



Swiss National Science Foundation Opportunities for Career Funding

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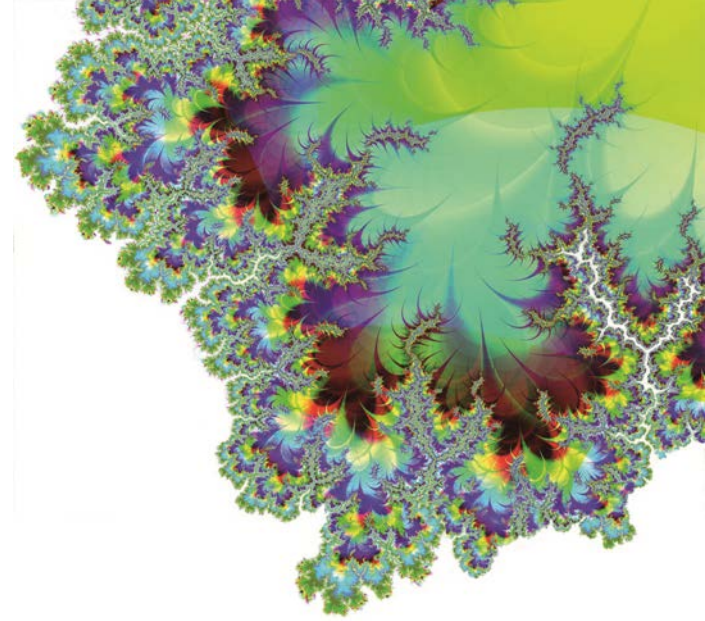
Max Weber Programme - Academic Careers Observatory Conference



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Contents

- Brief presentation of the SNSF
- Career funding schemes outside of Switzerland
- Career funding schemes within Switzerland
- Overview of the evaluation criteria (and procedure)





