



Postdoc.Mobility fellowships & Doc.CH grants

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SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



Mobility fellowships

Research stay abroad



Data: Fellowships by Host Country (2005-2018). p3.snf.ch



Mobility fellowships

For PhD students:

Doc.Mobility

Last submission deadline: 1 September 2020
Doc.Mobility is discontinued. As of 2021, the universities assume the responsibility of funding mobility for doctoral students who are not employed in SNSF projects.

For postdocs starting their career:

Early Postdoc.Mobility

Last submission deadline: 1 September 2020
The scheme will be merged with Postdoc.Mobility in 2021.

Postdoc.Mobility



Postdoc.Mobility



Aim

- Research stay abroad for postdocs starting their career (24 months in principle, but at least 12 months) with a return option to Switzerland (3 – 12 months)



Personal requirements

- Doctorate (PhD, MD-PhD) or completed medical studies in human, dental, veterinary, social or preventive medicine with a doctorate (MD), or completion of the doctorate within the next 9 months
- Applicants without a doctorate: eligible if 3 years research after their higher education degree (equivalent qualification)
- Submission up to 3 years after the doctoral exam (PhD, MD-PhD)
- Medical researchers without MD-PhD: submission up to 8 years after the state examination and at least 3 years of clinical activity
- Link with Switzerland
- At least 2 years of activity at a Swiss research institution for applicants with foreign nationality



Postdoc.Mobility



Annual contribution 2021

- Basic amount: CHF 45'000 – 60'000 (host country)
- Child allowance: CHF 12'000 per child
- Travel allowance (outward and return journey incl. partner/children)
- Research funds (research and conference costs): max. CHF 4'000

Postdoc.Mobility return option grant

- Salary incl. social security contributions



Submission deadlines

- 1 February and 1 August




Doc.CH




Doc.CH

Aim

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

Requirements

- 
- Master (or equivalent degree) from a Swiss higher education institution with very good marks
 - Researchers with a foreign master are Swiss or matriculated at a Swiss higher education institution at the time of the submission deadline
 - Submission no more than 3 years after the master degree
 - 2 persons supervising the doctoral thesis: one at the Swiss higher education institution at which the applicant will be employed; one at another Swiss higher education institution or abroad





Doc.CH



Universities of applied sciences (UAS) and Universities of the teacher education (UTE)

Positions for doctoral students...

- are approved if there is a **proven well-documented scientific working relationship with a university in Switzerland**;
- are not approved for doctoral students enrolled **abroad** (general rule). Exceptions if there are no partners at university level in Switzerland. The doctoral student must be **employed at the UAS or UTE in Switzerland**.



Doc.CH



Duration

- From 2 to 4 years



Eligible costs

- Grantee's own salary
- Costs directly related to project implementation



Submission deadlines

- 15 March and 15 September

10 September 2020: last call in which the Research Commissions conducted the preselection.
As of 2021, the preselection will be conducted directly at national level.

How to submit an application?

Doc.CH



SNSF 11.11.2020 - 16

Mobility fellowships



Research creates knowledge.

How to submit an application?

Important facts in a nutshell:

- Submission via www.mySNF.CH
- Evaluation:
 1. Formal verification
 2. Scientific assessment (quality-based criteria)
 3. Selection in a competitive procedure
- Decision: about 4-5 months after submission (according to the scheme)

1. Personal data

#	No./Title	Status
1.1	Responsible applicant	In preparation
1.2	Contact address CH	In preparation
1.3	Designated host lab / Institution	In preparation
1.4	Contact person of designated host institute	In preparation

2. Application data

#	No./Title	Status
2.1	References	In preparation
2.2	Reference letter - Statements	In preparation
2.3	Basic data I	In preparation
2.4	Basic data II	In preparation
2.5	Use-inspired project	In preparation
2.6	Re-submission	In preparation
2.7	Link to other SNSF projects	In preparation
2.8	Available or requested funds	In preparation
2.9	Requested funding	In preparation
2.10	Research requiring authorisation or notification	In preparation
2.11	Diploma/PhD and extension eligibility period	In preparation
2.12	General remarks on the project	In preparation

