

2024 Application Guide for the International Young Scientists Program

The International Young Scientists Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Program") was established by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China in 2013 as an important mechanism to promote scientific and cultural exchanges between young scientists from China and abroad, assist developing countries in enhancing their scientific and technological capacities, foster young scientific leaders through cooperation, and promote practical international scientific cooperation. To elevate the organization and implementation of the Program to a new level in the new era and to better implement the "International Science and Technology Cooperation Initiative," this guide has been formulated based on the "Administrative Measures for the International Young Scientists Program" and relevant work requirements, to facilitate the application and organization work of the Program.

I. Goals and Principles

The Program adheres to the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind, advocates and implements the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, and the Global Civilization Initiative, and promotes the construction of the "Belt and Road" Innovation Road. It operates on principles of merit-based selection, people-centeredness, openness and inclusivity, and mutual respect and learning. The Program provides funding for eligible outstanding international young scientists, scholars, and researchers (hereinafter referred to as "International Young Scientists") to conduct work exchanges in China, with the aim of enhancing the scientific and technological capacity of partner countries, boosting innovation capabilities, promoting scientific and cultural exchanges between China and the world, and providing a quality platform for young scientists to learn from each other. The Program also seeks to build long-term and stable scientific cooperation partnerships with relevant countries, gathering consensus and strength to enhance mutual understanding among peoples.

II. Application Requirements

(1) Requirements for Chinese Host Institutions: Chinese host institutions must meet the following conditions:

1. Be a legally established research institute, university, or enterprise within mainland China, with the necessary foreign cooperation channels, research conditions, and legal status.
2. Be able to provide the necessary working conditions for the International Young Scientists during their stay in China.

3. Be capable of issuing an invitation letter for the International Young Scientists to work in China and assist them in obtaining entry visas, foreign residence permits, and other related documents.
4. Be able to advance funds to cover the International Young Scientists' living expenses in China before the Program's funding is received.
5. Be capable of providing matching funds to cover administrative expenses, necessary research equipment purchases, and domestic travel costs for the International Young Scientists.
6. Assign a department and person responsible for managing the International Young Scientists within the institution, handling queries, and submitting various materials such as progress reports, summaries, final accounts, and receipts to the program's implementing agency (China Science and Technology Exchange Center) in a timely manner.

(2) Job Requirements: The positions offered by the Chinese host institutions must meet the following requirements:

1. Be scientific research or science and technology policy positions with clearly defined responsibilities.
2. Not involve confidential work.
3. Not be for academic degree education.
4. Require the International Young Scientists to work alongside Chinese researchers.

(3) Eligibility Requirements for International Young Scientists: Candidates for the International Young Scientists program must obtain a recommendation letter from one of the following: the science management department of their home country's government, the national science foundation of their home country, the embassy or consulate of their home country in China, the Chinese embassy or consulate (mission) in their home country, or the Chinese Association for International Exchange of Personnel's overseas office (hereinafter referred to as "personnel recommendation agencies"). They must also meet the following criteria:

1. Be a citizen of a "Belt and Road" participating country or another developing country.
2. Hold a formal position in the aforementioned countries, engaged in scientific research or science and technology policy research.
3. Possess a doctoral degree or have at least 5 years of research experience.
4. Demonstrate high scientific research capability or potential.
5. Be under 45 years of age (calculated based on the date of the application for the position) and in good health.
6. Have good communication skills in English or Chinese.
7. Be able to work full-time in China during the application period.
8. Comply with Chinese laws, regulations, and other relevant rules.

III. Funding and Implementation

(1) Duration: The Program's project implementation period is divided into three categories based on the duration of the International Young Scientists' work in China: 3 months, 6 months, and 12 months.

(2) Funding Amount: The Program provides a funding amount of RMB 20,000 per month (before tax), amounting to RMB 60,000 for 3 months, RMB 120,000 for 6 months, and RMB 240,000 for 12 months. This funding is intended to cover international travel expenses, living expenses, housing rental, and insurance (insurance is mandatory and must at least include medical and accident insurance) during the stay in China. Additionally, the Chinese host institutions should provide matching funds to cover administrative expenses, research equipment, and necessary domestic travel costs.

(3) Funding Mechanism: The Program's funding is disbursed as a lump sum to the Chinese host institutions according to the duration of the International Young Scientists' stay in China (3/6/12 months). Upon receiving the funds, the Chinese host institutions will distribute the funds to the International Young Scientists on a monthly basis. The specific disbursement method is to be agreed upon between the Chinese host institution and the International Young Scientists. Taxes incurred during the disbursement to the host institutions and payments to the International Young Scientists are to be paid by the host institutions in accordance with their internal regulations and tax department requirements.

IV. Application Process

Both Chinese host institutions and International Young Scientists candidates must apply through the International Young Scientists Program's official website. The specific process is as follows:

1. The Chinese host institution applies for a parent account. After approval by the job recommendation review department (the relevant division, bureau, or department responsible for international scientific cooperation under the institution's jurisdiction, or the Science and Technology Department/Commission/Bureau of the province, autonomous region, municipality directly under the Central Government, or sub-provincial city where the host institution is located), the account is activated. The host institution's responsible person can create multiple sub-accounts for internal use.
2. The Chinese host institution submits job positions for review by the job recommendation review department. After preliminary review and final approval by the implementing agency, the positions are published by the agency.
3. The International Young Scientists candidates, after obtaining a recommendation letter from a personnel recommendation agency, can apply for positions through the International Young Scientists Program website.
4. The Chinese host institution selects candidates that match the job position from the pool of applicants, verifies their identity information, and issues an acceptance letter.

5. The Chinese host institution and the International Young Scientists candidates upload the application materials.
6. After preliminary review by the job recommendation review department and final review by the implementing agency, if the number of qualified International Young Scientists projects exceeds the planned quota, a review will be organized, and the results will be submitted to the program's managing department (Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology of China) for final approval.
7. The managing department determines the final project list based on the review results submitted by the implementing agency. The implementing agency issues an acceptance notice to the Chinese host institution through the International Young Scientists Program management system.
8. The Chinese host institution assists the International Young Scientists in handling the necessary procedures for working in China.
9. The Chinese host institution prepares funding documents, applies for funds from the respective funding sources, and the funds are disbursed after approval by the funding sources.

V. Application Deadline

The deadline for submitting applications for this year's International Young Scientists Program projects is September 16, 2024.

International Young Scientists Program Official Website:

<http://tysp.cstec.org.cn>