The Swiss National Science Foundation SNSF

Mission Statement

- Promote scientific basic research on behalf of the Swiss Confederation

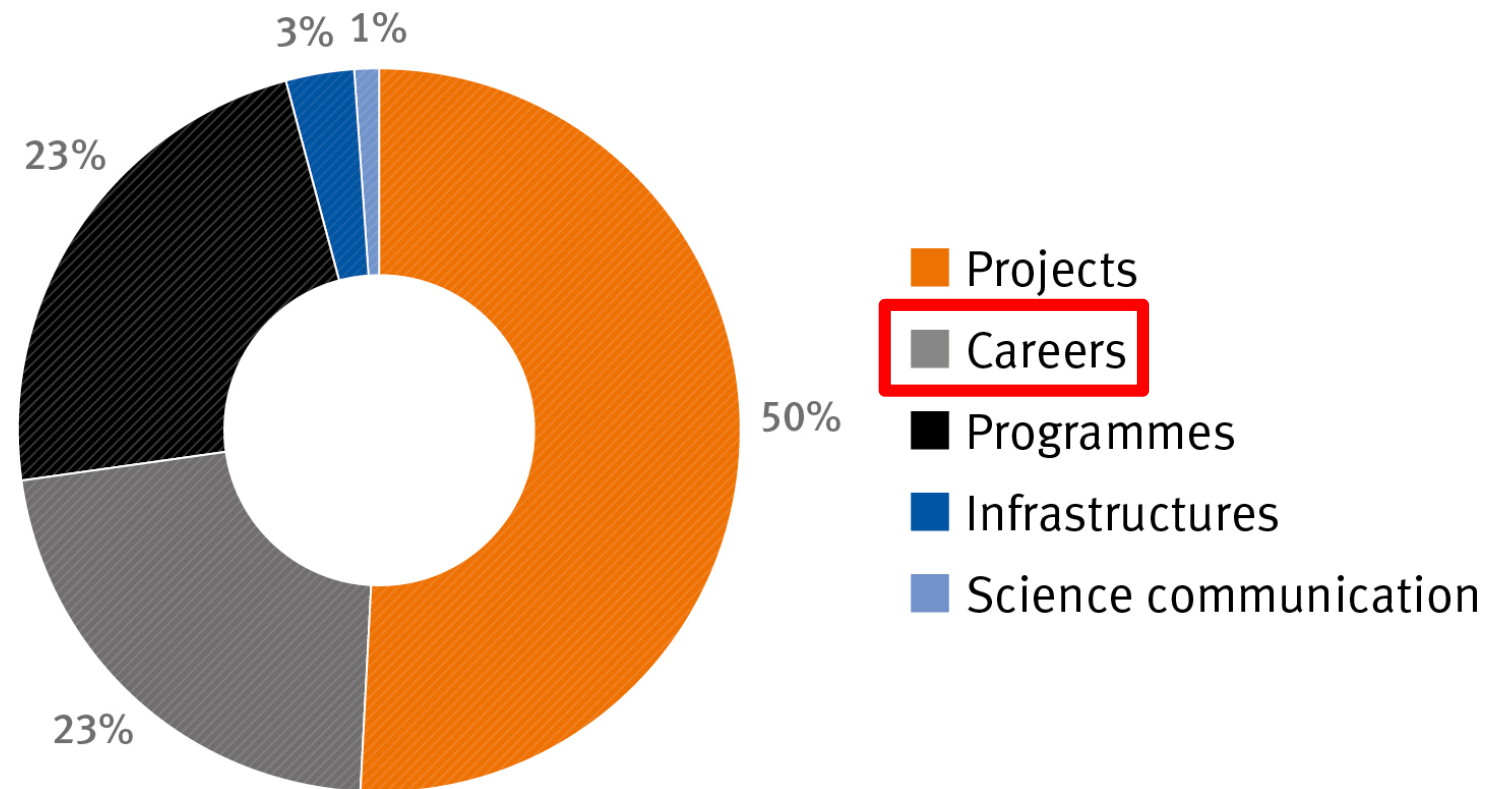
A Major Priority

