

Introduction to SakuLab™ Tsukuba



SakuLab™-Tsukuba, Where Innovation Grows

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Located at an Astellas' flagship research campus, SakuLab-Tsukuba enhances a life science ecosystem where diverse minds and scientific excellence converge for innovation

Benefits for users



Experiment/ Facility

- Ready-to-use laboratories (P1 gene recombination experiments and BSL2) for startups and academia
- Animal facilities (SNBL)



Expert consultation

- Access to non-confidential discussion with Astellas scientists



Networking opportunities

- Communication opportunities hosted by Astellas/BioLabs/ Mitsui Fudosan

Facilities to Support Office Work and Communication, Leveraging Astellas Location

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Astellas Research Center, SakuLab bldg. 3F/4F
Miyukigaoka 27, Tsukuba, Japan



Total floor area: 916 m²
SakuLab bldg. 3F/4F at Astellas Research Center
Office (hoteling style) / Private locker
Communication lounge
Meeting room
Parking for cars and bicycles

Access
50 min. by car from Narita International Airport
5 min by taxi from Kenkyu-gakuen station of Tsukuba Express

Ready-to-Use Laboratory Equipped for Chemical and Biological Experiments

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Expandable facilities for laboratory use, with a total space of 400 m²

- 2 rooms for chemistry with total 6 benches
- 4 rooms for biology with total 24 benches
- Allows P1 gene recombination experiments, BSL2 or below biosafety level experiments
- Access to animal experiment facilities(SNBL*) on-site

Examples of equipment

- Ultrapure water production equipment
- Safety cabinet
- CO₂ incubator
- Autoclave
- Multipurpose refrigerated centrifuge
- Small refrigerated centrifuge
- Deep freezer (-80°C)
- Freezer (-20°C)
- Refrigerator (4°C)
- Medium-sized constant temperature shaking incubator
- Ice maker
- Inverted microscope
- Precision electronic balance
- pH meter
- All-in-one fluorescence microscope
- Multi-mode plate reader
- Nanodrop
- LC-MS
- HPLC
- Ultrasonic cleaner
- Evaporator
- Automatic purification equipment



Easy Access to Non-Confidential Consultation by Astellas Scientists

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- Astellas scientists support lab users, leveraging Astellas' knowledge of various platforms and a wide range of processes in drug discovery



- We are currently expanding Astellas mentoring team beyond Research function to cover CMC, IP, Regulatory etc.

Astellas Mentoring Team – Capability Catalog

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	Capabilities
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MedChem: compound design/synthesis, high-throughput synthesis (combinatorial synthesis), degrader, ADC, mRNA/LNP, chemical library, DELs, virtual screening, etc • Biologics: Sequence design, research use biologics production, drug candidate screening, and drug candidate engineering, drug candidate profiling etc. for antibody, protein, and nucleic acids (mRNA etc.) modalities. • TS-PK/ADME: PK/ADME, Metabolite profiling, Bioanalysis, Visualization, Modeling & Simulation, Translational Science, Regulatory Science • Safety: Non-clinical Safety: scientific/regulatory strategies, general tox, histopath, clinpath, ophthalmology · genotox · safety pharmacol · immunotox · DART etc. • Human mimetics: development of in vitro human organ models and disease models • Research Program Implementation: nonclinical package, Research Target Product Profile (rTPP), timeline, risk identification & mitigation plan • Entrepreneurship, Research Strategy/Plan Development, Sharing the needs from Pharma, Networking, etc.
IP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IP strategies (including patent filing strategy) • IP landscape analysis
Technology & Manufacturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMC process/analytical/formulation development for various modalities • Pharmaceutical developability/manufacturability assessment • CDMO and raw material selection
Regulatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory strategies
Corporate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuation
BD•CVC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Plan Development, Networking, Financing
QA (Research)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Reliability
Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market information, Business intelligence
DigitalX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI drug design, Gen AI, Omics, Competitive intelligence, RWD, UMN, etc.

Application: Requirements and Conditions

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Scope	Pre-startups, startup companies, academia or research teams aiming to start a business Aiming to realize new healthcare solutions with innovative ideas and technologies, regardless of research theme, field or stage
Duration	1 year commitment *Subject to contract and negotiation
Monthly fee	198,000 JPY/bench (monthly, incl. tax: 217,800 yen) Fee includes (subject to contract): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One bench (W150 x D75 cm), one desk (hoteling style), usage of meeting rooms.• Water supply, sewage, fuel and light, air conditioning• General/Office disposal, security, environmental maintenance• Office equipment including amenities such as a key locker, Wi-Fi, and printers• Other facility maintenance and management expenses.• Parking lot fee.
Selection	The selection committee reviews fit for SakuLab-Tsukuba's vision, business/research focus, potential, financial status, capital plan etc in the screening process and an interview.
Others	No obligation for future collaboration with Astellas