SNSF Career Funding Schemes
Wide range of funding opportunities for your future career development

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The SNSF

Objectives

• Promote scientific basic research on behalf of the Confederation

One major priority

• Invest in young scientists and encourage them to pursue a career in research

Career funding schemes

• Young researchers at the same career level compete for support
• Apply for a fellowship (stay abroad)
• Apply for a grant (depending on the scheme: salary for grantee and project funds; project funds only)
Careers – Funding by scheme (data 2016)

- Doc.CH
- MD-PhD fellowships
- Doc.Mobility
- Early Postdoc.Mobility
- Advanced Postdoc.Mobility
- Marie Heim-Vögtlin grants (MHV)
- Ambizione
- Ambizione Energy
- SNSF professorships
- Assistant Professor (AP) Energy grants
- Promotion of Young Scientists in Eastern Europe
- Measures for promoting careers

Total: CHF 206.7 million
Career funding schemes abroad

Doc.Mobility

Early Postdoc.Mobility

Postdoc.Mobility *

* will replace Advanced Postdoc.Mobility as of 2018
Doc.Mobility

Aim
• Research stay abroad for doctoral students

Requirements
• Matriculation as a doctoral student for at least 12 months
• Swiss nationality or valid permit for Switzerland, or marriage resp. registered partnership with a Swiss national
• For foreign nationals: at least 1 years of activity at a Swiss research institution
Doc.Mobility

**Duration**
- 6-18 months

**Submission deadlines**
- 1 March 2018 and 1 September 2018 (earliest starting date: 2 - 4 months afterwards)
Early Postdoc.Mobility

(until 2020)

Aim

• Research stay abroad for postdocs starting their career

Requirements

• Doctorate (PhD): submission up to 9 months before and up to 2 years after the doctoral exam

• Medical training completed with a doctorate (MD): submission up to 6 years after the state examination [medical license]

• Swiss nationality or valid permit for Switzerland, or marriage resp. registered partnership with a Swiss national

• For foreign nationals: at least 3 years of activity at a Swiss research institution
Early Postdoc.Mobility

**Duration**
- 18 months (12 months possible if justified)

**Submission deadlines**
- 1 March 2018 and 1 September 2018 (earliest starting date: 2 - 4 months afterwards)
Postdoc.Mobility
(replaces Advanced Postdoc.Mobility)

Aim
• Research stay abroad for postdocs starting their career with a return option to Switzerland

Requirements
• Doctorate (PhD, MD-PhD) or completed studies in human, dental, veterinary, social or preventive medicine.
• Submission up to 3 years after the doctoral exam (PhD, MD-PhD); the date of the examination, respectively the defence of the doctoral thesis is the relevant date
• Medical researchers without MD-PhD: submission up to 8 years after the state examination [medical license] and at least 3 years of clinical activity after the state examination
• The eligibility window can be extended by a max. of 1 year (see Clause 1.11 para 2 of the General Implementaion Regulations)
• Swiss nationality or valid permit for Switzerland, or marriage resp. registered partnership with a Swiss national
• For foreign nationals: at least 2 years of activity at a Swiss research institution
Postdoc.Mobility

Duration

• Fellowship abroad: 24 months (but at least 12 months)
• Optional return phase in Switzerland: 3 – 12 months
• For EPM and APM fellowship holders: the maximum duration of fellowships abroad [EPM+APM+PM] may not exceed 36 months

Submission deadlines

• 1 February 2018 and 1 August 2018 (earliest starting date: 6 months afterwards)

✉️ fellowships@snf.ch
Mobility fellowships: Contribution

Fellowship contribution (research stay outside of Switzerland)
- Basic amount: CHF 40’000 – 70’500 per year, depending on scheme, host country and marital status
- Child allowance
- Travel allowance (outward and return journey incl. partner/children)
- Registration fees (partially, and only if justified)
- Conference costs
- Research costs (only granted in exceptional cases)

Optional return phase to Switzerland (Postdoc.Mobility only)
- Salary and social security contributions determined in agreement with the host institution
- Project funds (conference and research costs)
Mobility fellowships: Eligibility windows at the postdoctoral level
Career funding schemes within Switzerland

Doc.CH

PRIMA

Ambizione

Eccellenza
Aim
• Write a dissertation
• In the humanities and social sciences
• Topic of their own choice
• At a higher education institution in Switzerland

Requirements
• Master degree (or similar degree) with excellent marks
• Master degree from a higher education institution in Switzerland or similar foreign degree for applicants with Swiss nationality
• Submission to the Research Commission of the SNSF no more than 2 years after the master degree
• Generally at least one change of institution between bachelor and start of PhD or a planned stay abroad of at least one semester during doctoral studies
Duration
- 2 to 4 years

Eligible costs
- Grantee’s own salary (according to the SNSF salary scales for doctoral students)
- Costs directly related to project implementation: material of enduring value, consumables, travel and conference expenses, scientific open access e-publications (articles, digital books), etc.

