

UK-Swiss Clinical Trials: Call for outline proposals 2025

Closing date: 09 September 2025

A maximum of three joint projects will be funded.

1 Introduction

The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the [UK National Institute for Health and Care Research \(NIHR\)](#) are looking to fund investigator-led randomised controlled clinical trials in areas of unmet clinical need. The purpose is to support new joint Swiss-UK late phase 2 and phase 3 trials, where the Swiss-based component is funded through SNSF, and the UK-based component is funded through the NIHR.

SNSF and NIHR have jointly committed in the region of CHF 8.8 million to this funding opportunity. We anticipate funding 2-3 awards for collaborative Swiss-UK clinical studies of up to 5 years in duration. Joint research projects must involve one applicant based in Switzerland and one based in the UK.

[The full call guidance can be accessed on the NIHR website.](#)

2 Deadline for submission of applications

Outline proposals must be submitted to NIHR. Only a simplified application to SNSF is required at this stage, which however must include a PDF copy of the NIHR submission. Due to this, the two organisations have separate deadlines:

UK/NIHR platform	Submission by 9 September 2025 at 14:00 (Swiss time)
Switzerland/mySNF	Submission by 9 September 2025 at 17:00 (Swiss time)

An application can only be considered complete and eligible if both NIHR and SNSF have received the submission within the deadlines noted above.

Applicants will be notified of the outline application outcomes in November 2025, following which full applications will be solicited, with a deadline of 28 January 2026. Applicants will be notified of the results of the evaluation and the funding decisions in May 2026. Funded projects can start by December 2026.

3 Eligibility

Submissions to the joint call allow for one applicant in the UK and one applicant in Switzerland. The latter must meet the eligibility criteria of the SNSF. The SNSF [Funding Regulations](#), the [General implementation regulations](#) and the [Regulations on Project Funding](#) are applicable mutatis mutandis where not stated otherwise.

Applicants can submit a proposal to the joint call even if they hold another SNSF grant, **provided that there is no substantial thematic overlap**. Also, grantees of the UK-Swiss Clinical Trials call may submit proposals to all SNSF funding schemes during the funding period of their joint research project, again **provided that there is no substantial thematic overlap**. Please note that the present call is not in conflict with the restrictions applicable to the SNSF's national project funding in accordance with Article 13 of the Regulations on Project Funding. Ambizione and PRIMA grantees can contact the SNSF office to check their eligibility.

4 Guidance for *mySNF* submission

As noted above, the purpose of the application on *mySNF* is to allow for an eligibility check. The complete outline proposal is submitted to NIHR, though a PDF copy of the NIHR submission must be included in the application on *mySNF*.

The application form can be found on *mySNF* in the category *Bilateral Cooperation (Initiative of the State Secretary for Education, Research and Innovation)*. It is labelled *UK-Swiss Clinical Trials Call Outline application 2025/2026*.

The data containers that need to be completed at this stage of the application are as follows. Notes are given where the requirements differ from other SNSF funding schemes.

1.1 Responsible applicant

→ Please note that this refers to the Swiss applicant. The UK applicant does not have to be listed at this stage of the application process.

1.2 Applicants' employment

2.1 Basic data I

2.2 Basic data II

2.3 Link to other SNSF projects.

→ Please note that you also need to list applications that you have submitted but that have not yet been approved or rejected by the SNSF.

2.3 University or research institution

2.4 Requested funding

→ Please note that at this stage of the application process, only the **overall planned cost related to the Swiss component of the project** is needed. This should be assigned to the category “Additional project costs (incl. consumables)” and does not need to be divided into the individual project years but can simply be entered for the first year. A detailed budget will only be required at the full application stage.

2.5 General remarks on the project

3.1 Research plan

→ Please note that a PDF copy of the NIHR submission must be uploaded to this data container. No separate Swiss research plan is required.

3.2 CV and major achievements

→ Please note that the CV for the Swiss applicant must conform to the SNSF CV format: You can find all relevant information [here](#).

Once all these data containers have been completed, do not forget to submit the application!

5 Contact

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