3. Annexed documents (upload)

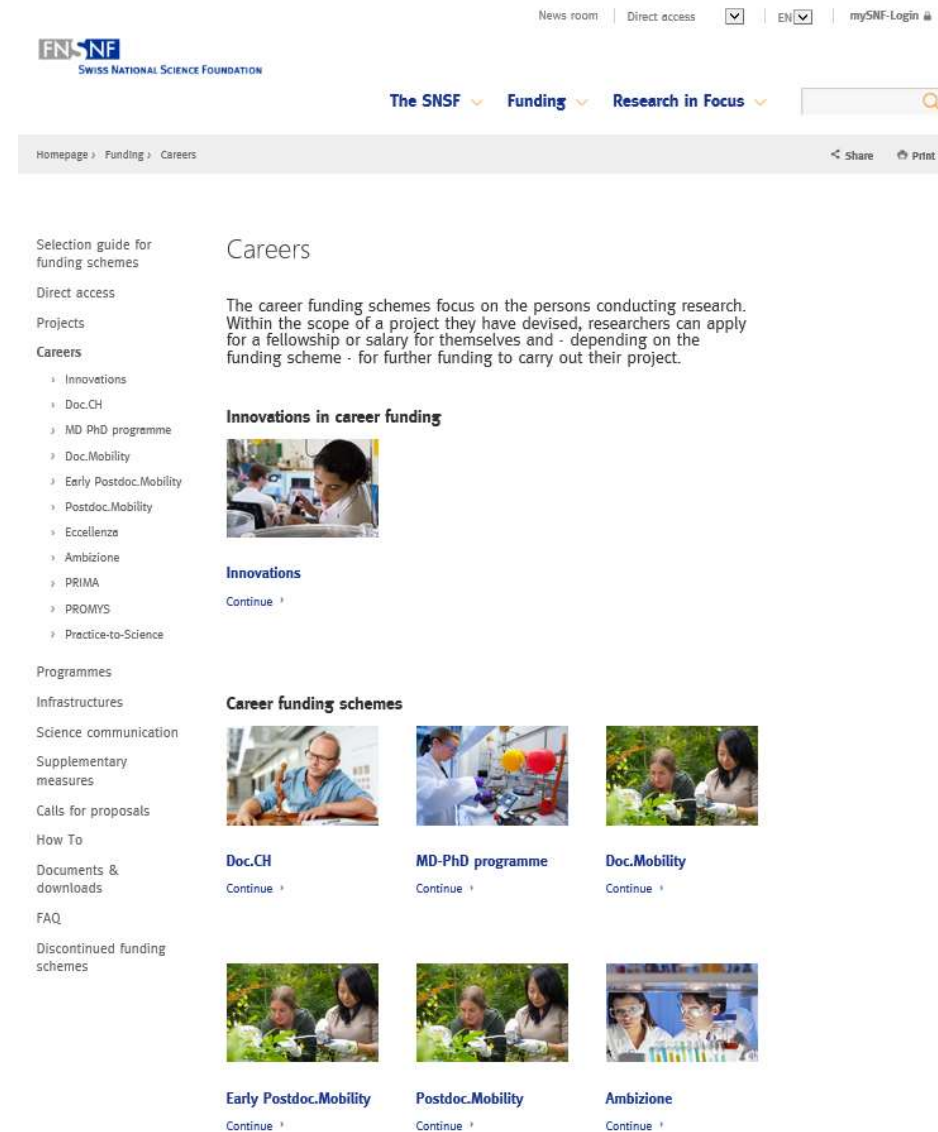
#	No./Title	Status
3.1	Research plan	In preparation
3.2	CV/major scientific achievements	In preparation
3.3	Research output list	In preparation
3.4	Net academic age	In preparation
3.5	Statement of Mobility	In preparation
3.6	Career plan	In preparation
3.7	Copy diplomas	In preparation
3.8	Confirmation host institute	In preparation
3.9	Authorisation third party funding	In preparation
3.10	Family register, children's certificate-s	In preparation
3.11	Swiss passport or residence permit	In preparation
3.12	Cover letter	In preparation
3.13	Other annexes	In preparation
3.14	Administrative part of the application	In preparation

