

Application Instruction

Benyuan Fund - Young Investigator Exploration Grant in Life Sciences

This program supports fundamental research conducted by early career scientists, with the scientific creativity, drive, and uncompromisable integrity to go after the truth.

The foundation provides CNY800,000 in research funding, over maximum 5 years, to 3-5 junior principal investigators.

Application opens on 1st October 2026, and **ends at 18:00 (Beijing time), 30th November 2026**. The result will be announced at the end of March 2027. (At the present time, the program is only offered to applicants from institutions and universities in Mainland China.)

Eligibility

- Candidates must hold a Ph.D. or equivalent degree.
- Candidates must be members of the faculty of a college, university, or institution in Mainland China.
- Candidates must have operated an independent lab for no more than 7 years (commencement date after 2019-12-01), and must not have been awarded prominent grants or titles, including the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars (Young Scientist Fund A) and the Yangtze River Scholar, or other comparable honors, as of the application deadline (2026-11-30).

Materials required:

(Please combine the following materials into **ONE** PDF document)

1. Application form (download at www.benyuanfoundation.org)
2. A copy of photo ID (Chinese ID card or Passport)
3. Curriculum Vitae
4. Research statement (detail please see below)
5. Up to two selected publications (full length articles to be attached)

Research statement should include the following 3 components:

- **Vision statement:** outline your central research directions, vision for your research program, and its potential impact on the field of life science research (1-page maximum).
- **Previous research accomplishment:** summarize your previous research and academic accomplishment (1-page maximum).
- **Research plan:** although this is not a project-specific award, we request that you provide a proposal that exemplifies the types of projects being undertaken in your lab, including sections on summary, background/motivation, specific aims, experimental design, expected outcomes, and potential to transform the field (3-page maximum including figures/tables and references).

Formatting requirements:

- Please combine all files into **ONE** PDF file in the indicated order and send it to [<apply@benyuanfoundation.org>](mailto:apply@benyuanfoundation.org). Please name your application form as **Name_Tag1/Tag2_institution**, for example: John Smith_cell biology/immunology_ABC university.pdf. (Note: choose up to three tags)

Tag list: cell biology, neuroscience, immunology, microbiology, developmental biology, cancer biology, metabolism, nucleic acid & protein biochemistry, genetics, epigenetics, structural biology, bioinformatics & computational biology, systematic and evolutionary biology, biotechnology, chemical biology, plant biology.

- Research statement should be written in English. Minimum 0.5-inch margins and a minimum font size of 11 points. Smaller text in figures, tables, and captions is appropriate, if it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%. Please use adequate type density, line spacing, and font choice to ensure legibility.



Please bear in mind, due to heavy workload, we will not be sending reminders to those applications with format error or missing documents, those applications have been successfully accepted will receive a confirmation email.