

Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao

The Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao is an important category in the talent-training program of NSFC. In order to take advantage of the overseas (including Hong Kong and Macao) resources of science and technology and encourage overseas excellent young scholars to serve the country, NSFC sets up the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao to support overseas including Hong Kong and Macao excellent scholars under the age of 50 to conduct high-level joint research with researchers in mainland China.

The Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao adopts a “2+4” funding model, and extended funding may be applied at the end of the two year funding.

Two-year Funding Program

Eligibility of Applicants

- (1) Be under the age of 50 by January 1 of the year of application (born on or after January 1 of 1964).
- (2) Have good scientific integrity.
- (3) Hold professional title of associate professor (or above) in that country (or region).
- (4) Be engaged in scientific research abroad, in Hong Kong or in Macao, and in charge of a laboratory or an important research project, and have made outstanding academic achievements recognized by international peers.
- (5) Applicant should choose collaborator in mainland China, and sign

collaborative agreement with the home institution of the collaborator, which includes the title, research direction and proposed goals of the joint research project, the home institution commitment to provide main experimental facilities, human resources and other materials necessary for the joint research.

(6) The applicant should already have collaboration with their collaborators in mainland China and the proposed work should be in the area of international scientific frontiers.

(7) The applicant should promise to work in the home institution for more than 2 months every year.

Applicant or collaborator could only apply/hold one project of the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao.

Notes to applicants

(1) The Two-year Funding Program of the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao mainly evaluate the academic ability of the applicants and the background of the cooperation with their collaborators.

(2) Please prepare applications in accordance with the outlines for the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao, and submit with relevant supplementary documents, including: (i) valid and proved documents for his/her professional position and research work; (ii) agreement.

In 2013, the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao received 383 applications and 120 of them were funded with total funding of 24 million yuan, and average funding per project is 200,000 yuan.

In 2014, the Fund is planning to award 120 projects. Each project will be awarded for a period of 2 years with a funding of 200,000 yuan per project.

Extended Funding Program

Eligibility of applicants

(1) Grantees of the Two-years Funding Program of the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao, who have made substantial progress and finished their projects on time in

2011, or grantees who completed their projects on time in 2010 but did not apply for the Extended Funding Program or applied but not awarded with the extension funding.

- (2) Applicant has spent enough time in the home institution during the implementation of the Two-year Funding Program.
- (3) Applicant has signed the extended agreement of cooperation with home institution. The agreement should include the title, research direction and proposed goals of the joint research project, the home institution promise to provide main experimental facilities, human resources and other materials necessary for the joint research.
- (4) Proposed extended cooperation should be in the area of international scientific frontiers with important scientific significance, and facilitate the disciplinary development and talent fostering.
- (5) The applicant should promise to work in the home institution for more than 2 months every year.

Applicant or collaborator could only apply/hold one project of the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao.

Notes to applicants

- (1) The Extended Funding Program mainly evaluate the progress of the cooperative work, whether the proposed research for extended funding is at the frontier areas of research internationally, and the importance to disciplinary development and talent fostering.
- (2) Please prepare applications by providing accurate information in accordance with the *Outlines for the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao*, and submit with relevant supplementary documents, including, (i) valid and proved documents for professional position and research work; (ii) agreement.

In 2013, the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao received 61 applications for the Extended Funding Program and 20 of them were funded with funding of 40 million yuan.

In 2014, the Fund is planning to award 30 applications of the Extended Funding Program. Each project will be awarded for 4 years with a funding of 2 million yuan per project.