

## Expand your Horizons through Bioplastics Research in Japan

Do you have a passion for sustainability and a sense of adventure? Applications are now being accepted for a new International Research Program in Japan. For 10 weeks in Summer 2023, a cohort of selected student will travel to and reside in Kyoto, Japan, where they will perform hands-on research in the Department of Biobased Materials at Kyoto Institute of Technology (KIT). Available projects will span the continuum of relevant research challenges facing the production of biobased plastics and materials, including from upstream conversion, to polymer synthesis and materials development, to characterization of the resulting products, to their ultimate biodegradation. All participants will receive a stipend (\$6,000 for undergraduate students, \$7,500 for graduate students) in addition to travel costs.

No prior research experience is required. To be eligible, all participants must be:

1. a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
2. at least 18 years old prior to travel in mid-May 2023 (exact date TBD)
3. a full-time student in good standing
4. pursuing a degree in a STEM discipline

Note: given the nature of the research, the most competitive applicants will have experience in one of the following or a closely related area: chemical sciences/engineering, biological sciences/engineering, materials sciences/engineering.

For more information on the project, visit: <https://nielsenlab.engineering.asu.edu/ires-project/>

Or contact Prof. David Nielsen ([David.R.Nielsen@asu.edu](mailto:David.R.Nielsen@asu.edu))

To apply:

1. Visit <https://fultonapps.asu.edu/scholarship/>
2. Click on any Major
3. Look for 'International Research Experiences for Students (IRES) Japan Scholarship'

The deadline to apply is December 31, 2022.

This project is supported via a grant from the National Science Foundation.

