

Annex 1: Overview of career support instruments

This overview lists instruments which are intended for physicians in the qualification phase to support their clinical research activities in Switzerland. SNSF mobility grants, which finance research stays abroad, are not included for this reason.

An exception concerns instruments which have local funding and are specifically targeted at young clinician researchers: these instruments are mentioned because of their exemplary nature, even if the place of research is abroad.

	Instrument name	Career stage	1 / 2 / 3*	Years since Master of Medicine	Description	% research	Duration	Number of grants/year	Total budget in CHF/year	Number of calls/year	Funding source (hospital/university/other)
Basel											
	WiKo.flex	during MA (3 rd -5 th year)	1	pregraduate period	Training in scientific competence, specific support for preparation of Master thesis	100 %	n/a	for all students of medicine	n/a	n/a	Faculty budget
	Wissenschaftsmonat	during MA (5 th year)	1	pregraduate period	Training in research, requirement for beginning of Master thesis	100 %	1 month	for all students of medicine	n/a	n/a	Faculty budget
	MD-PhD Program	young MDs	2	ca. 0-3	MD-PhD curriculum in experimental and clinical research	min. 80 %	3-4 years	1 grant/year	CHF 180 K /year (60 K/grant/year for 3 years)	1x/year	alumni Faculty of Medicine UniBS
	PhD Program Health Sciences (PPHS)	young MDs	2	ca. 0-3	PhD curriculum in clinical research (also open to nursing sciences, sports sciences, biomedical engineering)	60-100 %	3-4 years	variable	variable, depending on project funding available to host unit	continuously	host unit (PhD advisor's funds)
	Nachwuchsförderung Klinische Medizin	postdocs	2-3	ca. 4-8	Protected time, for postdoc level (in CH and abroad)	20-80 %	1-3 years	10-12 grants/year	CHF 1.2 Mio/year for Med. Faculty	2x/year	Faculty of Medicine/University of Basel
	Department/Clinics pool	young PIs	2-3	ca. 4-10	Protected time for returning researchers from abroad, compensation for SNSF Ambizione fellows, Eccellenza professors, Junior PIs and MD-PhDs	min. 50 %	0.5-1 year	8-10 grants/year	CHF 780 K/year	continuously	budget pools of departments and hospital divisions
	Faculty pool	clinician-scientists at Oberarzt level	3	5-15	Bridging funds for research team (temporary salaries, PhD student salaries, consumables), including protected time for main PI	min. 50 %	1-2 years	2-3 grants/year	CHF 250 K/year (max. CHF 100 K/grant)	2x/year	Faculty of Medicine
	Numerous foundations (incl. Goldschmidt-Jacobson Foundation)	clinician-scientists at Oberarzt level	3	4-10	Career funding with protected time for PI at PD level (bridging funds for transient coverage of PhD students' salaries, consumables, research costs)	min. 50 %	1-3 years	1-3 grants/year	CHF 300 K/year	2x/year	foundations
Bern											
	PhD in Clinical Sciences (Graduate School in Health Science, GHS)	young MDs	2	not restricted	PhD curriculum with protected research time for patient-oriented research (also open to other health professionals)	50 %	3-5 years	n/a	n/a	1x/year	PhD advisor
	PhD in Cellular and Biomedical Sciences (Graduate School GCB)	young MDs	2	not restricted	PhD curriculum in experimental research (also open to biologists, engineers and MedVet)	min. 60 %	3-4 years	n/a	n/a	continuously	PhD advisor
	CTU Grants	MDs before habilitation (advanced postdocs and young PIs)	2-3	not restricted	Protected research time	50 %	1.5 years	20-24 grants/year	ca. CHF 1.7 Mio/year (av. 80 K/grant)	2x/year	University Hospital (Budget Lehre + Forschung)
	Uni Bern Initiator Grants	postdocs and young PIs	2-3	not restricted (up to 5 years post PhD for non-MDs, with exceptions)	Protected time with or w/o project funds to prepare a proposal to be submitted to a large funding agency, open to all disciplines	variable	n/a	9-13 grants/year in all disciplines	ca. CHF 150 K/year (20-30 K/grant)	1x/year	University
Genève											
	PREM (Programme de Recherche pour Étudiants en Médecine)	during BA	1	pregraduate period	Laboratory research internship during the semester holidays	100 %	2 months	10-20 students	CHF 30 K/year	n/a	Faculty of Medicine, Louis-Jeantet Foundation
	MD-PhD Program	young MDs	2	ca. 0-3	MD-PhD curriculum in experimental research (clinical research not excluded)	min 80 %	3-4 years	3-5 grants/year	n/a	continuously	third-party funds, no own budget
	Interne scientifique (IS)	junior clinician scientists at médecin assistant (Assistenzarzt) level, usually with MD-PhD title	2	ca. 5-6	Protected research time with mentoring	50-100 %	2 years	15 FTE** for IS and CSS positions	CHF 2.71 Mio/year for IS and CSS	1x/year	Faculty of Medicine
	Chef de clinique scientifique (CCS)	clinician scientists at chef de clinique (Oberarzt) level, usually after research stay abroad	3	ca. 8-10	Protected research time with mentoring	50-100 %	1-3 years	15 FTE** for IS and CSS positions	CHF 2.71 Mio/year for IS and CSS	1x/year	Faculty of Medicine
	Bourses de perfectionnement	junior clinician scientists and postdocs	2	ca. 4-8	Mobility fellowships for clinical and research stay in an excellence research center abroad	20-100 %	1 year	12 FTE**	CHF 840 K/year (max. 70 K/grant)	1x/year	University Hospital (budget for education)
	PRD (Projets Recherche et Développement)	junior clinician scientists and young PIs	2	n/a	Funding for small scale, pilot projects (project funding, PI salary covered by other sources)	20 %	1-2 years	13-15 grants/year	ca. 520 K/year (25-50 K/grant)	2x/year	University Hospital (funds from private medical fees)
	Projets STARTER (translational research)	PIs (young PIs not excluded)	3	n/a	Funding for translational research realized jointly by a clinical and a fundamental research team (project funding, PI salary covered by other sources)	20 %	2 years	3 grants/year	CHF 600 K/year (100 K/grant/year for 2 years)	1x/year	Louis-Jeantet Foundation and Fondation privée des HUG

