

Application Guide for Distinguished Young Scholars Fund

The Distinguished Young Scholars Fund is intended to support distinguished young scholars who have made certain achievements in basic and applied basic research in conducting innovative research in whatever fields they choose, to speed up the growth of young scientists with expertise in cutting-edge technology. There is no need to list participants for the Distinguished Young Scholars Fund projects.

I. Research Fields

There is no restriction on the research field. Applicants can choose one field of study in natural sciences, such as mathematics, physics, chemistry, life science, earth science, engineering materials, information, management science, and medicine.

II. Funding Amount and Duration

Each approved project will receive a lump-sum grant of **RMB 1 million** and have an implementation period of four years. Applicants should set the budget in accordance with relevant regulations including the *Regulations of Guangdong Provincial Department of Finance and Audit Office on the Management and*

Supervision of Project Funding in Provincial-level Research
(Guangdong Cai Gui [2019] No. 5).

III. Applicant Eligibility

Applicants shall meet the following criteria:

(I) **Be younger than 40 years of age (born on or after January 1, 1982) in the year of project initiation;**

(II) Have obtained a PhD degree or a vice-senior or higher professional title (Applicants shall upload their diploma or professional title certificates to the system);

(III) Have experience in basic and applied basic research projects at the provincial/ministerial level or higher (Applicants shall upload proofs for undertaking or participating in the projects to the system, such as the project contract, charter, or the approval of project conclusion).

(IV) Be full-time employees at Guangdong-based organizations supported by the Guangdong Basic and Applied Basic Research Fund (Applicants shall upload at least one of the following items to the system: certificate of employment, employment contract, and the certificate of coverage or tax payment for the last three months).

IV. Application Restrictions

(I) There is no limit on the number of applications submitted by an organization for the Distinguished Young Scholars Fund, but applicants shall meet the application requirements of Guangdong science and technology programs and the Guangdong Basic and Applied Basic Research Fund.

(II) An applicant shall not apply for the Distinguished Young Scholars Fund if he/she meets one of the following descriptions:

1. The applicant has been selected into any National Talent Programs;
2. The applicant is applying for or receiving the funding from other high-level talent programs of Guangdong;
3. The applicant is applying for or undertaking a project funded by a young talent fund at the same level in Guangdong;
4. The applicant is a project coordinator of a research team funded by the Guangdong Basic and Applied Basic Research Fund, or a recipient of the Distinguished Young Scholars Fund under the National Science Fund;
5. The applicant is a postdoctoral researcher working in a postdoctoral workstation.

V. Expected Results

The project leader should publish at least two papers offering significant academic contributions (subject to the funded projects purported), including at least one high-quality paper. After conclusion of the project, the project leader should become much more capable of undertaking major projects at the provincial or ministerial level and key/major projects at the national level, or become an academic leader at a higher level in his/her discipline.