



## Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

# Postdoctoral Scholarships

**Academic year:** 2016-2017

**Country:** Belarus

**Opening of the Call:** 07.09.2015

**Submission Deadline:** 07.12.2015

### Scholarship



Swiss Government Excellence Postdoctoral Scholarships for foreign researchers

### Offered by



The Swiss Government through the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS

### Objectives



To enable selected applicants to undertake a postdoctoral research in one of the 10 Swiss Public Universities, the two Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology, the public teaching and research institutes and the Universities of Applied Sciences.

### Universities



[University of Basel](#) / [University of Bern](#) / [University of Fribourg](#) / [University of Geneva](#) / [University of Lausanne](#) / [University of Lucerne](#) / [University of Neuchâtel](#) / [University of St. Gallen](#) / [University of Zurich](#) / [University of Lugano](#)

### Federal Institutes of Technology



[Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne \(EPFL\)](#)  
[Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich \(ETHZ\)](#)  
[Research Institutes of the ETH Domain \(PSI; WSL; EMPA; EAWAG\)](#)

### Teaching and Research Institutes



[Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies \(IHEID\)](#)

### Universities of applied Sciences



[University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland](#) / [Bern University of Applied Sciences](#) / [University of Applied Sciences Northwest Switzerland](#) / [University of applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland](#) / [Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts](#) / [University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland](#) / [The Zürcher Fachhochschule](#)

### Validity



The Scholarship is only valid for a full time postdoctoral research in Switzerland. It is not valid for mixed postdoctoral research (part time in Switzerland and part time in a third country).

### Target Group



Highly qualified postdoctoral researchers from all academic fields.

<b>Duration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ 12 months (starting in September) no extension possible</li> <li>Grant applications for stays lasting less than 9 months will not be treated as a priority. Grant applications for stays lasting less than 6 months will be rejected.</li> </ul>
<b>Amount and additional allowances</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of 3'500 Swiss Francs.</li> <li>⇒ Exemption of the tuition fees (except for EPFL).</li> <li>⇒ For non-EU and EFTA grantees only: Mandatory Swiss Health insurance paid by the FCS.</li> <li>⇒ A lump sum for air fare for non-European grantees only (provided at the end of the scholarship).</li> <li>⇒ Special 300 Swiss Francs housing allowance (paid once at the beginning of the scholarship).</li> <li>⇒ 1 year half-fare public transportation card.</li> <li>⇒ Counseling and various trips, dinners and sight-seeing tours organized for Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holders.</li> </ul>
<b>Eligibility Criteria and specific conditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ PhD degree</li> <li>⇒ There cannot be a gap of more than 5 years between the award of the PhD and the application deadline.</li> <li>⇒ Applicants who are in Switzerland for more than 1 year at the beginning of the scholarship in September are not eligible.</li> <li>⇒ Applicants must provide a letter (or e-mail) from a Professor from the Swiss host institution stating that they are willing to supervise the postdoctoral research. Without such a confirmation the application will be rejected.</li> <li>⇒ Applicants must have a research proposal including a timeframe (this is the central piece of the application. The applicant must devote all required attention to it).</li> <li>⇒ Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the postdoctoral research.</li> <li>⇒ Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship.</li> </ul>
<b>Selection Criteria</b>	<p>The following dimensions and selection criteria are considered mainly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ The candidate: Her/his academic profile and research capacity.</li> <li>⇒ The research project: It's originality and methodological soundness.</li> <li>⇒ The academic context: The quality of supervision and the potential for future academic cooperation.</li> </ul>
<b>Application Procedure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ The application package can be obtained by e-mail from the Swiss Embassy in Minsk.</li> <li>⇒ The deadline for the submission of applications is 07.12.2015</li> <li>⇒ Applications have to be submitted in 3 sets with the indicated number copies (hard copies only). The 1<sup>st</sup> set contains the original, signed documents and the attested translations. The other 2 sets are the copies of the 1<sup>st</sup> set. For details see the Application Guidelines available at your contact institution (see below).</li> </ul>
<b>Application Time Framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Opening of the call: 07.09.2015</li> <li>⇒ Application Deadline: 07.12.2015</li> <li>⇒ Selection Interview, ask: Swiss Embassy</li> <li>⇒ Beginning of the scholarship: 01.09.2016</li> </ul>

## Application documents

(Please provide 3 sets of copies on A4 paper. Please do not staple the documents and/or put them into plastic sheets or binders).

- ⇒ The FCS 2016-2017 official application form (typed and printed). No handwritten forms will be accepted.
- ⇒ Copies of all university certificates and grade-sheets (all copies must be attested, and translated if originals are not in English, German, French or Italian. Attestations can be done by the University or a Government Officer.
- ⇒ 2 letters of recommendation from Professors in the applicants field (use exclusively the official reference form provided with the application package).
- ⇒ A complete research proposal (max. 5 pages), use exclusively the official research proposal form provided with the application package.
- ⇒ A motivation letter (max. 2 pages).
- ⇒ A full curriculum vitae with list of academic publications.
- ⇒ A copy of the confirmation from a Professor at the intended Swiss University that they are willing to supervise the Postdoctoral Research.
- ⇒ Include a short CV of your academic supervisor.
- ⇒ A health certificate (use exclusively the official health certificate provided with the application package).
- ⇒ Each application set with two copies of the passport (main page with personal data).

## Contact institution for the application

- ⇒ Questions and application documents, have to be submitted at the following address:
- ⇒ Swiss Embassy in Minsk  
pl. Svobody, 11, 220030 Minsk
  
- E-mail: [min.vertretung@eda.admin.ch](mailto:min.vertretung@eda.admin.ch)
- Tel: 00375 17 222 44 72
- Web: [www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/home/reprs/eur/vblr/afobel.html](http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/home/reprs/eur/vblr/afobel.html)

## Summing up

- ⇒ The FCS 2016-2017 official application form with photo
- ⇒ CV with list of publications
- ⇒ Motivation letter (max. 2 pages)
  
- ⇒ A copy of the confirmation from a professor at the intended Swiss university stating that they are willing to supervise the research (incl. a short CV)
- ⇒ 2 letters of recommendation from professors (use the FCS form only)
  
- ⇒ A complete and signed research proposal (max. 5 pages) using exclusively the official FCS research proposal form provided with the application package
  
- ⇒ Photocopies of certificates from previously attended university/colleges and diplomas with grades
  
- ⇒ Medical certificate (use solely the official FCS form)
- ⇒ Two copies of passport