

NSFC Set Up Research Fellowship for International Young Scientists

The Provisional Scheme of the Research Fellowship for International Young Scientists was Recently Approved by the Council Meeting of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC), which marks the official inauguration of this research fellowship.

The primary objective of this research fellowship is to attract outstanding international young scientists doing basic research in the field of natural sciences in mainland China, and establish academic linkage for younger generation of scientists in increasingly globalized environment of basic research.

The research fellowship will provide excellent opportunities for international young scientists to promote research, establish stable partnership with Chinese researchers and understand Chinese society and culture. This is also of strategic importance to fostering Chinese research talents with international experience.

According to the implementation scheme, the home institutions in China under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education or the Chinese Academy of Sciences will provide research and living conditions for international young scientists, and NSFC will provide the research fund for them to carry out 6 or 12 months research projects. The project selection will be based mainly on education background, the ability to do basic research in the field of natural sciences, and past academic achievements, etc. of the international young scientists. The topics of research should be in the frontier areas and hot spots in current research disciplines.

This research fellowship is now still in the experimental stage. In 2009, the implementation procedures will be as the following. First, the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Ministry of Education recommend candidates and confirm their supports for research and living condition. Then candidates submit applications to NSFC, and NSFC reviews the application and makes funding decision. This research fellowship plans to support 50 international young scientists in 2009, and the total funding budget will be 10 million yuan RMB.