National Science Fund for Talent Training in Basic Science

The National Science Fund for Talent Training in Basic Science supports National Training Base for Research and Teaching Talents in Basic Science Disciplines (herein after called “the base” for short) and the development of special disciplines in universities. It is to encourage good combination of basic research and education, strengthening research training of undergraduate students, improve practical ability and research interests and creative thinking of students for developing high quality talents for scientific research.

I. The categories of projects and requirements

1. Program for the infrastructure building of talent training
   This program 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.

   The program gives preferential support to the bases in the western and northeastern regions of the country and newly established bases.

   Contents of the proposal: Practice teaching philosophy and training goals, experimental teaching system and content, content of infrastructure building and teaching functions, as well as expected goals, etc.

   Funding: 2 million yuan per project for 4 years.

2. Program for research training and ability enhancement
   The objective of the program is to promote integration of research and teaching, to enhance research abilities of undergraduate students, and improve overall qualities. The home institution should make full use of existing research platforms such as state and provincial and ministerial key labs and experimental teaching centers, encourage teachers to strengthen
research training of undergraduate students and abilities of research of graduate students in special disciplines through research projects and university SRT programs, so as to enable students to develop their knowledge, ability and quality in a comprehensive and coordinated way.

**Contents of the proposal:** Planning, basic facts and main contents, 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.

**Funding:** 4 million yuan per project for 4 years.

3. **Program for field experimental ability enhancement**

This program is focused on areas of geology and biology. It aims at improving the ability of students to do field experiment and solve problems. The program encourages the sharing of resources among universities, joint training and compensation of each other’s strength. The home institution should have the capacity of hosting students from other universities to carry out field research.

**Contents of the proposal:** Geographic advantages of the field experimental base, existing facilities, contents of practice and arrangement, capacity of hosting students to carry out experiments and the relevant plans, and expected outcomes.

**Application requirement:** In 2013, applications will be accepted only to extend funding by the 4 projects ending by the end of 2012, and field experimental bases in Yangtze River outlet and marine biology and ecology in nearby regions newly approved by the Seventh Meeting of the Third Management Committee of the National Science Fund for Talent Training in Basic Science.

**Funding:** 4 million yuan per project for 4 years.

4. **Program for talent training for special disciplines**

Special discipline refers to basic scientific disciplines that have long term social benefit, highly relying on NSFC’s funding and support from the government.
Application requirement: In 2013, applications for special disciplines will be accepted only for classic plant taxonomy and highland medicine which were approved by the Management Committee of the National Science Fund for Talent Training in Basic Science.

Project for talent training for special disciplines adopts policy of “free application, expert review and support the best”. The home institution applying for project for talent training for special disciplines should meet the following requirements:

1. Having the qualification to award Ph.D. in relevant discipline;
2. Having high quality research team and talent fostering system for the discipline;
3. Having sound research background;
4. Home institution of the applicant to plant taxonomy should have large scale and internationally influential herbarium, and that of the applicant to highland medicine should have a low pressure cabin to simulate highland environment that are needed by the research.

Universities and research institutes are encouraged to apply jointly. For joint applications, contents and responsibilities of collaboration should be defined in the proposal.

Contents of the proposal: It should be focused on the capability building of special disciplines, so as to expand their research achievements, stabilizing, optimizing and fostering research teams in special and endangered disciplines, and enhance their ability for serving the society. The funding is mainly used for research expenditure by the disciplinary leaders and the nurturing of new generations of talents.

Funding: 3 million yuan per project for 3 years.

5. Program for teacher training
This program is intended to strengthen the academic and teaching capabilities of teachers through seminars and workshops on basic courses. It continues to support the training of high quality teachers. Proposal of training course for teachers from the western and remote regions of China are encouraged.

Contents of the proposal: Training, exchange activities and seminars for young teachers on basic courses or experimental classes in areas of
mathematics, physics, chemistry, earth science and biology.

**Application requirement:** This program is carried out by contracts to appoint relevant universities responsible for the implementation and report.

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

## II. Notification

### Eligibility

Applicants for the program of the infrastructure building of talent training and research training and ability enhancement should be the responsible persons of the base (including trial bases) approved by the Ministry of Education.

Applicants for the program of field experimental ability enhancement should be in principle the responsible persons of the base, except that, after approved by the Bureau of Planning of NSFC, the responsible persons of the base may appoint other person with senior academic title to be the applicant.

Applicants for the program of talent training for special disciplines should have senior professional title.

The teacher training program will be implemented by contract to appoint relevant universities responsible for the project.