


The Bioindustry

Building a world-class glocal community

Okinawa Biocommunity




Certified by the Cabinet Office in 2022

Incubation facilities

Incubation facilities such as Okinawa Health Biotechnology Research & Development Center and Okinawa Biotechnology Business Support Center carry out cutting-edge research and development using biotechnology.

[Inquiries]
Okinawa BioCommunity office
TEL : +81-98-982-1100
Website : <https://okibic.jp/>



Okinawa BioCommunity office Website
(Japanese language only)

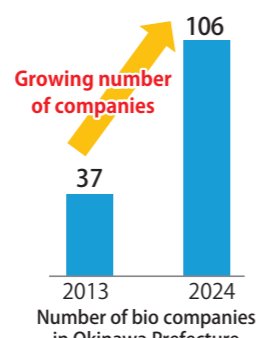
Okinawa's strengths

- As the only prefecture in Japan with a subtropical oceanic climate, Okinawa has among the greatest biodiversity in Japan, particularly in marine life, providing an abundance of resources for the bio industry.
- In cooperation with Biocommunity Kansai (BioCK), Fukuoka Bio Community, LINK-J, AIST, and other bio-related organizations in Japan, we provide support for research, technology, and product development, as well as information sharing and business matching through these bio communities.

Cooperation

Measures

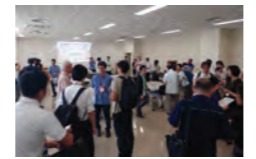
- Holds and participates in information sharing events for bio-related companies, universities, research institutes, etc.
- Information sharing at exhibitions in other prefectures (BioJapan, etc.)
- Specialized support from experts in the bio field (advisors available)
- Training and hands-on experience for local students (for securing and developing human resources)



Growing number of companies

2013: 37
2024: 106


Number of bio companies in Okinawa Prefecture




Networking for collaboration



Information sharing at exhibitions



Developing bio talent to lead the future



Okinawa Health Biotechnology Research & Development Center

Initiatives to promote bio industry

Support and personnel development for research, development, commercialization, etc.

[Inquiries] Manufacturing Promotion Division, Department of Commerce, Industry and Labor
TEL: +81-98-866-2337

Research, development and business support

- **Bio-Related Business Commercialization Support Program**
Support (subsidies) for research and development by current and prospective bio companies
- **Bio-Related Industry Promotion Support Project**
Support for matching through bio communities and solving problems (fund procurement, sales route discovery, etc.)

Development of advanced personnel for the bio field

- **Utilization Project for the Health and Medical Data Science Human Resource Development Program**
A total of four bioinformatics (BI) courses are offered, which are designed to support applications in such fields as drug discovery and health foods (2025).

- Introductory Course** Fundamentals of data analysis and acquisition of R and Python analytical techniques
- Case Studies** Introduction to applied examples of BI
- Certification Preparation** BI Engineer Certification Examination Preparation Course
- Practical Training** Hands-on training in gut microbiota analysis

Health foods

[Inquiries]
Okinawa Prefecture Health Industry Association
TEL: +81-98-975-6230
Website: <http://www.kenshoku-oki.com/>

○ **Health Food Brand Value Enhancement Program**

This platform helps health food companies in Okinawa to find strategic, cross-sectional solutions to issues they face in areas such as functionality research, marketing, product development and exploring sales routes.

WELLNESS OKINAWA JAPAN (WOJ): A proprietary certification system



To qualify for this certification, the certifying body must be satisfied that the product has functional value, is safe, and possesses emotional value unique to Okinawa.

Establishing a base for bio-related industries

[Inquiries] Manufacturing Promotion Division, Department of Commerce, Industry and Labor
TEL: +81-98-866-2337



Domestic / Overseas

Bio-related industry base









Cooperation

Bio-related companies from Okinawa and other prefectures

- With a geographical advantage due to its location in the heart of Asia, Okinawa Prefecture attracts attention as a business base ideally situated for expanding into Asia. It is expected to become the center for a growing number of bio industries with increasing demand in the future.
- To support the growth of bio businesses in Okinawa from research and development to commercialization, we are establishing a new industrial base for manufacturing and related services.

The Research Institutes

Okinawan research institutes such as the Okinawa Industrial Technology Center and the Okinawa Biotechnology Business Support Center are located in the Uruma/Okinawa district, an international logistics hub. Various other research institutes are located within the University of the Ryukyus, which is within a 30-minute drive. We support businesses in the area through applied research, human resources training, and the provisions of scientific and technological information based on an organic collaboration with the institutions.