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

Career Funding Schemes

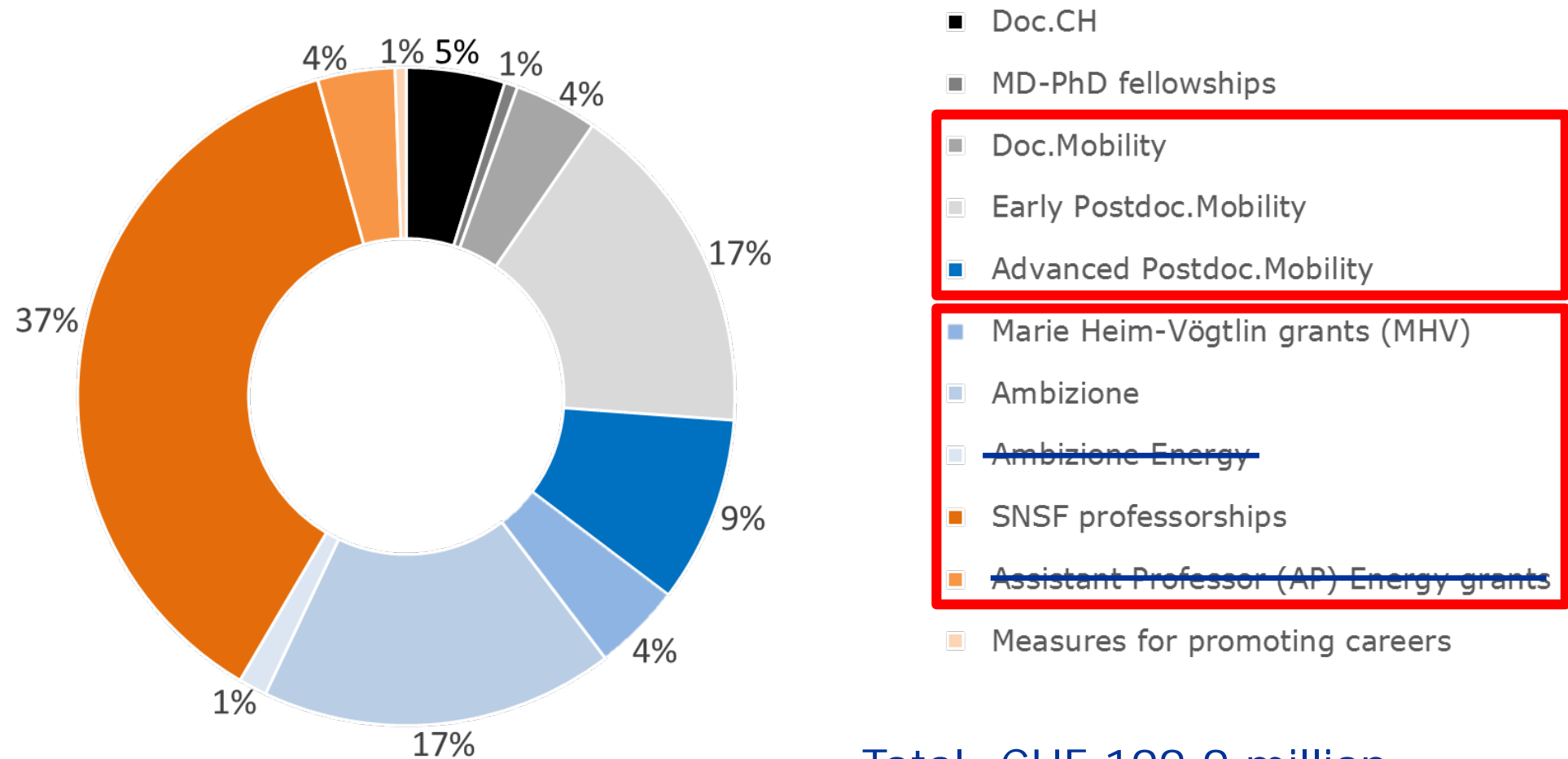
- Apply for a fellowship or a grant
- Depending on the scheme: additional funding to carry out the project

