

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research EAER

Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS

Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

Postdoctoral Scholarships

Academic year: 2015-2016 Country: **Georgia**

Opening of the Call: 01.09.2014

Submission Deadline: 28.11.2014		
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) Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration (IDHEAP) Institut universitaire Kurt Bösch
Universities of applied Sciences	⇨	<u>University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland</u> / <u>Bern University of Applied Sciences</u> / <u>University of Applied Sciences Northwest Switzerland</u> /

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.

Duration

12 months

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Amount and additional allowances

- ⇒ The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of 3'500 Swiss Francs.
- ⇒ Exemption of the tuition fees (except for EPFL).
- A lump sum for air fare for non-European grantees only (provided at the end of the scholarship).
- ⇒ Special 300 Swiss Francs housing allowance (paid once at the beginning of the scholarship).
- ⇒ 1 year half-fare public transportation card.
- □ Counseling and various trips, dinners and sight-seeing tours organized for Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holders.

Eligibility Criteria and specific conditions

- ⇒ PhD degree
- There cannot be a gap of more than 5 years between the award of the PhD and the application deadline.
- Applicants who are in Switzerland for more than 1 year at the beginning of the scholarship are not eligible.
- Applicants must provide a letter (e-mail) from a Professor from the Swiss host institution stating that he/she is willing to supervise the postdoctoral research. Without such a document the application will be rejected.
- 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).
- 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.

Selection Crieria

- The following dimensions and selection criteria are considered mainly:
- ⇒ The candidate: Her/his academic profile and research capacity.
- ⇒ The research project: It's originality and methodological soundness.
- The academic context: The quality of supervision and the potential for future academic cooperation.

Application Procedure

- The application package can be obtained by e-mail from the Swiss Embassy in Tbilisi.
- ⇒ The deadline for the submission of applications is 28.11.2014
- ⇒ Applications have to be submitted in 3 copies (hard copies only).

Application Time Framework

⇒ Opening of the call: 01.09.2014
 ⇒ Application Deadline: 28.11.2014
 ⇒ Selection Interview, ask: Swiss Embassy
 ⇒ Beginning of the scholarship: 14.09.2015

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 2015-2016 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 (<u>use exclusively</u> the official reference form provided with the application package).



- A complete research proposal (max. 5 pages), <u>use exclusively</u> 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 he/she is willing to supervise the Postdoctoral Research.
- A health certificate (<u>use exclusively</u> the official health certificate provided with the application package).
- ⇒ A copy 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 Tbilisi Krtsanisi 11, 0114 Tbilisi

E-mail: tif.vertretung@eda.admin.ch

Tel: 00995 32 275 30 01

Web: http://www.eda.admin.ch/tbilisi

Wrap-up: your check-list

- ⇒ The FCS 2015-2016 official application form with photo
- ⇒ CV with list of publications
- A copy of the confirmation from a professor at the intended Swiss university stating that she/he will supervise the research
- ⇒ 2 letters of recommendation from professors (use the FCS form only)
- A complete 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)