	Name	Location	Main Business or Area of Research	Inquiries
Okinawa	Okinawa Industrial Technology Center	Uruma City	Providing various technical services to support the resolution of technical issues and product development for companies located in Okinawa. Conducts experimental research for chemistry, food, ceramics, and machinery and metals.	+81-98-929-0111  (Japanese language only)
	Okinawa Mold Technology Institute		Trains engineers, provides equipment, and conducts experimental research relating to molds	+81-98-929-0280  (Japanese language only)
	Okinawa Biotechnology Business Support Center		Incubation facility where companies can utilize research equipment to conduct bio health related research Helping to turn research results using biotechnology into businesses and products.	+81-98-923-1768  (Japanese language only)
	Okinawa Health Biotechnology Research & Development Center			+81-98-934-8435  (Japanese language only)
	Okinawa Life Science Research Center		Conducts advanced research and development for pharmaceuticals and food with health-promoting benefits, utilizing the regional characteristics and biological resources of Okinawa (Satisfies physical containment (P2) safety requirements)	+81-98-982-1060  (Japanese language only)
University of the Ryukyus	Molecular Life Science Research Facility	Nishihara Town	Functional Genomics; Molecular Biotechnology; Environmental and Biological Information; Vaccinology and Vaccine Immunology; and Molecular Microbiology	+81-98-895-8943  (Japanese language only)
	Research Facility Center		Research and development, and collection and provision of information on analytics/measurement technologies	+81-98-895-8967  (Japanese language only)
	University of the Ryukyus Center for the Promotion of Industry-Academic-Government Collaborations		The University of the Ryukyus research activities include supporting research and development with non-affiliated institutions outside the university, supporting the protection and utilization of intellectual property, and supporting enterprise.	+81-98-895-8031 +81-98-895-8597  (Japanese language only)

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST)

The Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University is a graduate university offering world-class research and educational standards in the field of natural sciences. For educational and research activities, interdisciplinary research projects that combine the fields of neuroscience, molecular, cellular, and developmental biology; mathematical and computational sciences; environmental and ecological sciences; physics; chemistry, and engineering and applied science are being carried out. It is anticipated that a cluster of intellectual industries will be formed around the facility by attracting corporate research institutes and venture companies.



National Institute of Technology, Okinawa College

The National Institute of Technology, Okinawa College (NIT Okinawa) comprises four departments: Mechanical Systems Engineering, Information and Communications Systems Engineering, Media Information Engineering, and Bioresources Engineering. Through five years of consistent education, the college nurtures creative and practical engineers who can contribute to society with a highly humane, ethical, and international outlook in addition to expertise and technical training. With its solid educational system, NIT Okinawa is contributing to industrial growth in Okinawa through training programs and technology exchange/consultation opportunities in collaboration with local governments and industries.



■ Details regarding incubation facilities, etc.



Okinawa Health Biotechnology Research & Development Center

The Okinawa Health Biotechnology Research & Development Center is an incubation facility that conducts research and development regarding health foods and pharmaceutical drugs, with the purpose of promoting industrial development in Okinawa.

Rental lab | Area (m²): 20.32m²~167.74m² | Inquiries: +81-98-934-8435
 Rent (monthly): ¥2,310 per m² | Tenancy period: 5 years in principle
 Number of rooms: 16

Main support

- Explanations on operating equipment, technical consultations
- Advice on development of health food products and technical elements of ingredient analysis
- Support for commercialization, advice on product development

Main machinery and instruments

Okinawa Health Biotechnology Research & Development Center offers a variety of equipment that organizations can use to carry out research and development or improve their production technology. (Tax exemption for machine usage fees available)

Analysis instruments Nuclear magnetic resonance apparatus, liquid chromatography quadrupole mass spectrometer, gas chromatography-mass spectrometer, time-of-flight tandem mass spectrometer, DNA sequencer, amino acid analyzer, etc.
Proof-of-concept equipment Jar fermenter (90L, 600L), disk-type centrifugal separator, sterilizer, powder sterilization device, coarse grinder, pneumatic pulverizer, fine grinder, low-temperature dryer, etc.