General Funding by Scheme 2015



Total: CHF 877.7 million

Career Funding Schemes in 2015



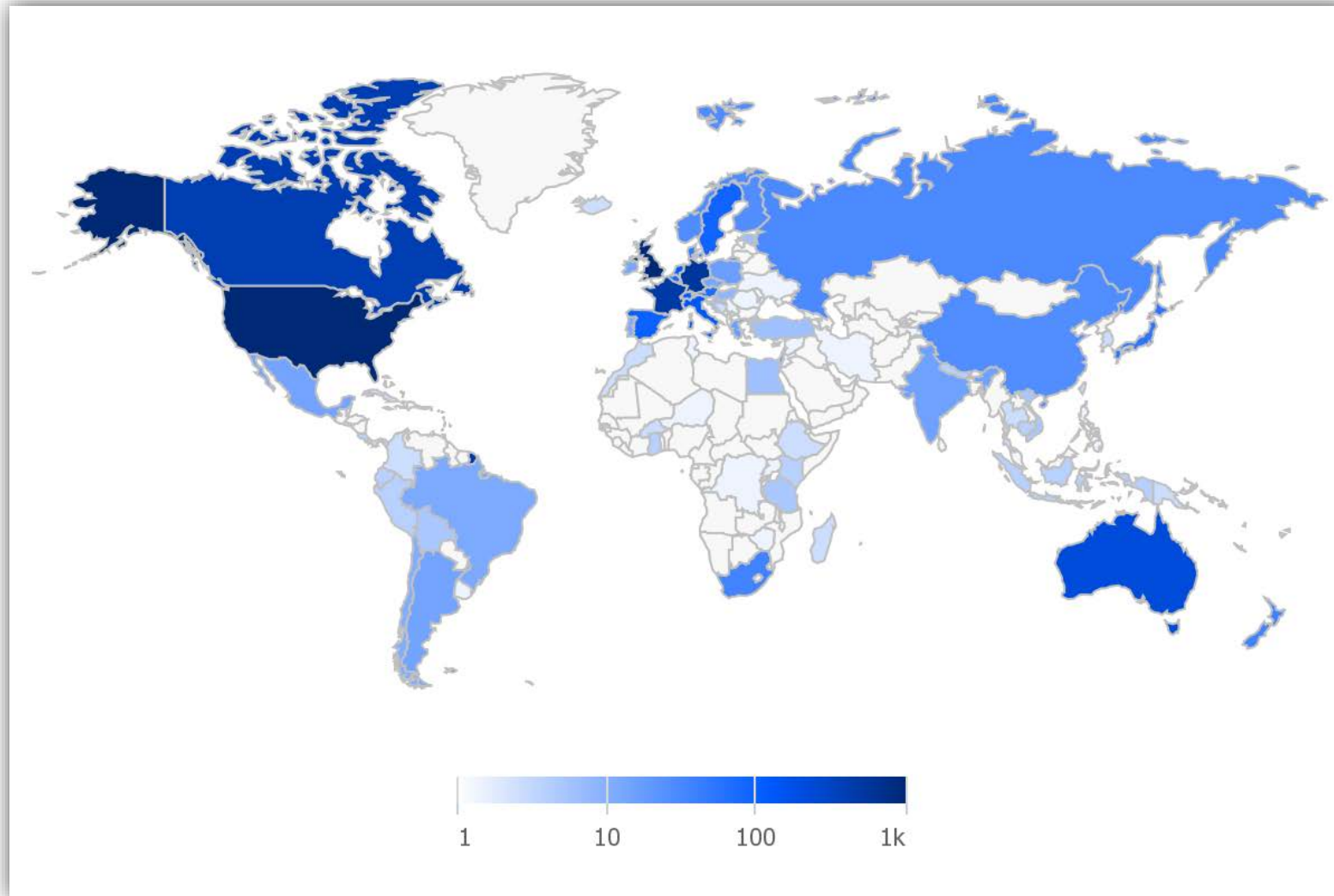
Total: CHF 199.9 million



Career Funding Schemes Outside of Switzerland

Mobility Fellowships

International Short Visits



Fellowships destinations per country

Mobility Fellowships



Increase your research experience through a stay abroad!

- **Doc.Mobility** – PhD students currently enrolled at Swiss universities
- **Early Postdoc.Mobility** – Postdocs at the beginning of their career
- **Advanced Postdoc.Mobility** – Experienced postdocs (**only until 2017**)

→ will be replaced by **Postdoc.Mobility** as of 2018

Early Postdoc.Mobility (EPM)



Requirements

- Doctorate (PhD): submission up to 9 months before and **up to 2 years** after the doctoral exam (benchmark); **or**
- Medical training completed with a doctorate (MD): submission **up to 6 years** after the state examination [medical license] (benchmark)
- 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

Duration

18 months (12 months possible if justified)

Submission Deadlines

1 March and **1 September** (earliest starting date: 2 - 4 months afterwards)

Advanced Postdoc.Mobility (APM)



Requirements

- Doctorate (PhD) and at least 12 months postdoctoral research experience;
or medical degree (MD) and at least 3 years of clinical activity
- Earlier submission possible for holders of an Early Postdoc.Mobility fellowship
- Submission **up to 5 years** after the doctoral exam (PhD);
for medical researchers (MD) **up to 9 years** after the state examination
(both upper limits are benchmarks)
- 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

Advanced Postdoc.Mobility (APM)



Duration

- Fellowship phase outside Switzerland: 12 – 36 months
- Optional return phase in Switzerland: 3 – 12 months
- For Early Postdoc.Mobility (EPM) fellowship holders: the maximum duration of both fellowships (EPM+APM) may not exceed 36 months

Final Submission Deadline

1 August 2017 (earliest starting date: 1 February 2018)

Advanced Postdoc.Mobility will be replaced by **Postdoc.Mobility** in 2018

Submission Deadlines: **1 February** and **1 August**

→ Postdoc.Mobility regulations are already online (new website: coming soon)

Mobility Fellowships



Fellowship Contribution (Research Stay outside of Switzerland)

- Basic amount: CHF 40'000 – 71'500 per year, dependent on scheme (EPM/APM), 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 (Advanced Postdoc.Mobility only)

