

Excellent Young Scientists Fund

As one of the program categories in the talent-training program, Excellent Young Scientists Fund is a good link between the existing the Young Scientists Fund and the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars, so as to promote fast growth of creative young talents. It is mainly to support young scientists who have 5 to 10 years research experience and certain research achievements with creative ideas and active in frontiers of science for conducting basic research in directions of their own choice.

I. Eligibility of applicants

1. Applicants should meet the following qualifications

- (1) Chinese citizenship;
- (2) Be under the age of 38 years old (man) by January 1 of the year of application (born on or after January 1 of 1976), and under the age of 40 years old (woman) by January 1 of the year of application (born on or after January 1 of 1974);
- (3) With senior professional position (title) and Ph.D. degree;
- (4) Have no official employment relations with foreign institutions;
- (5) Guarantee to work at home institutions for at least 9 months every year.

Young overseas Chinese scientists without Chinese citizenship may apply if meeting conditions of (2)-(5) listed above.

2. The following people may not apply

- (1) Do not have employer or employer is not home institution;
- (2) Have been awarded the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars, or Excellent Young Scientists Fund;
- (3) Applying for the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars this year;
- (4) Doing research at Post Doc station.

II. Notes to applicants

- (1) Key considerations in evaluation of applications to the Excellent Young

Scientists Fund include the basis of applicant's research experience and potential for innovation. When writing proposal, these two points should all be emphasized. For the background of research, the creativity and scientific merits of research results of the applicant should be described. For the potential of creative research, the scientific merit and creativity in proposed research, and feasibility of the research plan should be also described.

- (2) Please select "Excellent Young Scientists Fund" for funding category", and "research area" rather than specific title of the research project for the project title section of the application form.
- (3) It is not necessary to list "main participants", and the Excellent Young Scientists Fund mainly reviews the research ability and creative potential of the applicant only.
- (4) The funding for all financial grants obtained by the applicant from the central government agencies or local government should be mentioned in the application form.

In 2014, the Excellent Young Scientists Fund plans to support 400 projects, each for 3 years, with funding of 1 million yuan per project.

Funding of Excellent Young Scientists Fund in 2013

Department	Applications	Approved projects	Funding rate (%)
Mathematical and Physical Sciences	328	50	15.24
Chemical Sciences	443	58	13.09
Life Sciences	418	56	13.40
Earth Sciences	282	39	13.83
Engineering and Materials Sciences	550	74	13.45
Information Sciences	437	55	12.59
Management Sciences	111	14	12.61
Health Sciences	388	53	13.66
Total	2,957	399	13.49