



## Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

# Postdoctoral Scholarships

**Academic year:** 2018-2019

**Country:** Turkey

**Opening of the call:** 01 September 2017

**Submission deadline:** 15 November 2017

### Scholarship

⇒ Swiss Government Excellence Postdoctoral Scholarships for foreign researchers

### Offered by

⇒ The Swiss Government via the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS

### Objectives

⇒ To enable selected applicants to undertake a postdoctoral research at one of the 10 Swiss cantonal universities, the two Swiss federal institutes of technology, the public teaching and research institutes or 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](#) / [Università della Svizzera italiana](#)

### 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 full-time postdoctoral research in Switzerland. It is not valid for mixed research (part time in Switzerland and part time in another country; no funding for field work).

### Target group

⇒ Highly qualified postdoctoral researchers at the beginning of their academic career from all academic fields. No funding for sabbaticals.

<b>Duration</b>	⇒ 12 months (starting in September) no extension possible. 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.
<b>Amount and additional allowances</b>	⇒ The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of CHF 3'500. ⇒ For non-EU and non-EFTA grantees only: mandatory Swiss health insurance is paid by the FCS. ⇒ There are no family allowances. ⇒ Scholarship holders from outside continental Europe receive a flight allowance (lump sum) for a ticket back to their country of origin (provided at the end of the scholarship). ⇒ Special CHF 300 housing allowance (paid once at the beginning of the scholarship). ⇒ One-year half-fare public transportation card. ⇒ Support services and various trips, dinners and sightseeing tours organised for Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holders.
<b>Eligibility criteria and specific conditions</b>	⇒ PhD degree achieved after 31st of December 2014 and before 1 <sup>st</sup> of September 2018 recognised by the Swiss university. As a proof the degree has to be submitted to the Federal Commission for Scholarships before the start of the scholarship. ⇒ No funding for sabbaticals. ⇒ Applicants who have been in Switzerland for more than one year at the beginning of the scholarship in September are not eligible. ⇒ Applicants must provide a letter from a professor at the Swiss host institution stating that she/he is willing to support and supervise the postdoctoral research. Without such support, the application will be rejected. ⇒ Not accepted as academic supervisors for Post-doctoral scholarship applicants are their former PhD mentors and their co-directors for the co-tutelle PhD if the academic supervisor is at a Swiss university. ⇒ Applicants must have a research proposal including a timeframe. This is the centrepiece of the application. The applicant must devote all required attention to it. ⇒ Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the postdoctoral research. ⇒ Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship. ⇒ Scholarship holders are expected to move to Switzerland during their grant period.
<b>Selection criteria</b>	The following aspects and selection criteria are primarily considered: ⇒ The candidate: academic profile, research capacity and motivation. ⇒ The research project: originality and methodological soundness. ⇒ The academic context: quality and context of supervision and potential for future academic cooperation.
<b>Application timeframe</b>	⇒ Opening of the call: 01 September 2017 ⇒ Application deadline: 15 November 2017 ⇒ Beginning of the scholarship: 01 September 2018

### Application procedure

- ⇒ The application package can be obtained by email from the Swiss Embassy in Turkey (see below).

### Application documents

- ⇒ Please submit 3 sets (=1 original + 2 copies) of application documents in exact order given below: The 1<sup>st</sup> set contains the original, **signed** documents plus the confidential letters of recommendation and if applicable the attested translations. The other two sets are the copies of the 1<sup>st</sup> set except for the confidential letters of recommendation (only 1<sup>st</sup> set).
- 1) **Signed FCS application form** (typed and printed) with photo.
  - 2) A full CV with list of academic publications.
  - 3) A motivation letter (max. 2 pages).
  - 4) A complete research proposal (max. 5 pages, **signed**), using exclusively the FCS research proposal form.
  - 5) A copy of the letter from an academic host professor (including her/his short CV) at the chosen Swiss university confirming why she/he is willing to supervise and support the post-doctoral research.
  - 6) Two confidential letters of recommendation from two different professors in the applicant's field (use exclusively the FCS reference form – originals in sealed envelopes only for the 1<sup>st</sup> set).
  - 7) Photocopies of certificates and grade sheets from previously attended universities/colleges and diplomas with grades, starting with the most recent. If not in English, French, Italian or German with attested certified translations.
  - 8) **Signed** medical certificate (use only the FCS health certificate form).
  - 9) Two copies of the applicant's passport (main page with personal data). Dual nationals add copies of both passports.
- ⇒ **Please do not put the documents into plastic folders or binders.**

### Contact institution for the application

- ⇒ Questions and application documents, should be submitted to the following address – if not mentioned otherwise below\*:
- ⇒ Swiss Embassy in Turkey  
Atatürk Bulvari 247, P.K. 25  
6680 Kravaklıdere, Ankara
- E-mail: ank.vertretung@eda.admin.ch  
Tel: 0090 312 457 3100  
Web: <http://www.eda.admin.ch/ankara>  
\* -