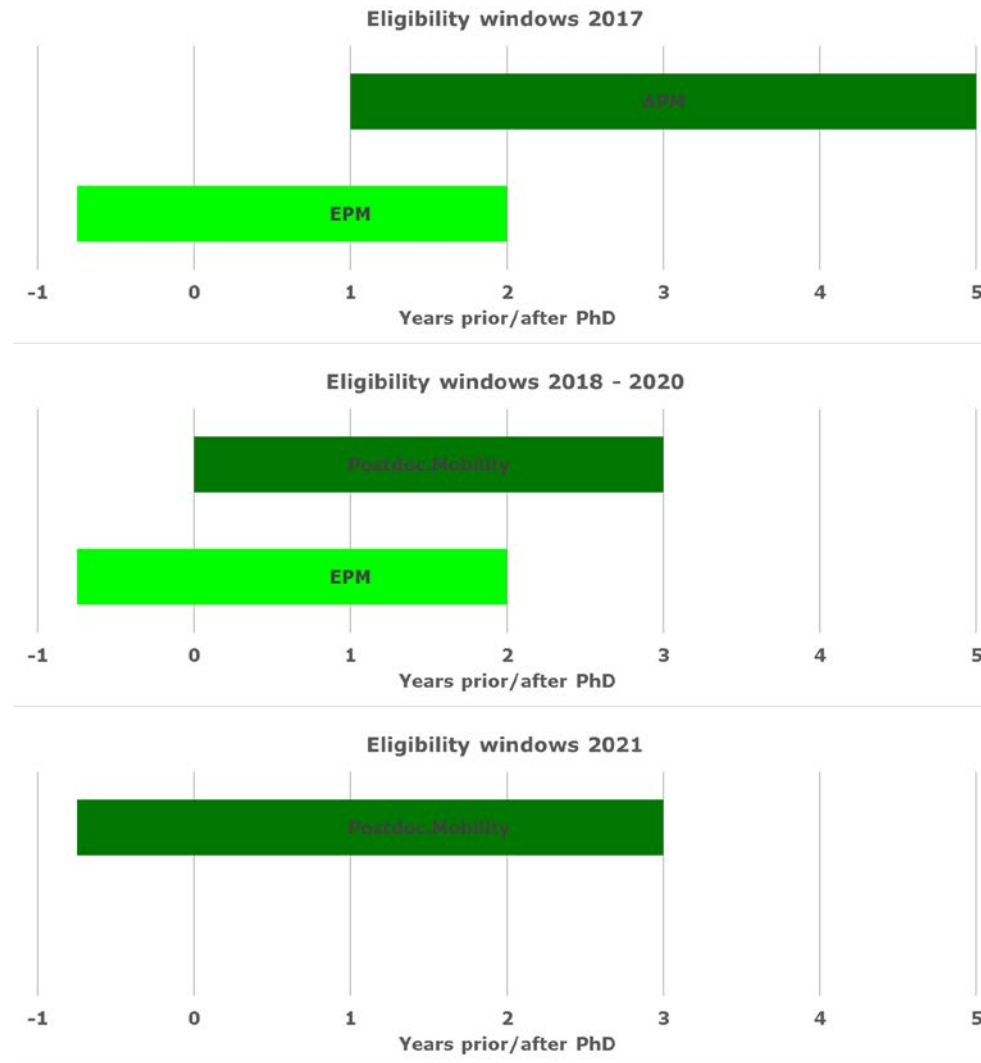
- Salary and social security contributions determined in agreement with the host

Promoting Early Independence



Postdoc.Mobility: eligibility window **up to 3 years** after the doctoral (PhD) exam;
for clinical researchers **up to 7 years** after state exam.

Evolution of Eligibility Windows



International Short Visits



Aims

- Allow researchers working in Switzerland to go abroad, or researchers from elsewhere to come to Switzerland
- Exchange of knowledge that is beneficial to both institutions
- Initiation or consolidation of a continued collaboration between both institutes

Requirements

- Visiting fellow must hold a PhD or comparable degree
- Must be employed as a researcher in his/her country of origin before, during, and after the visit
- No geographical limitations: Swiss researchers can go to any other country or researchers from any country can come to Switzerland.

International Short Visits

Duration

1 week to 3 months

Eligible costs

Travel costs (lump sum depending on destination)

Costs incurred during the stay: CHF 3'000 – 3'500 per month

Submission Deadline:

Anytime

Contact:

SNSF International Short Visits

isv@snf.ch





Career Funding Schemes within Switzerland

Marie Heim-Vögtlin (MHV) → PRIMA

Ambizione

SNSF Professorships

Marie Heim-Vögtlin Grants



Multi-Year Programme 2017-2020



After more than 25 years, MHV is being replaced by a new scheme:

PRIMA: Promoting Women in Academia

PRIMA **NEW**



Aim

- **Selective** and **targeted** promotion of excellent women researchers at postdoctoral level who show potential for an academic career (*i.e.* to be appointed as a professor)
- Special focus on non-linear career paths and out-of-the-box research ideas

Requirements

- MD, MD-PhD or PhD
- Eligibility window: **1 to 10 years after the doctoral exam**
- One year of postdoctoral research activity
- No personal/formal mobility requirement for submission

PRIMA **NEW**



Duration

- 5 years (no follow-up grants)

Eligible costs

- Salary of grantee and project funds
- Project funds (personnel, PhD student, equipment, consumables, travel, etc.)

