

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

- (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 1963).
- (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:
 - (i) The title, research direction and proposed goals of the joint research project;
 - (ii) The home institution commitment to provide main experimental

facilities, human resources and other materials necessary for the joint research;

- (iii) The applicant commitment 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 background of the cooperation with their collaborators.
- (2) Applicants should first confirm him/her 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 and proved 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 2012, the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao received 393 applications and funded 117 with funding of 23.4 million yuan. In 2013, this Fund is planning to award 120 projects. Each project will be awarded for a period of 2 years with a funding of 200,000 yuan per project.

Extended Funding Projects

The Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao adopts the “2+4” model of funding. At the end of two years implementation of the project, 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 two year funding in 2010 and completed on time, or grantees of 2009 and completed on time but did not apply for extended funding or applied but not awarded the extension funding.
- (2) Applicant has spent his/her enough time in the home institution during the two-year project implementation.
- (3) Substantial progress and solid foundation for future cooperation has been obtained by the 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:
 - (i) The title, research direction and proposed goals of the joint research project.
 - (ii) The home institution promises to provide main experimental facilities, human resources and other materials necessary for the joint research.
 - (iii) 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 2012, the Joint Research Fund for Overseas Chinese Scholars and Scholars in Hong Kong and Macao received 49 applications for extension funding and funded 20 with funding of 40 million yuan. In 2013, this Fund is planning to award 20 extension funding projects. Each extension funding project will be awarded for 4 years with a funding of 2 million yuan per project.