Prospective graduate students and postdoctoral trainees

**Introduction**

We are looking for postdoctoral trainees, or graduate students with a strong interest in research (willing to complete a Ph.D.). Our research goals include: 1) understanding the relationship between physical behaviors, health and well-being, and 2) developing supporting technologies for the promotion of active lifestyles. We are using activity tracker devices in large cohort studies and testing various physical activity interventions in different populations. Using machine learning techniques, we are developing smart technologies to improve the evaluation of physical activity and predict various health issues.

The Physical Behavior Assessment laboratory is a part of the Department of Human-Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Life Sciences at Ochanomizu University, Tokyo. We have various research partnerships with other Japanese institutions. We are actively collaborating with African and Europe research institutions.

**Qualifications**

We are seeking highly motivated people with background in human engineering and/or sports sciences. The ideal candidate has an interest in data science and statistical learning methods. She/he is willing to advance research in one of the following fields: physical activity and health, physical behavior assessment, mobile health. Programming skills or experience in conducting human physiology/biomechanics experimental protocols is a plus. Priority may be given to candidates with an interest in one of the two following research topics:

* Integrating smart-shoes in a multi-sensing network of activity trackers for an accurate assessment of physical behaviors and daily energy expenditure. [Project awarded with a Grant-in-Aid for scientific research, level C, Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science]
* Physical activity in patients with sickle cell disease: Effect on the vascular function, frequency of painful episodes and clinical course of the disease. [Project awarded with a Fund for the Promotion of Joint International Research, level B, Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science]

**Eligibility criteria**

Graduate students should be women (see, gender-related admission eligibility criteria [elsewhere](https://www.ocha.ac.jp/news/20190528.html)).

Candidates to a postdoctoral fellowship should hold a Ph.D. degree or equivalent.

**How to apply**

Please submit a brief letter of intention to [tripette.julien@ocha.ac.jp](mailto:tripette.julien@ocha.ac.jp), with the header: “[postdoctoral position]” of “[graduate student - application]” depending on your situation.

The email should include:

* A brief description of your background.
* A brief statement about your motivations.
* Your preferred starting date.

Please, make sure you also attach:

* A 0.5 to 1 page research statement, including: the specific area you want to work on and how your project links with your previous work.
* A CV with details about your research background.
* A list of your publications (postdoctoral candidates only).
* Copies of one or two representative publications (postdoctoral candidates only).
* Contact information for one or two references (previous research supervisors and/or collaborators; postdoctoral candidates only).

An individualized answer, which includes information about the funding opportunities, will be made to the each candidate in the light of the provided information. International graduate students should be aware that most of scholarship applications to Japanese agencies can only be done after enrollment to the university (please, contact us for a more accurate assessment of your situation). We are encouraging postdoctoral candidates to apply to one of the [JSPS postdoctoral fellowship programs](https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/postdoctoral.html). Alternative options may be considered (please, contact us for a more accurate assessment of your situation). We present a good rate of successful applications to the JSPS agency. The application procedure is long and candidates should reach us 6-12 months before their preferred starting date.