Contribution

- Grantee's own salary determined in agreement with the host
- Project funds: max. CHF 750'000 for 5 years

First Submission Deadline

1 November 2017 (earliest starting date in September / October 2018)

Ambizione **NEW REGULATIONS**



Aim

- Create conditions for starting an independent career in Switzerland

Requirements

- Postdoctoral research activities of at least 12 months at a different university from that of the dissertation; medical researchers: at least 3 years of postgraduate clinical activity
- PhD: **up to 4 years** after the doctoral exam
- MD: **up to 9 years** after the state examination
- Medical researchers doing clinical work: 80 – 90% dedicated to the project and project-related training, minimum 10% clinical activities

Ambizione **NEW REGULATIONS**



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

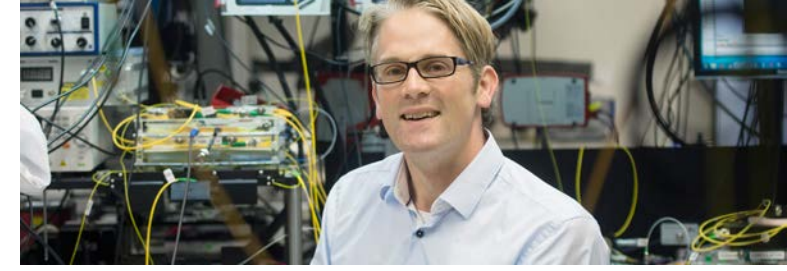
Contribution

- Project funds: max. CHF 400'000 for 4 years
- Grantee's own salary (if applicable) determined in agreement with the host

Submission deadline

1 November 2017 (earliest starting date in September / October 2018)

SNSF Professorships



Aim

- Enable junior researchers with several years of recognised research experience to establish an independent research team

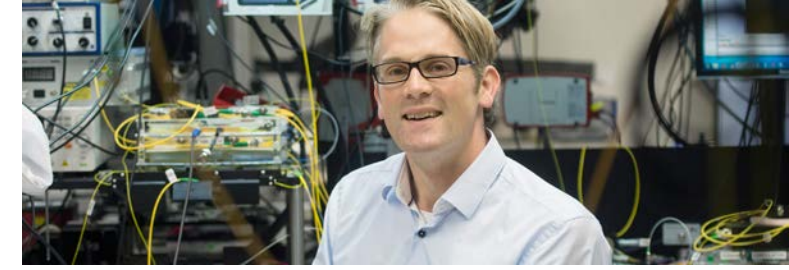
Requirements

- Postdoctoral research experience of at least 24 months at a different university from that of the dissertation; at least 12 months abroad
- PhD/MD: **up to 9 years** after the doctoral exam
- MD: postgraduate clinical and research activity
- Swiss university degree or at least 2 years of research activity in Switzerland

Expected Activities during the Grant

- At least 80% research and further scientific education; 20% teaching
- Medical researchers doing clinical work: at least 50% research and further training related to the project (**protected time**); up to 50% clinical activities

SNSF Professorships



Duration

- 4 years (possibility of a follow-up grant for up to 2 years)

Eligible costs

- Own salary (at assistant professor level, to be in line with the agreement with the host)
- Project funds (team/personnel expenses, consumables, travel, etc.)
- Contribution to the infrastructure of the host institution

Contribution

max CHF 1'600'000 for 4 years

Submission deadline

- **1 May 2017** (earliest starting date: 1 March 2018)



