Andes to Alps: Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

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May we Introduce Ourselves?

The International Scholars Center supports international postgraduate students re non-academic questions:

- Visa and entry into Switzerland
- Registration in Zurich
- Health Insurance
- Getting settled in Zurich
- ...and many more topics

www.isc.uzh.ch
Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

- The Swiss Confederation awards Government Excellence Scholarships each year
  - Promotion of international exchange and research cooperation between Switzerland and over 180 countries.
  - Recipients selected by the awarding body: The Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students (FCS)

- Who?
  - Young researchers from abroad
    - Master’s Degree
    - PhD
    - Foreign Artists: Bachelor’s Degree
Which types of scholarship are available?

- Research Scholarships
  - Postgraduate researchers in any discipline who hold a master’s degree

- Art Scholarships
  - Art Students wishing to pursue an initial master’s degree in Switzerland
What are the selection criteria?

The FCS assesses scholarship applications according to three criteria:

a) Candidate profile
b) Quality of the research project or artistic work
c) Synergies and potential for future research cooperation
How does one apply for a Swiss government excellence scholarship?

Select your country of origin (according to your passport)
- Check the application deadline and the different types of scholarships on offer

How do you obtain the application forms?
- Via email from the Swiss Embassy of your country of origin or from the competent national institution mentioned on the website

Where can you find specific details about the scholarship?
- Documentation concerning the specific scholarships available in your country of origin
When is the next call for scholarship applications?

- The call for scholarship applications for the next academic year will be open in August
  - The FCS will select scholarship holders for the 2021-22 academic year by the end of May 2021. Scholarships for the 2022-23 academic year will be advertised online from August 2021.
  - Decision of FCS by the end of May of the following year
Application Procedure in a Nutshell

1. **Release of programme for 180+ countries**
   - Go to [www.sbfi.admin.ch/scholarships_eng](http://www.sbfi.admin.ch/scholarships_eng) early August

2. **Call for proposals**
   - Get the application package from the Swiss representation this September

3. **Submission deadline at Swiss representation**
   - Note: This date varies from country to country September - December

4. **Selection**
   - By the Federal Commission for Scholarships FCS by the end of May

5. **Start of scholarship**
   - At the Swiss academic host institution next September
FAQs for Scholarship Applicants

- High number of applicants / highly competitive
  - Careful preparation and your targeted approach are key

- Who can help me find an academic supervisor?
  - Own responsibility to find a suitable research supervisor

- What should I do before contacting a professor?
  - Supervisor works in your research field
  - Possession of all the qualifications required for the scientific collaboration
  - Further Information in this context: https://youtu.be/kp4NnqZ2T00
«I benefited a lot in my research and on a personal level. What I really appreciate is that this scholarship is fully supporting you with coordinator during the whole period of your stay.»

ESKAS grant holder from Kazakhstan
«The quality of the training and access to the databases was just incredible. The welcome and the support for the fellows was visible despite the COVID restrictions.»

ESKAS grant holder from Cameroon
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION
Links


www.sbfi.admin.ch/scholarships_ENG