

National Science Fund for Talent Training in Basic Science

In 2011, NSFC is planning to fund 26 projects for infrastructure building, 58 projects for capability improving and 14 projects for teacher-training.

The categories of projects and requirements

1. Project for the infrastructure building of talent training

This project aims at fostering practical ability by constructing a platform for creative talents with special strength and characters, so as to promote the coordinated development of knowledge, capability and quality, and provide strong support to high quality creative talents.

This project gives preferential support to the bases in the western and northeastern regions and newly established bases.

Contents of training: practical teaching ideas and training goals, experimental teaching system and content, content of supporting condition building and teaching functions, and expected goals, etc.

Number of projects to be funded: 26 projects in 2011.

Funding: 2 million yuan per project for 4 years.

2. Ability enhancing project

Ability enhancing project consists of two parts, one is to improve the research training of undergraduate students in basic disciplines and research abilities of graduate students of special disciplines, and the other is to support the improvement of field work for geology and biology.

(1) Project of research training and research ability enhancing

This project aims at promoting the synergy of research and education, and strengthening the research training and overall quality of undergraduate students. Applicant should make full use of existing research platforms such as national and provincial or ministerial labs, experimental education centers, etc., encourage teachers, especially frontline mainstay teachers to use research projects and university SRT projects to strengthen the research training of undergraduate students in science disciplines and the research

abilities of graduate students in special disciplines, so as to achieve the coordinated development of knowledge, ability and quality of the students.

Contents of the project: Plans, basic facts and main contents, and arrangement and expected targets of research training of undergraduate students, etc.

Application requirement: Applications made by colleges and departments, and supervisors as the PIs of sub projects.

Number of projects to be funded: 52 projects in 2011.

Funding: 4 million yuan per project for 4 years.

(2) Project of field experimental ability enhancement

This project is limited to the disciplines of geology and biology. It aims at improving the ability of students to do field experiment and solve problems. This project encourages the sharing of resources among universities, joint training and compensation of each other's strength. The principal applicant units should have the capacity of hosting students from other universities to do field research.

Contents of the project: Natural advantages of the field experimental base, existing facilities, contents of practice and arrangement, capacity of hosting students to do experiments and the relevant plans, and expected outcomes.

Number of projects to be funded: 6 projects (2 in geology and 4 in biology) in 2011.

Funding: 4 million yuan per project for 4 years.

3. Teacher training project

On the basis of the Eleventh Five-Year Plan, this project continues to support the training of high standard teachers through seminars on basic courses and training classes. It is intended to strengthen the academic and teaching capabilities of backbone teachers. Teachers from the western parts and remote regions of China are encouraged to take part in this type of projects in the hope of strengthening the radiating effects.

Project contents: Training, exchange activities and seminars for young backbone teachers on basic courses (or experimental classes) of mathematics, physics, chemistry, earth science and biology.

Application requirement: This project uses the contract system to appoint relevant universities responsible for the implementation and writing summary report of the project.

Number of projects to be funded: 14 projects in 2011.

Funding: 200,000 yuan per project for one year.