The Evaluation Procedure at the SNSF



Scientific Evaluation Criteria

Project

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

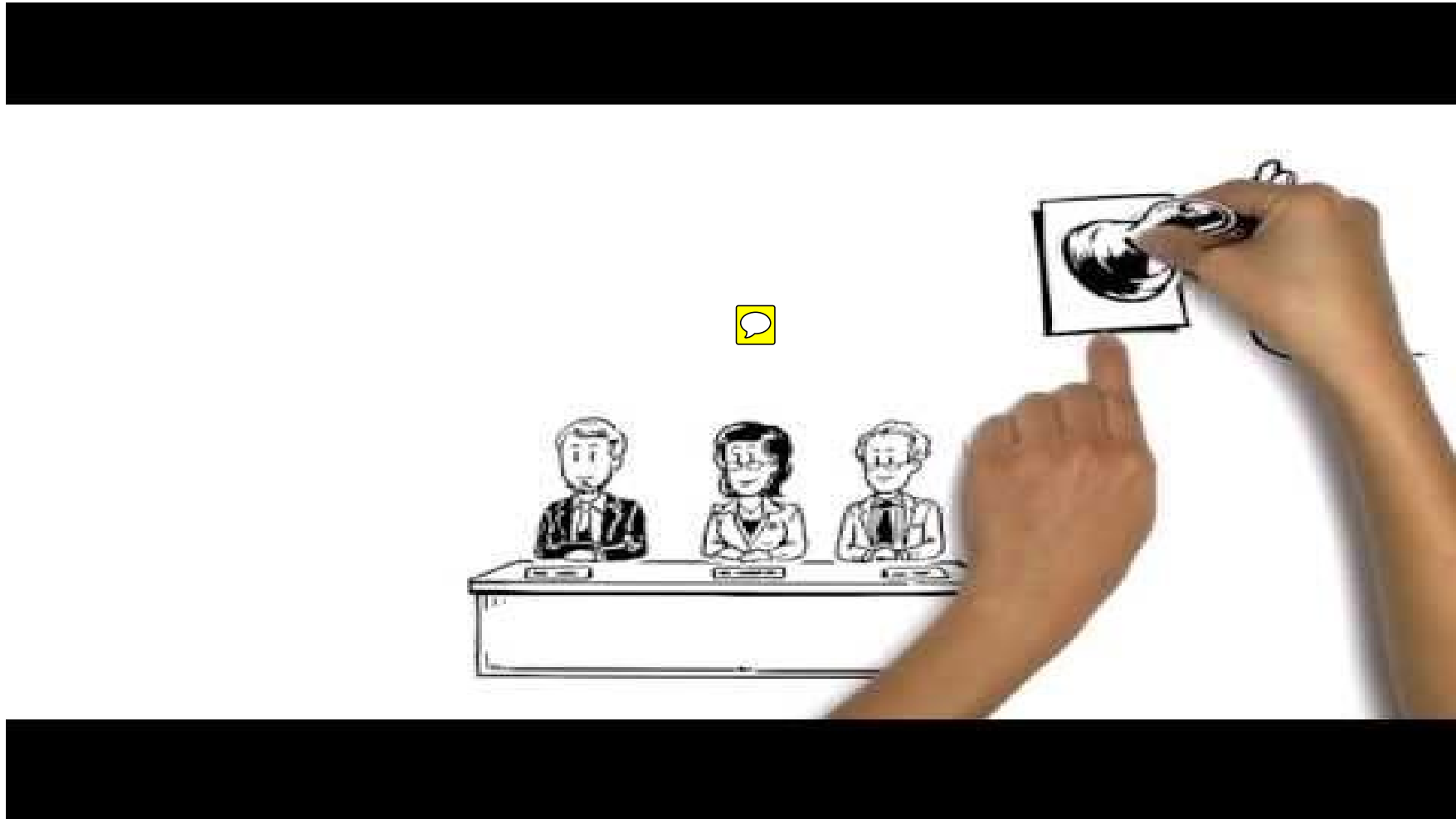
Applicant

- Track record of the applicant
- Expertise with regard to the proposed project

Career funding (additional criteria)

- Mobility (past and future)
- Research/Host institution
- Potential for scientific or academic career
- Independence

Evaluation Procedure in Project and Career Funding



Further information



www.snsf.ch

www.mySNF.ch



Do not hesitate to contact us!

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Backup slides

Multi-Year Programme 2017–2020



Priority targets in career Funding

- Facilitate early independence for young researchers
- Clearer career prospects to encourage researchers to contemplate a career in academia
- Create clearer distinctions between the various schemes to focus more strongly on supporting academic careers



Multi-Year Programme 2017–2020

Doc.Mobility

- May be shelved once a replacement is implemented by higher education institutions

Mobility grants in projects

- For doctoral students and, as a new feature, also for postdocs

Postdoc.Mobility

- EPM and APM form a new scheme called Postdoc.Mobility

PRIMA

- Replace MHV
- Selective and targeted promotion of excellent women researchers



Multi-Year Programme 2017–2020

Ambizione

- Duration extended from 3 to 4 years
- Eligible are young researchers engaged as non-professorial teaching staff (only project funds)

SNSF professorships

- Evaluate measures aimed at securing a clearer positioning

Grants for Assistant professorships with tenure track (APTT grants)

- Supporting the planned changes to the university system
- Project grants for newly appointed APTT