

National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars

The National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars supports young scholars who have made outstanding achievements in basic research to select their own research directions and conduct creative research, so as to speed up the growth of young scientific talents, attract overseas talents and foster a group of prominent academic pacemakers in the forefront of international science and technology.

Eligibility for application:

- (1) Citizenship of the People's Republic of China;
- (2) Under the age of 45 by January 1 of the year of application (born on or after January 1, 1971);
- (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 years.

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) Post-doctors doing research or graduate students;
- (2) Grantees of ongoing project of the Excellent Young Scientists Fund (application is allowable on the year of completion of the ongoing project of the Excellent Young Scientists Fund);
- (3) Applicant for the Excellent Young Scientists Fund in the same year;
- (4) Having received the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars.

In 2015, NSFC received 2,148 applications for the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars and granted 198 awards with a total funding of 679.35 million yuan for direct cost.

In 2016, the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars plans to fund 200 projects, and the average funding is 3.5 million yuan per project for 5 years (2.45 million yuan per project for 5 years in the Department of Mathematical and Physical Sciences and the Department of Management Sciences).

**Funding of the National Science Fund for
Distinguished Young Scholars in 2015**

Unit: 10,000 yuan

Department	Applications	Awards	Funding rate (%)
Total	2,148	198	9.22
Mathematical and Physical Sciences	227	24	10.57
Chemical Sciences	315	30	9.52
Life Sciences	269	24	8.92
Earth Sciences	220	21	9.55
Engineering and Materials Sciences	431	38	8.82
Information Sciences	316	28	8.86
Management Sciences	70	7	10.00
Health Sciences	300	26	8.67