

Excellent Young Scientists Fund

The Excellent Young Scientists Fund supports young scholars with good achievements in basic research to conduct innovative research in areas of their own choice, so as to promote fast growth of creative young talents and foster a number of outstanding talents on the international science frontiers. It mainly supports applicants who meet the following qualifications:

- (1) Citizenship of the People's Republic of China;
- (2) Under the age of 38 (for male, born on or after January 1, 1978) or 40 (for female, born on or after January 1, 1976) by January 1 of the year of application;
- (3) Good scientific integrity;
- (4) Senior professional position (title) or PhD degree;
- (5) Experience of conducting basic research projects or other basic research;
- (6) No employment with foreign institutions;
- (7) Able to work in home institution for no less than 9 months per year.

Young Chinese scholars without Chinese citizenship may apply if they meet the conditions from (2) to (7) listed above.

The following people may not apply:

- (1) Grantees of the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars or the Excellent Young Scientists Fund;
- (2) Applicant for the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars in the same year;
- (3) Post-doctors and graduate students.

In 2015, NSFC received 3,520 applications for the Excellent Young Scientists Fund and granted 400 awards with a total funding of 520 million yuan for direct cost.

In 2016, the Fund plans to grant 400 projects, and the average funding is 1.3 million yuan per project for 3 years.

Funding of the Excellent Young Scientists Fund in 2015

Unit: 10,000 yuan

Department	Applications	Awards	Funding rate (%)
Total	3,520	400	11.36
Mathematical and Physical Sciences	388	47	12.11
Chemical Sciences	499	57	11.42
Life Sciences	544	59	10.85
Earth Sciences	349	39	11.17
Engineering and Materials Sciences	661	74	11.20
Information Sciences	564	59	10.46
Management Sciences	110	14	12.73
Health Sciences	405	51	12.59