*CAREER STAGES

1= pregraduate level (during medicine studies).

Gross annual salary: no salary

2= junior researcher (MD-PhD student, internes scientifiques, Assistenzarzt mit Forschungsaktivitäten, postdocs on their way to independence).

Gross annual salary: 80'000.- (MD-PhD: ca. 50'000.-; interne scientifique: ca. 80'000.- to 100'000.-, young postdoc: 80'000.- to 105'000.- : ca. 90'000.-)

3= senior physician researcher (chercheur médecin cadre, wissenschaftlicher Oberarzt, young independent investigator, young group leader, assistant professor).

Gross annual salary: 130'000.- (maître assistant / SCORE fellow: 95'000.- to 130'000.-, young group leader/MER: 100'000.- to 150'000.-, assist. Prof: 120'000.- to 160'000.-)

**FTE (full-time equivalents): 1 FTE = 1 position with 100% research activities

	Instrument name	Career stage	1 / 2 / 3*	Years since Master of Medicine	Description	% research	Duration	Number of grants/year	Total budget in CHF/year	Number of calls/year	Funding source (hospital/university/other)
Lausanne											
	MD-PhD Program	young MDs	2	ca. 0-3	MD-PhD curriculum in experimental research (clinical research not excluded)	min. 80%	3-4 years	1-2 grants/year	CHF 180-360k/year (60 K/grant/year for 3 years)	1x/year	CHUV/UniL
	Bourse pour cliniciens MD-PhD ou PhD	junior clinician scientists, usually after MD-PhD	2	ca. 4-7	Protected research time	min. 20%	2 years	1-2 grants/year	CHF 80 K/year	1x/year	CHUV/UniL (cantonal budget)
	Bourse Leenaards Junior Clinical Scientist	junior clinician scientists, usually after MD-PhD	2	ca. 4-7	Protected research time	20-25%	2 years	1 grant/year	CHF 30 K/year	1x/year	Leenaards Foundation
	Bourse de relève académique	junior clinician scientists, usually after research stay abroad	2-3	ca. 5-8	Protected research time	50%	1 year	1-2 grants/year	CHF 100K/year	1x/year	CHUV/UniL
	Financement pépinière	clinician scientists at chef de clinique (Oberarzt) level, usually before habilitation	3	ca. 8-12	Protected research time	50%	2 years	3-4 grants/year	CHF 320 K/year (80 K/grant/year)	1x/year	CHUV/UniL
	Bourse Leenaards Bridge relève	Young PIs with scientific track record	3	ca. 8-13	Protected research time	50%	3 years	1-2 grants/year	CHF 240 K/year	1x/year	Leenaards Foundation
	Bourse Pro-Femmes	women MDs (also open to PhDs active at CHUV/UniL)	2-3	not restricted	Protected time for PI, research and training funds (also for research stay abroad)	50-100%	2 years	max. 3 grants/2 years	CHF 75 K/year (50 K/grant/year for 2 years)	1x/2 years	CHUV/UniL
Zürich											
	MD-PhD program (Life Science graduate school)	young MDs	2	ca. 0-3	MD-PhD curriculum in experimental research	80%	3-4 years	variable	n/a	1x/year	third-party funds (PhD advisor or national MD-PhD scholarships), no own funding
	PhD program Clinical Science	young MDs	2	ca. 0-3	PhD curriculum in medical research in a clinical setting (also open to graduates from biomedicine, biology and psychology)	80%	3-4 years	n/a	n/a	1x/year	third-party funds (PhD advisor), no own funding
	Hospital Pool fellowships	junior female clinicians in the qualification phase, with scientific track record	2	at least 2	Similar to SNSF postdoc mobility fellowships	variable	1-2 years	variable, up to 4 grants/year	not known ca. CHF 57 K/grant/year	2x/year	University Hospital
