

## UK-Swiss Clinical Trials: Call for full proposals 2026

**Closing date: 28 January 2026**

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

Full proposals must be submitted to NIHR. Only a simplified application to SNSF is required, 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 28 January 2026 at 14:00 (Swiss time)
Switzerland/mySNF	Submission by 28 January 2026 at 17:00 (Swiss time)

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

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

The purpose of the application on *mySNF* is to allow for an eligibility check of the applicants in Switzerland and the requested funding from SNSF. The complete full 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: Full application*. **Any applications not submitted to the correct funding scheme may be ineligible.**

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.

#### 1.2 Project partner(s)

→ Please note that project partners and subcontractors can receive up to 20% of the overall Swiss budget

#### 1.3 Applicants' employment

#### 2.1 Basic data I

#### 2.2 Basic data II

#### 2.3 Relation to pre-proposal

#### *2.4 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.

#### *2.5 Further requested and available funds (not from the SNSF)*

→ Please include the funds requested from NIHR here.

#### *2.6 University or research institution*

#### *2.7 Collaboration (national and international)*

→ Please list the UK co-applicant here.

#### *2.8 Requested funding*

→ Please note that while a detailed budget isn't required at this stage by NIHR, the SNSF requires a detailed budget for the part of the project managed by the Swiss side, which will be checked after submission.

All costs mentioned in the General Implementation Regulations (Clause 2 Eligible costs) and in Art. 7 (excluding Art. 7.1g) of the Regulations on project funding may be charged to this grant. They include:

- a. the salaries of scientific and technical staff in research projects according to the salary ranges and rates prescribed by the SNSF;
- b. material costs that are directly related to the research work, namely material of enduring value, expendable items, active drug substances and inactive control formulations, reagents, fees for the obtainment of official authorisations, liability insurance premiums in connection with research on humans for centres outside Switzerland, travel costs or third-party charges;
- c. direct costs incurred through the use of research infrastructure linked to the research work;
- d. direct costs incurred at Clinical Trial Units or equivalent, particularly costs in connection with setting up the study, patient recruitment, project management, monitoring and data collection and analysis (an offer for such CTU services needs to be uploaded to data container 3.3, see below);
- e. costs for organising conferences and workshops in connection with the funded research;
- f. costs for national and international cooperation and networking activities carried out in connection with the funded research;

- g. Costs for PPI (Patient and Public involvement) activities, i.e. costs for involving either the patients, members of their family, carers, the public or the relevant patient organisations during the trial lifecycle, such as hourly compensation for their consulting work, meetings.

In the application, the costs must be set out in detail according to cost type and attributed to the applicant or project partner that will receive this part of the budget. Costs abroad e.g. patient recruitment costs at clinical trial centres abroad or foreign CTU costs may be charged to the grant; any costs in the UK cannot be attributed to the Swiss side and must be covered by the UK side.

## *2.9 Research requiring authorisation or notification*

## *2.10 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](#).

### *3.3 Other annexes*

→ Any authorisations (see 2.9) already available can be uploaded here. If any CTU services are to be covered by the Swiss side, please also complete and upload the following document here: [Template for CTU Services \(Excel\)](#).

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

## 5 Contact

**For SNSF:**

Matt Kimmich and Flurina Kuhn

[international@snf.ch](mailto:international@snf.ch)

**For NIHR:**

[internationalapplications@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:internationalapplications@nihr.ac.uk)