

Health Research and Wellbeing at Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS) and at Universities of Teacher Education (UTE)

Second call for proposals

Opening date: 01.11.2023 Closing date: 15.03.2024

1 Purpose and scope

The mission of the SNSF is to promote high-quality research in all its diversity in Switzerland, particularly paying attention to basic research. To exploit the existing research potential further, the SNSF held out the prospect of specifically promoting health and wellbeing research at Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS) in its multi-year programme 2021-2024. Thereby, it supports the efforts of the UAS to expand their research capacities in this area. Due to the importance of health research for Switzerland and to strengthen research performed at Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS) and at Universities of Teacher Education (UTE), a temporal measure is intended to expand the research capacities at UAS and UTE. The call for proposals shall foster both the science- and practice-oriented profile of the UAS and UTE and their application-oriented research thereby increase the variety of the entire Swiss research landscape.

The measure is limited in time with two calls. The grants are comparable to grants in project funding but are only granted to researchers at UAS and UTE whose research is pursued in health-related fields. The topic and research objectives of the project funding applications are freely selectable within the field of health and wellbeing. The SNSF grants can be used for staff salaries, research costs and funds for scientific collaboration, networking and communication, but not for the applicant's own salary. The grant period is one to four years.

Unless otherwise stated in the call document, the provisions of the SNSF on research funding apply, namely the [Regulations on project funding](#), the [SNSF Funding Regulations](#) and its [General implementation regulations for the Funding Regulations](#). Additional information on the submission process is available on the SNSF project funding website.

The call will open on November 1st, 2023 and close on March 15th, 2024.

Please be aware that applications will be submitted on mySNF. Applicants must have an existing mySNF user account.

2 Requirements

2.1 Eligibility criteria for applicants

- ¹ Applications in the fields of health and wellbeing can only be submitted if the applicants are affiliated to a University of Applied Sciences (UAS) or a Universities of Teacher Education (UTE).
- ² Researchers from higher education institutions, research institutions as well as from research institutions abroad can act as project partners only (see 2.2).
- ³ Natural persons are eligible to submit applications if they meet the general eligibility requirements for the submission of applications pursuant to Art. 10 of the [SNSF Funding regulations](#).
- ⁴ All applicants must fulfil the requirements set out in the SNSF Funding regulations, article 10. One applicant acts as corresponding applicant (according to the SNSF Funding Regulations, article 12).
- ⁵ Applicants must be affiliated to an institution in Switzerland. No applicants from abroad are allowed.
- ⁶ Applicants with a doctorate must have obtained the latter four years before the submission date of the application. Applicants without a doctorate must have completed seven years of research work as their main source of income since obtaining their higher education degree (3 years of research work will be regarded as equivalent to a doctorate).
- ⁷ Applicants may submit only one application to this call.

2.2 Eligibility criteria for project partners

- ¹ Project partners and their contributions to the planned research project must be described in the application.
- ² The contribution to the project made by the project partners is assessed in its entirety during the evaluation of the project.
- ³ Project partners are accepted if their contribution is necessary for carrying out the planned research project and does not serve any commercial purposes. In particular, researchers at higher organisations may be accepted. Project partners from commercially oriented institutions may be accepted, provided they do not derive any pecuniary benefits based on their contribution or participation.

3 Application

3.2 Submission of applications

- ¹ Applications must be submitted via mySNF web platform by March 15th, 2024, 5 p.m. Central European Time (CET) at the latest. The submission portal on mySNF has open November 1st, 2023 (Health Research UAS and UTE funding instrument). For submitting an application, applicants must have an existing mySNF user account.
- ² Applications must be submitted in accordance with the requirements issued by the SNSF for such grants and must contain all the necessary data and documents.
- ³ The application must be written in English.
- ⁴ Applications must include the following documents:
 - 15 pages : Research plan (**15 pages** for details see the [SNSF guidelines](#)). No additional pages are accepted for collaborative projects.
 - CV (for details see the [SNSF guidelines](#))

4 Evaluation process, assessment criteria and grants

4.1 Consideration of proposals

¹ Only proposals that meet the formal requirements according to the funding regulations and the regulations on project funding are considered for evaluation.

4.2 Criteria

¹ The relevant criteria pursuant to Art. 24 of the Funding Regulations for the award of research grants are:

- a. the scientific quality of the proposed research project;
- b. the scientific qualifications of the researchers.

² The scientific evaluation is based on the following main criteria:

- a. scientific quality of the proposed research project: scientific relevance, topicality and originality, suitability of methods, feasibility;
- b. scientific qualifications of the researchers: scientific track record and ability to carry out the research project.

³ In the case of applications for use-inspired research, the project's broader impact outside science is considered in the evaluation.

⁴ No specific evaluation criteria apply to collaborative and interdisciplinary projects. Articles 9, 10 and 15 al 4 of the project funding regulation do not apply.

4.3 Evaluation procedure

For the scientific evaluation of the grant applications, the SNSF appoints a panel of national and international experts. According to the evaluation criteria, the evaluation panel grades the applications based on a nine-point evaluation scale. At the recommendation of the Evaluation Panel, the Presiding Board of the National Research Council approves the decision on funding (funding or rejection). The funding decisions will be communicated to the applicants by November 2024 at the latest. The earliest possible start of the projects is on 1 December 2024.

5 Eligible costs

The submitted budget serves as a basis for defining the grant. The SNSF awards a total amount for the approved research project (total budget).

The minimum amount that may be requested in research applications submitted to the SNF is CHF 100,000. The SNSF does not consider applications for lower amounts.

The different categories of eligible costs are listed in the [General implementation regulations for the Funding Regulations](#).

6 Contact

Swiss National Science Foundation

Section Projects

Units SSH, MINT and LS

Wildhainweg 3

P.O. Box CH-3001 Bern

phone: +41 31 308 22 22

health@snf.ch | www.snf.ch

7 Summary of deadlines

Opening of the call	November 1st, 2023
---------------------	--------------------

Submission deadline	March 15th, 2024
---------------------	------------------

Communication of results	November 2024
--------------------------	---------------

Earliest possible project start	December 1st, 2024
---------------------------------	--------------------
