

Guidelines for the Career Development Award

Academia Sinica

Approved on January 17, 2008
Amended on October 30, 2013
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Amended on November 27, 2017

1. Objective

Academia Sinica (AS) wishes to recruit and encourage young scholars who have an excellent track record and outstanding research potential, and offers research funding opportunities for a five-year fixed-term Career Development Award (the Award). The objective of the Award is to advocate world-class talent in Taiwan on research topics of international relevance. These guidelines are established to promote this end.

2. Candidate Eligibility

2.1 Full-time Associate Research Fellows and Assistant Research Fellows at AS.

2.2 Those who have been referred for the positions of Associate Research Fellows and Assistant Research Fellows at AS, and whose appointments are under review by the Divisional Appointment and Promotion Committee, AS, can also be candidates of the Award.

3. Referral Process

3.1 This award is on a referral basis. Research staffs who meet the above criteria can be referred by the following: the director or a member of the Advisory Committee of a research institute, preparatory office or research center; a member of the Central Academic Advisory Committee. The referral then needs to be approved by the Institute Council, Preparatory Office Council or Research Center Council.

3.2 Those who have been referred for the positions of Associate Research Fellow and Assistant Research Fellow at AS, and whose appointments are under review by the Divisional Appointment and Promotion Committee, AS, can also be candidates of the Award. Referrals for such candidates will be processed at any time upon request.

3.3 Referring institutes have to submit the following documents to the Department of Academic Affairs and Instrument Service:

3.3.1 Letter of referral.

3.3.2 Minutes of the Institute Council, Preparatory Office Council or Research Center Council.

3.3.3 Candidate's resume and publication list.

3.3.4 Research agenda for the next five years including: previous publications relevant to the intended project; description of current projects; future research plan and statement of interdisciplinary relevance, and relevance to the primary

field of study; funding status of current projects; annual funding needed for the five-year period; list of names of scholars or experts in the relevant field of research.

3.3.5 Reprints of five representative publications.

4. Review Procedure

4.1 Referrals need to be first assessed in the respective Institute Council, Preparatory Office Council, and Research Center Council.

4.2 Review Committees for the Division of Mathematics and Physical Sciences, Division of Life Sciences, and Division of Humanities and Social Sciences will be set up respectively. Expert comments in the relevant fields will be consulted before the second-round review is held to determine the awardees.

5. Funding Procedure

The awardees are granted a five-year fixed-term funding. In principle, the awardee's host Research Institute, Preparatory Office or Research Center and AS fund 50% of the grant respectively.

6. Assessment of Project

6.1 To assess the progress of the projects, the directors of the host Research Institute, Preparatory Office or Research Center need to each organize a project advisory team paneled by experts to provide feedback to the awardee's project.

6.2 Each awardee is required to submit an annual progress report during the project, a midterm report in the middle of the project, and a final report at the completion of the project. The midterm and final reports need to be approved by the project advisory team.

7. Important Points

7.1 The Award is not open to Research Fellows who have been granted the Academia Sinica Investigator Award.

7.2 The Award funding covers spending for research purposes only. The overall allocation of funds including staff hiring must comply with the AS general guidelines.

7.3 AS must be consulted of any proposed changes in the position of the awardee or fund use before such changes are made.

7.4 Should an awardee of the Award be involved in academic ethics violations, his or her case will be processed according to "The Guidelines for the Establishment and Operation of Ethics Committees at All Levels, Academia Sinica."

8. These guidelines shall be passed by the General Assembly and approved by the AS president before taking effect. The same procedure shall apply when amendments are made.