

December 2016

Careers division
SNSF professorships
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General information on the submission of a follow-up proposal

- Grantees who, according to information available to the SNSF, have not yet secured a permanent academic post are informed by the SNSF approximately one year before the end of their grant (in February or in July) personally and in writing that they can submit a follow-up proposal for a further two years at the most. **Proposals can only be submitted in response to this personal information.**
- Every year, there are two submission deadlines, one in May and one in October (the precise dates are specified in the letter sent by the SNSF).
- The decision of the Research Council will be communicated to the applicants in good time before the end of their grant.
- The follow-up grant primarily enables the applicant to complete and continue the research undertaken during the first grant; it needs to continue seamlessly after the end of the first grant.
- In addition to their own salary, researchers can apply for personnel (with the exception of new doctoral students) and research funds (up to CHF 800,000 for two years, including the personal salary). They can request the further employment of doctoral students who have been funded by the first grant up to four years after their registration for a doctorate.
- Please indicate the publications resulting from your SNSF professorship project in a separate section in your publication list.
- Follow-up proposals are evaluated according to strict criteria by the Research Council and approved sparingly.

Requirements for the research plan (follow-up application)

Please also refer to the detailed information in the container “Research plan” on mySNF.

The research plan **must not exceed 10 pages and 40'000 characters (with spaces)**; this includes the title, summary, footnotes (explanatory notes or comments at the bottom of a page), illustrations, formulae and tables (as well as a possible table of contents), but not the bibliography. A **minimum of point 10 font size and 1.5 line spacing** must be used. In general, the research plan should not contain any annexed documents.

The scientific part of the application must be divided into five chapters (2.1 to 2.5), preceded by a summary (1). Please adopt the chapter headings listed below either word for word or in approximate terms. Applications are generally forwarded to external reviewers for assessment (Funding Regulations, Article 25). Please submit a detailed research plan (especially in chapter 2.3). This will facilitate the assessment of the scientific content. The research plan must specify the research topic and the methods to be used.

The research plan must consist of original text that has been written by the applicant himself/herself. A limited amount of text (or other material, graphs, etc.) by third parties or text published by the applicant himself/herself is permissible in the sections concerning the state of research (2.1) and the state of his/her personal research (2.2) as well as when describing standard methods. The quoted texts must be clearly designated as such (quotation marks or appropriate wording) and a verifiable source must be mentioned nearby and in the bibliography.

1	Summary of the research plan	The summary should characterise the application and place the planned project in a wider scientific context (max. 1 page).
2.1	Current state of research in the field	<p>Making reference to the most important publications, particularly by other authors, please explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which previous insights provided the starting point and basis for the planned studies • in which areas research is needed, and why • which important, relevant research projects are currently underway in Switzerland and abroad
2.2	Current state of your own research	Please report on the work carried out within the framework of the preceding project, as well as on the main results that were obtained.
2.3	Detailed research plan	<p>Based on the information provided under 2.1 and 2.2, please specify the approach you are taking and the concrete objectives that you aim to achieve in the period of funding. The following points should be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studies or experiments needed and/or envisaged to reach the set goals • Methods by which the research goals are to be reached • Data situation / collection of data • Details about the main tasks of the project team members (if applicable, also regarding the completion of dissertations).
2.4	Schedule and milestones	As far as this is possible, please compile a schedule that includes the most important interim goals.
2.5	Relevance and impact	<p>Scientific relevance</p> <p>Please describe the impacts you expect your research in the proposed project to have for the discipline and for science as a whole (research and education/teaching). In addition, please mention the form in which you wish to make your research results public (articles in science journals, monographs, conference proceedings, etc.).</p> <p>If applicable, please indicate whether the proposed project will have a broader impact (e.g. in economy, industry, society, politics) and specify what the nature and extent of this impact will be.</p>