

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 to conduct creative research, so as to speed up the growth of young scientific talents, encourage overseas talents and foster a group of prominent academic pacemakers in the forefront of world science and technology.

Eligibility of applicants

- (1) Chinese citizenship;
- (2) Be less than 45 years old by January 1 of the year of application (born on or after January 1 of 1968);
- (3) Have good scientific integrity;
- (4) Hold senior professional position (title) or have Ph.D. degrees;
- (5) Have experience of conducting basic research projects or other basic research;
- (6) Do not have official employment relations with foreign institutions;
- (7) Guarantee to work in home institutions for at least 9 months every year.

Young Chinese scholars without Chinese citizenship may apply if meeting conditions of (2) to (7) listed above. Post doc or graduate students can not apply. Previous awardees of the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars cannot apply again.

Notification

- (1) The National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars bases its evaluation on the academic attainment and creativity of the applicant himself/herself. Names of “main participants” are not required in the application form.
- (2) Main academic achievements of the applicant should be provided in the abstract part of the application form.
- (3) Research area rather than specific research project title is required in the project title section.
- (4) For papers and citations, only a table of statistics is required.

Application and submission

Please follow the *Outlines of Writing Proposals for the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars*, provide accurate information, write the main text and attach relevant supplementary documents. The academic committees or expert panels of the home institutions should make rigorous selection according to the requirement, and sign the recommendation. After careful evaluation and verifying the status of full time employment of the applicant, they should submit the applications to NSFC in accordance with relevant requirements.

In 2012, the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars received 1,942 applications, and funded 200 projects, total funding amounts to 389.8 million yuan. In 2013, this Fund plans to award 200 projects, each for 4 years, with 2 million yuan per project (1.4 million yuan per project for those in mathematics and management sciences).