



Ambizione – PRIMA - Eccellenza

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SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



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Careers



*PhD or 3 years of research experience



Ambizione

Your first step towards scientific independence!

Ambizione



Aim

Lead an independent research project at a Swiss research institution



Personal requirements

Researchers

- Doctorate or equivalent (3 years of research after the higher education degree)
- Research activities of at least 12 months after doctorate
- Submission up to 4 years after doctorate

Researchers who do clinical work

- Medical degree
- Research activities of at least 12 months and clinical activities of at least three years after medical degree
- Submission up to 9 years after medical degree

Ambizione



Duration

- 4 years



Eligible costs

- Ambizione grant: applicant's salary, project funds (CHF 400,000 max.)
- Ambizione project grant:
Project funds (CHF 400,000 max.)



Submission deadlines

1 November



PRIMA (Promoting Women in Academia)

The stepping stone to your professorship!

PRIMA

Aim



Lead an independent research project and a team at a Swiss research institution in order to become competitive for a professorship

Personal requirements

Researchers

- Doctorate or equivalent (3 years of research after the higher education degree)
- At least 2 years of research experience after doctorate
- Submission up to 10 years after doctorate

Researchers who do clinical work

- Medical degree
- At least 3 years of clinical activity and at least 2 years of research activities after the medical degree
- Submission up to 14 years after the medical degree

PRIMA



Duration

- 5 years



Eligible costs

- Grantee's salary and project funds (CHF 750,000 max.)



Submission deadlines

1 November



Eccellenza

Launch your own research project as an assistant professor with your team!

Eccellenza Professorial Fellowships



Aim: Conduct an independent research project as an assistant professor with your own team at a Swiss higher education institution.



Personal requirements

Swiss link: Swiss higher education degree, Swiss national or at least two years spent working as a researcher in Switzerland

Researchers:

- Doctorate or equivalent (3 years of research after the higher education degree)
- At least 3 years of research experience after doctorate
- Submission up to 8 years after the doctorate

Researchers who do clinical work:

- Medical degree
- At least 3 years of clinical work and at least 2 years of research experience after medical degree
- Submission up to 12 years after obtaining the medical degree

Eccellenza Professorial Fellowships



Duration

- 5 years



Eligible costs

- Project funds of up to CHF 1,000,000
- Grantee's salary (at assistant professor level)



Submission deadlines

1 February



Career Funding Schemes

How to prepare an application

General remarks



- Check your eligibility (regulations are online)
- Start planning your application and submission early (deadlines are strict and non-negotiable)
- Register on mySNF and contact the potential research institution as early as possible



- Read the guidelines before writing the proposal
- Question “rumours/myths” you hear from third parties
- If you have any questions, contact the SNSF

Guidelines/Remarks



- Every scheme has specific guidelines/instructions
- Prescribed number of pages, number of characters, font size and line spacing: the length and format of the research plan must be respected
- Research plan should be understandable for experts (within area of research) as well as for people in the wider discipline



- In general: Get to the point!

Scientific evaluation criteria: Applicant

Career development

- Education
- Acquired expertise
- Scientific independence

Research output

- Quality
- Research output at various career stages
- Productivity (qualitative output in relation to net academic age)
- Impact in the research field
- Expertise required for the submitted research project

Statement of mobility and career plan

- Past and future/planned mobility
- Missing physical mobility can be compensated
- Different types of mobility: institutional and international mobility, networking, sectoral, interdisciplinary, knowledge transfer



Project

Scientific relevance, originality and topicality

Approach and methodology

Feasibility

- Taking into account the applicant's expertise

Research institution



Assessment of added value of chosen research institution

- Scientific support and suitability with regard to implementing the project
- Opportunities for continuous intellectual development and training
- Fostering the applicant's independence

Research institution



Written confirmation from the research institution

- Templates available on the website of the corresponding funding scheme
- Written confirmation from the research institution consists of two separate letters:
 - **Detailed confirmation** signed by the contact person **and** the head of the institute/department (integration, support, independence, assessment of planned project, etc.)
 - **General confirmation** by the vice rectorate for research (or equivalent)

Steps in the evaluation procedure

Submission of application (Ambizione, PRIMA, Eccellenza)

Administrative Offices

- check formal and personal requirements
- assign referee and co-referee

Evaluation phase 1

- Evaluation by committees/panels

Decision on evaluation phase 1 by Specialised Committee Careers

- Rejection phase 1 or invitation phase 2

Evaluation phase 2 (interviews with applicants)

- Peer-reviewing
- Evaluation by committees/panels

Provisional decision on evaluation phase 2 by Specialised Committee Careers and final approval by Presiding Board of the National Research Council

- Rejection phase 2 or funding

Communication of decisions by the Administrative Offices

If you are not successful ...

... please first:

- Read the decision letter carefully
- External reviews may contain more information (sent out only if invited to the interview)
- Cross-check with the decision
- If you have questions, ask the SNSF Administrative Offices to clarify
- Possibility of asking for reconsideration or of appealing against the decision

Can you improve your application?

- If rejected, you can at the most apply a second time for the same funding scheme, provided you still meet all the formal requirements
- List and explain the changes made to the former version of the project

Further information



www.snsf.ch



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