Submit grant application

Writing a proposal

All relevant information can be found on the SNSF website and on mySNF

- Regulations on the schemes
- Guidelines for submitting a proposal
- Information set (insurances, taxes,...)
- Fellowship rates
- Website, FAQs



The screenshot displays the SNSF (Swiss National Science Foundation) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'News room', 'Direct access', and 'mySNF-Login'. Below this, the SNSF logo and name are visible. The main navigation menu includes 'The SNSF', 'Funding', and 'Research in Focus'. A breadcrumb trail shows 'Homepage > Funding > Careers'. The 'Careers' section is highlighted, and a sidebar on the left lists various categories: 'Selection guide for funding schemes', 'Direct access', 'Projects', 'Careers' (with sub-items like 'Innovations', 'Doc.CH', 'MD PhD programme', etc.), 'Programmes', 'Infrastructures', 'Science communication', 'Supplementary measures', 'Calls for proposals', 'How To', 'Documents & downloads', 'FAQ', and 'Discontinued funding schemes'. The main content area for 'Careers' includes a paragraph explaining that career funding schemes focus on researchers applying for fellowships or salaries. Below this, there are sections for 'Innovations in career funding' (with an image of a person working) and 'Career funding schemes'. The 'Career funding schemes' section features a grid of six cards, each with an image and a title: 'Doc.CH', 'MD-PhD programme', 'Doc.Mobility', 'Early Postdoc.Mobility', 'Postdoc.Mobility', and 'Ambizione'. Each card has a 'Continue' link.



Some advice



- Start planning your submission **early**: deadlines are strict and non-negotiable
- Read and follow the **guidelines**
- Pay attention to the **SNSF website**: the legally valid **conditions** can always be found at www.snsf.ch > Funding > Careers
- Invest **enough time** for preparing all required documents (e.g. reference letters, confirmation host institute,...)
- You are **competing** with dozens of applicants, i.e. your proposal must stand out and make a difference
- Register on **mySNF** as early as possible (scheme open 3 months before deadline)
- Question “rumors/myths” from third parties: **If you have questions, contact the SNSF**
Postdoc.Mobility: pm@snf.ch
Doc.CH: Doc.CH@snf.ch



Research plan



- Every scheme has specific guidelines/instructions
- Prescribed number of pages, number of characters, font size and line spacing must be complied with
- Research plan should be well structured
- Research plan should be understandable for experts (within area of research) as well as for people in the wider discipline
- In general: come quickly to the point



Evaluation criteria



- **Project**

- Scientific relevance, originality and topicality
- Suitability of methods and feasibility

- **Applicant**

- Scientific research output of the applicant
- Expertise with regard to the proposed project

- **Career funding (additional criteria)**

- Mobility (past and future)
- Research/Host institution

SNSF signed DORA: San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment

Possible reasons for a rejection



- Lack of details with regard to the **evaluation criteria**
- Not clearly demonstrated **experience** or **expertise** in the field of the project
- Unclear or missing **own contribution** to the project (⇒ early independence)
- **Aims, research questions** or **hypotheses** unclear or not well defined
- Lack of **coherence**, lack of **focus**
- Missing **references** to sources, archives, literature or competitors
- **Theoretical framework** is not clear
- Not enough details about the **experimental approaches**
- Unclear, outdated or inappropriate **methods**
- Overambitious, too much to do, **feasibility** not clearly given
- No **backup plan**
- ...



If you are not successful ...



First...

- read carefully the decision letter
- if you have questions, ask the SNSF Administrative Office for clarifications

If you are thinking of resubmitting,...

- check if you still fulfil all formal requirements for the same funding scheme
- take into account the points criticised by the commission
- list and explain your revisions made in the point-by-point response

If you strongly disagree with the decision,...

- you can ask for reconsideration or appeal against the decision



Further information



SNSF: pm@snf.ch; Doc.CH@snf.ch

www.snsf.ch



Facebook.com/snf.fns.snsf.ch



Youtube.com/SNSFinfo



Instagram.com/swissnationalsciencefoundation



LinkedIN.com/company/snsf



Twitter.com/snsf_ch