candidates should hold a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or equivalent). 2) Candidates should have the ability to conduct research stated above with the skill of conducting data acquisition and analysis of human brain functions. (Preferred) - Research experience in an international environment in the field of cognitive neuroscience or a related field for approximately five years.
13	Application documents	(1) Cover letter in English or Japanese (2) Curriculum vitae in English or Japanese Please download and use the University of Tokyo Standard Resume Format. (https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/about/jobs.html) (3) Publication list (4) Two letters of recommendation
14	Submission	Interested applicants should send application materials to: takamitsu-watanabe#g.ecc.u-tokyo.ac.jp with the email title "Research Associate , Athlete Cognitive Neuroscience". Please replace # with @ before using this email address.
15	Application Deadline Selection Process	April 30, 2025, 17:00 (JST). Once a suitable candidate has been selected, the recruitment process will be closed. All applications will be screened, and only those qualified will be scheduled for an interview (on-site or via video). If your application passes the screening, you will be contacted by email for an interview.
16	Inquiries	Watanabe lab, International Research Center for Neurointelligence e-mail : takamitsu-watanabe#g.ecc.u-tokyo.ac.jp *Please replace # with @ before using this email address.
17	Recruiter Name	The University of Tokyo
18	Status of measures to prevent passive	Smoking is prohibited on the premises (smoking areas are located outside)
19	Notices	(1) Submitted documents will not be returned. Personal information is handled carefully according to the Privacy Policy of the University of Tokyo, and will be used only for the job selection process. (2) Travel cost will not be paid in screening process. (3) The University of Tokyo promotes gender equality and actively encourages women to apply. (4) If you are personally in contract with foreign governmental bodies, corporations or universities, or you are in receipt of a large benefit (financial or any other form) from foreign governmental bodies during the period of your employment, the provisions of the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (FEFTA) may prohibit or restrict the sharing of technology that are designated as controlled technology possibly making it difficult for you to fulfill your duties as an academic or administrative staff of the university as a result. Therefore, in such cases it is necessary to keep such contracts/benefits within the scope where it does not hinder the sharing of technologies necessary for your duties by the university.