Guidelines for the “Academia Sinica Research Award for Junior Research Investigators”

Article 1 Purpose

Academia Sinica (hereinafter referred to as AS) has established these Guidelines in order to fulfill its legal mandate to reward outstanding academic research, encourage junior domestic scholars to conduct in-depth scholarly research and make important contributions to scholarly research.

Article 2 Description of Award

1. The “Academia Sinica Research Award for Junior Research Investigators” is conferred each year to scholars in the Divisions of Mathematics and Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, and Humanities and Social Sciences. Five awards are conferred to outstanding young scholars from each Division.

2. In cases where a research work receiving this Award has more than one main author, the Award shall be shared by the main authors.

Article 3 Eligibility

The applicant must have received a Ph.D. degree from a domestic public university, or a registered private university or independent college recognized by the Ministry of Education, or an overseas university or independent college approved by AS. In order to be eligible for this award, applicants must also meet the following requirements:

1. Applicants must not be over 42 years of age (Calculations are based on the applicant’s age on August 1 of the year of application.)

2. Applicants must be employed in a full-time position at a domestic academic research institution, or at a domestic public or private university or college. (This does not include post-doctoral researchers)
Article 4 Application Documents

1. Scholarly works that may be used to apply for this Award are restricted to those published within the past five years during an appointment at a domestic institution. (This does not include Ph.D. dissertations.) Acceptable scholarly works may consist of one representative work or a series of works (a maximum of three works may be submitted). Works may be written in languages other than Chinese.

2. Applicants must attach a list of research publications published within the past five years as well as two letters of recommendation from scholars or experts whose field of expertise is related to that of the applicant(s).

3. In cases where there is more than one author for a submitted work, all applicants shall apply simultaneously. Awards shall also be conferred at the same time.

The scholarly work and list of recent publications submitted in application for this award shall be from within the past five years (until August 1 of the year of application.)

Article 5 Description of Award

1. Each recipient of the “Academia Sinica Research Award for Junior Research Investigators” will receive 200,000 NTD, a research grant of 300,000 NTD and a medal. The research grant is restricted to the following purposes: a) to fund or subsidize the attending of overseas conferences by the recipient, by post-doctoral fellows, research assistants, or Ph.D. students. b) To employ assistants or purchase equipment or materials necessary for conducting research. The research grant award must be expended within two years beginning from the date on which the Award was conferred.

2. When multiple researchers receive the same Award for a given research work, each researcher may receive one medal. The research grant will be increased by 100,000 NTD for each additional recipient, but the cash award may not be increased for multiple award recipients.

3. In order to acknowledge the research achievements of the awardee(s) and encourage outstanding research, AS will confer this Award Medal at a public ceremony. A brief introduction of the awardees and the title of the awarded work will be posted on the AS website.

Article 6 How to Apply

Applicants shall submit an online application on the AS website. Applications will be accepted between August 16 and October 1 of each year.
Article 7 Application Review Procedures

1. A review committee shall be established for each of the three Divisions of Mathematics and Physical Sciences, Life Sciences and Humanities and Social Sciences. The President of AS shall appoint 9-15 members for each review committee.

2. After completion of the initial and secondary review procedures, the review committees shall compile a list of recommended candidates for each Division, based on the evaluations by experts from related fields within and outside of AS.

3. The final list of award recipients shall be determined by a joint meeting of committee members from all three Divisions.

Article 8 Disbursal of Funds and Verification of Budget

The award recipient shall submit a receipt of the amount disbursed for verification of the budget. For research grants, the research institute (or center) with which the researcher is affiliated shall submit a receipt to AS for the disbursal of research grants. Before the end of each fiscal year, original documentation shall be provided to AS for verification of the budget.

Article 9 Ethical Conduct

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, AS.”

Article 10 Promulgation

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.