Submission deadlines
- 10 March 2018 and 10 September 2018 (earliest starting date: ca. 7 months afterwards)
PRIMA

(Promoting Women in Academia)

Aim

• Selective promotion of excellent women researchers who have a potential for an academic career (i.e. to be appointed as a professor)
• Lead your own team to realise your independent research project

Personal requirements

• MD-PhD or PhD
• Applicants without a PhD/MD-PhD: 3 years of research activities as equivalent qualification
• Eligibility window: 2–10 years after PhD/equivalent qualification
• 2 years of postdoctoral research activity
• No formal mobility requirement for submission

Objective requirements

• Work-time percentage generally 100% (at least 80% in specific cases)
PRIMA

Duration
• 5 years (no follow-up grants)

Eligible costs
• Salary of grantee
• Project funds (personnel, equipment, consumables, travel, etc.)

Contribution
• Grantee’s own salary determined in agreement with the host institution
• Project funds: max. CHF 750’000 for 5 years

Submission deadline
• 1 November 2018 (earliest starting date: at least 10 months afterwards)
  ♦ prima@snf.ch
Ambizione

Aim
• Create conditions for starting an independent career in Switzerland

Personal requirements
• Postdoctoral research activities of at least 12 months at a different university from that of the dissertation
• Eligibility window: 1-4 years after PhD/equivalent qualification
• MD: at least 3 years of postgraduate clinical activity; up to 9 years after the medical license

Objective requirements
• Work-time percentage generally 100% (at least 80% in specific cases)
• Medical researchers doing clinical work: 80–90% project and training related to the project, minimum 10% clinical activities
Ambizione

Duration
• 4 years (no follow-up grants)

Eligible costs: the SNSF offers two kinds of grants
• Ambizione grant with salary: salary of grantee and project funds
• Ambizione project grant: only project funds
• Project funds (personnel, equipment, consumables, travel, etc.)
• Candidates with sufficient experience may apply for a PhD student

Contribution
• Grantee’s salary (if applicable) determined in agreement with the host institution
• Project funds: max. CHF 400’000 for 4 years

Submission deadline
• 1 November 2018 (earliest starting date: September 2019)
  ambizione@snf.ch
Eccellenza fellowships/grants
(replaces SNSF professorships)

Aim
• Enable your own team at professorial level to realise your independent research project
Eccellenza fellowships (salary of grantee and project funds)

- Eligibility window: 3–8 years after PhD/equivalent qualification
- MD: at least 3 years postgraduate clinical activity; up to 12 years after the medical license
- Postdoctoral research experience of at least 24 months at a different university from that of the dissertation; at least 12 months abroad
- Swiss university degree, Swiss nationality or at least 2 years of research activity in Switzerland

Eccellenza grants (only project funds)

- Assistant professor with tenure track in Switzerland
- Employment no earlier than 18 months before the submission deadline or due to commence on the project start date at the latest
- No requirement on eligibility window or mobility
Eccellenza fellowships/grants

Objective requirements

• Work-time percentage generally 100% (at least 80% in specific cases)
• **Eccellenza fellowships:** at least 80% research and further scientific education, 20% teaching
• **University of applied sciences:** devote at least 70% to research and further scientific education, 30% teaching
• **Medical researchers doing clinical work:** at least 50% research and training related to the project; up to 50% clinical activities
Eccellenza fellowships/grants

Duration
• 5 years (no follow-up grants)

Eligible costs
• Salary of grantee (assistant professor level; if applicable)
• Project funds (personnel, equipment, consumables, travel, etc.)

Contribution
• Eccellenza fellowships: salary of grantee determined in agreement with the host
• Eccellenza fellowships: project funds up to CHF 1’000’000 for 5 years
• Eccellenza project grants: project funds up to CHF 1’500’000 for 5 years

Submission deadline
• 15 February 2018 (earliest starting date: January 2019)
edisellenza@snf.ch
Overview eligibility windows

Eligibility windows 2021

- **Project funding**
- **Eccellenza**
- **Ambizione**
- **PRIMA**
- **Postdoc Mobility**

Years prior to/after PhD
-1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Further information

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