

The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) is the principal Swiss agency promoting scientific research. It supports all scientific disciplines on behalf of Switzerland's federal government. The Research Council is responsible for the scientific review and selection of funding applications. It is also responsible for funding policy and funding schemes, and shares responsibility for strategic management of the SNSF with the Foundation Council. For January 2025 the SNSF is seeking experienced and innovative individuals to become a

Member of the Academic Board of the Research Council or, electively, a Vice President of the Academic Board of the Research Council

The Academic Board of the Research Council will be the Research Council's leadership body. In addition to the President of the Research Council, the Board will comprise two Vice Presidents, whose mandate has either a thematic focus either on research funding or on research policy, as well as two to three other members and the Director (who will have no voting rights).

Board members' duties

- Setting the SNSF's strategic direction in partnership with the relevant leadership bodies
- Managing the SNSF's Research Council and coordinating the activities of the Research Council's bodies
- Working with the Research Council's bodies, the Delegates Assembly and Executive Management
- Actively supporting the Research Council with change processes that have been initiated
- Safeguarding and monitoring the quality and fairness of SNSF funding processes

Vice Presidents' additional duties

- Advocating for research funding and research policy, in line with the focus of their mandate
- Working closely with and representing the President in the performance of his duties
- Maintaining relations and cooperating with Swiss universities, with scientific organisations in Switzerland and abroad and with federal authorities
- Representing the SNSF at national and international level
- Representing research in the media and in public debates on current scientific and research-policy issues

Candidate profile

- Internationally recognised research and outstanding track record
- Outstanding knowledge of national and international research in own field
- Broad scientific interest in all fields of research
- Excellent knowledge of the Swiss research landscape and very good knowledge of the international research landscape, particularly within the European Research Area

- Knowledge and experience of research policy acquired in Switzerland or abroad
- Knowledge and experience of research funding acquired in Switzerland or abroad, including evaluation standards, quality assurance and efficiency
- Profound knowledge of and experience in research ethics and scientific integrity
- Awareness of or experience with sustainability, digitalisation, international cooperation, diversity, equality and integration issues.
- Strong strategic mindset
- Proven management and leadership skills
- Strong dialogue, negotiation and communication skills
- Excellent knowledge of English and very good knowledge of at least one Swiss national language plus passive knowledge of a second Swiss national language.

Conditions

- For members: 20% FTE availability
- For Vice Presidents: 30–50% FTE availability
- Period of office to begin on 1 January 2025 or by agreement
- Four-year period of office, one-time re-election possible (special rules apply to current members of the Presiding Board of the Research Council)

The SNSF is committed to diversity and equal opportunities. Applications from women and minorities are particularly welcome. Please submit your application, with full supporting documentation, by e-mail to academicboard@snf.ch by 10 June 2024. Your application must comprise a motivation letter in which you set out your contribution to the realisation of the SNSF's vision for the SNSF and a CV that demonstrates your compatibility with the required profile. Furthermore, the application should also indicate whether, in addition to membership of the Academic Board, you are also applying for a position of vice president (focus on research funding or research policy or both). Your application must not exceed 10 pages in length. Candidates will be selected in a two-stage interview process. The first round of interviews will take place on 4 and 5 July; the second on 9 September 2024.

Your contact person

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