

The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) is the most important Swiss institution for the funding of scientific research. We finance projects in all disciplines on behalf of the Swiss Confederation. We select the best research ideas in national competitions and develop our funding activities in a science-based and forward-looking manner. We stand for quality through competition, are committed to ensuring Switzerland's strong position as a centre of research and communicate the value of research. The SNSF is a foundation under private law, which is managed by the Foundation Council.

We are looking for one to two experienced and innovative personalities from science and business to start in May 2026 as

Members of the Foundation Council

Your tasks

As a member of the [Foundation Council](#), you are jointly responsible for safeguarding the Foundation's purpose and supervising the Research Council and the Administrative Offices. You help to further develop and implement the SNSF's strategy sustainably and in line with its legal mandate.

Your profile

You are well acquainted with the research policy framework in Switzerland and are prepared to effectively represent the interests of the SNSF both externally and internally. In addition, you will deal with scientific and science policy topics in depth and with commitment. You have experience in the strategic management of a public organisation, a company or a charitable foundation. Your competences lie in the fields of science, corporate management, law or politics.

As a member of a multi-member committee, you are characterised by team spirit, ability to reach consensus, personal integrity, social responsibility, independence¹ and discretion. In addition to your commitment to science, sustainability, digitalisation, international cooperation, diversity and equality are important topics for you. You have active or passive knowledge of German, French and English. In order to achieve a balanced composition in the Foundation Council, applications from French-speaking Switzerland and Ticino as well as female candidates are particularly welcome.

¹ With the mandate as a member of the Board of Trustees (Foundation Regulations: III. 15, para.3), the following functions are incompatible:

- Overall management functions in institutions or organisations whose members apply for funding from the SNSF (e.g. directors of research institutions);
- Functions in institutions, organisations or umbrella organisations whose activities involve safeguarding the interests of stakeholders vis-à-vis the SNSF;
- Functions that may impair the independence of the Foundation Council in any other way.

You can set aside around 15 working days per year to attend and prepare for the meetings.

What we offer you

We offer you the opportunity to get involved in Switzerland's most important research funding institution and to help shape Switzerland as a centre of research. You are supported in all tasks by the SNSF Administrative Offices. Your activities are remunerated to an extent appropriate to their non-profit status. The term of office is 4 years; re-election is possible once. You will take office on 1 May 2026 or by arrangement.

Please send your application by 30 January 2026 by email to gs@snf.ch.

The application documents (max. 5 pages) include a letter of motivation and a curriculum vitae showing your suitability for the position. The SNSF is committed to diversity and equal opportunities. You can find our Statutes [here](#).

Your contact person:
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