

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

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.

Two-year funding projects

Eligibility of Applicants

Scholars, who would like to apply for the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao, should meet all the following requirements:

1. Have good scientific integrity.
2. Be under the age of 50 by January 1 of the year of application (born on or after January 1 of 1962).
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.
5. Work in the home institution for more than two months every year.
6. Have made outstanding academic achievements recognized by international peers, and the proposed work should be in the area of international frontier sciences and already have collaboration with their collaborators in Mainland China.
7. Sign collaborative agreement with the home institution of the collaborator, which includes the following contents:
 - (1) The title, research direction and proposed goals of the joint research project;
 - (2) The home institution promises to provide main experimental facilities, human resources and other materials necessary for the joint research;
 - (3) The applicant promises to work in the home institution for more than 2 months every year.

Notification

(1) The Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao mainly evaluates the academic ability of the applicants and the basis for cooperation with their collaborators.

(2) Applicants should first find collaborator and sign the collaborative agreement with the home institution in Mainland China before applying for the Fund.

(3) Information about the collaborators should be provided in the first line of the “main participants” in the application form.

(4) Names of the applicants' institutions and the applicants' professional position (titles) should be provided in English.

(5) One applicant and his/her collaborator could apply for one project only in the corresponding period. In addition, they should have no on-going project of this category from NSFC.

(6) Applicant should provide valid proof documents for his/her professional position and research work.

Application and Submission

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.

After carefully checking the application and verifying the applicant's qualification, the home institution should submit the application to NSFC according to relevant requirements.

In 2011, The Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao received 411 applications, and funded 80, with funding of 16 million yuan. In 2012, this Fund plans to award 120 projects. Each project will be awarded for a period of 2 years, with a funding of 200,00 yuan.

Extended funding projects

The Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao adopts the "2+4" model. At the end of two years, the PI may apply for extended funding. After evaluation, another 4-year funding may be given to those who have been substantial cooperation and clear potential for further research.

Eligibility

1. Grantees of the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao project of 2009 and completed on time, grantees of 2008 and completed on time but did not apply for extended funding in 2011 or applied but not awarded the extension.

2. Applicants should spend enough time in the home institution during the project implementation.

3. Substantial progress and solid foundation for future cooperation should be made by the two-year project.

4. Proposed extended cooperation should be in the area of international frontier science with important scientific significance, and facilitate the disciplinary development and talent fostering.

5. Applicant has signed extended agreement of cooperation with home institution. The agreement should include the following contents:

(1) The title, research direction and proposed goals of the joint research project.

(2) The home institution promises to provide main experimental facilities, human resources and other materials necessary for the joint research.

(3) The applicant promises to work in the home institution for more than 2 months every year.

Notification

1. Applicant or collaborator could apply for one project only (the Two-year Funding or Four-year Extended Funding Project) and could not hold any on-going project of this category from NSFC.

2. The collaborator's information should be provided in the first line of the main participants in the application form.

Application and Submission

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.

After carefully checking the application and verifying the applicant's qualification, the home institution should submit the application to NSFC according to relevant requirements.

In 2011, The Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao received 46 applications for extension, and funded 20, with funding of 24 million yuan. In 2012, this Fund plans to award 30 extensions. Each extension will be awarded for 4 years, with a funding of 2 million yuan.