(Japanese language only)



Okinawa Bio Industries Center

Okinawa Bio Industries Center is a post incubation facility that offers support to businesses that are approaching the commercialization of research development and research results made using biotechnology, and we aim to further develop biotechnology related industries in Okinawa.

Rental lab | Area (m²): 34m²~232m² | Inquiries: +81-98-923-1768
 Rent (monthly): ¥2,400 per m² | Tenancy period: no limit
 Number of rooms: 31

Main support

Okinawa Bio Industries Center provides various forms of support through its industry-academia-government collaboration network.
 • Advice from experts about matters such as practical use and exploration of sales routes

Use of equipment

Okinawa Health Biotechnology Research & Development Center has analysis equipment on site for organizations to use. (Organizations may be eligible for a fee reduction or exemption.)



Okinawa Life Science Research Center

The Okinawa Life Science Research Center is a rental lab with the purpose of promoting and industrializing Okinawan technology in bio/life sciences that coordinates research and development with venture enterprises and research institutions, that has is the first P2 level facility for commercialization in the prefecture.

Rental lab | Area (m²): 60.75m²~243m² | Inquiries: +81-98-982-1060
 Rent (monthly): ¥2,404 per m² | Tenancy period: less than 1 year (renewable)
 Number of rooms: 18

Main support

The Okinawa Life Science Research Center provides tenant companies with support for the commercialization of research and development results, promotion of public relations activities, and opportunities for business matching.

Use of equipment

Automated incubators, thermostatic shaking incubators, high-speed refrigerated centrifuges, microchip electrophoresis equipment, quadrupole mass spectrometers, Benchtop lyophilizers (large and small), thermal cyclers, animal testing facilities (with individual animal breeding control units), etc.



Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST)

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (hereinafter referred to as OIST) aims to contribute to Okinawa's autonomous development and improving global science and technology through the implementation of internationally exceptional education and research regarding science and technology.

The OIST Innovation Incubator is an incubation facility for early-stage deep-tech startups and is equipped with shared offices as well as shared laboratories and equipment. The facility provides an environment where entrepreneurs can validate business potential and develop prototypes. The offices also function as a community space that fosters innovation, accommodating not only startups but also experts, supporters, and companies seeking collaboration with OIST.

Completed in Spring 2025

Please check the OIST website for the latest information.

[New incubation facility]



Facility Information

Offices (shared or private)
 Laboratories (shared or private)
 Hot desks
 Tenancy period: Up to five years
 For further details, please visit the website.
 Inquiries: incubator-help@oist.jp



OIST website

Main Services

Shared equipment, meeting rooms, and online meeting booths
 Access to members' and investors' network
 Access to experts in intellectual property, finance, human resources, and other fields
 Banking-related support provided by secondees from financial institutions
 Participation in entrepreneur development events held by OIST

※Please check the OIST website for the latest information on rents for the new incubation facility.



University of the Ryukyus Center for the Promotion of Industry-Academia-Government Collaborations

The purpose of the center is to contribute to regional development and to revitalize educational and research activities at the university by supporting joint research and development with external organizations, promoting the protection and use of intellectual property, and providing startup support in relation to research activities at the University of the Ryukyus.

[Fees, etc.]

- ① Use of the building for industry-academia-government collaborations:
 1,700 yen per m² per month (Energy adjustment fee: 400/cm² yen)
 Office area only: 12 rooms, 17-66m²
- ② General regional revitalization research building:
 1,800 yen per m² per month (excluding utilities)
 Office area only: 11 rooms, 21-42m²
 Laboratories: 2 rooms, 20m², 41m²



Scan the 2D code above to visit the Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration website of the University of the Ryukyus.

Both buildings are for industry-academia-government collaboration activities conducted at University of the Ryukyus, and are available for joint research between outside organizations such as private companies and faculty and other parties affiliated with the university (including students) or for application of research results.

※For the latest information, please visit the Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration website of the University of the Ryukyus.

Your Guide to Business in Okinawa - All in This Book.

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Nagoya Information Center

5F, Chunichi Building
4-1-1, Sakae, Naka-ku, Nagoya-shi, Nagoya 460-0008
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The official social media account of the business
facility promotion division



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(Japanese language only)

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[https://www.pref.okinawa.jp/kensei/
kencho/1000011/1017705/1017714.html](https://www.pref.okinawa.jp/kensei/kencho/1000011/1017705/1017714.html)



(Japanese language only)



SDGs are promoted in Okinawa Prefecture.