	Filling the Gap Program	young clinician scientists in the qualification phase (before professorship)	2-3	not restricted	Protected research time with active mentoring, gender equality as goal	20-50%	2-3 years	ca. 28 new grants/2 years (16 new + 12 follow-up grants)	CHF 800 K/year	1x/2years	Faculty of Medicine
	UZH-Forschungskredit (candoc/postdoc)	PhD students, postdocs and young PIs before habilitation	2-3	not restricted	Own salary for PhD students; protected time for postdocs and limited project funds (including salary of a PhD student or technician in PI's team)	variable	2-3 years	variable	CHF 2.3 Mio/year for Med. Faculty (50-100 K/grant) (CHF 8 Mio/year for all Faculties)	1x/year	University of Zurich
	Hospital Pool, elite program	Young PIs with scientific track record, from Oberarzt level	3	at least 5	Protected research time	80-100%	1-2 years	1-2 grants/year	not known	2x/year	University Hospital
SNSF											
	Ambizione SCORE-PROSPER	clinician-scientists in the qualification phase	3	ca. 5-9	Career grant covering grantee's salary (optional) and research funds for small team	80-90%	2-4 years	ca. 6 grants/year	grantee's salary (researcher) + CHF 100 K/year of project funds	1x/year	SNSF
	Eccellenza professorial fellowships / grants	young PIs, usually after residency	3	ca. 8-12	Career grant, covers grantee's salary (optional: fellowship model) and research funds for team, open to all disciplines	min. 50%	5 years	ca. 3 grants/year in clinical research	fellow's salary + CHF 20 K/year or 1.5 Mio/grant for 5 years for APTT	1x/year	SNSF
	PRTC (protected research time for clinicians)	PIs in the qualification phase (without tenured position)	3	ca. 6-10	Protected research time for recipients of a SNSF project grant	min. 30%	up to 4 years	1-3 grants/year	av. CHF 71 K/grant for up to 4 years	2x/year	SNSF and host institution (50/50 for salary costs)
	PRIMA (promoting women in academia)	female researchers in the qualification phase (before professorship)	2-3	2-10	Career grant covering grantee's salary and research funds for a technician or PhD student, open to all disciplines	100%, then min. 50%	2-5 years	ca. 20 grants/year in all disciplines, variable in clinical research	grantee's salary + CHF 150 K/year of project funds	1x/year	SNSF
SAMS											
	National MD-PhD program (jointly with SNSF)	young MDs	2	0-3	MD-PhD curriculum in experimental or clinical research, also open to projects in public health science and bioethics	min. 80%	3 years	8-11 grants/year	max. CHF 2.1 Mio/year (av. 195 K/grant for 3 years)	1x/year	SNSF, SAMS and participating foundations (in 2019: KFS)
	Young Talents in Clinical Research (YTCR) – beginner grant	young MDs in the qualification stage with little research experience	2	0-5	Protected time for patient-oriented research	variable	1-2 years	ca. 10 grants/year	CHF 1 Mio/year for both YTCR grant types (max. 75 K/grant)	1x/year	Bangerter-Stiftung
	Young Talents in Clinical Research (YTCR) – project grant	recipients of a beginner grant from the same program	2	ca. 3-8	Project funds for small individual project in clinical (patient-oriented) research	variable	up to 2 years	variable	CHF 1 Mio/year for both YTCR grant types (max. 40'000/grant/year)	1x/year	Bangerter-Stiftung

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