



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER

Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS

Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships for Foreign Scholars and Artists for the Academic Year 2014-2015

SPECIFICATIONS

for the pre-selection of applicants
(not for diffusion to applicants)



Type of Scholarships

Research Scholarships:

Target Group

Highly qualified postgraduate researchers from all academic fields as well as young Medical Doctors

Eligibility Criteria and specific conditions

Master degree or equivalent University degree

The candidate must not be more than 35 years old at the moment of the application

Applicants who are in Switzerland since more than 1 year at the beginning of the scholarship are not eligible

Applicants must provide a letter (e-mail) from a Professor from the Swiss host institution stating that he/she is willing to supervise the Research

Applicants must have a research proposal including a timeframe (this is the central piece of the application.

The applicant must devote all required attention to it)

Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Scholarship are not eligible for a new scholarship

Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the Research

Duration

12 months maximum (non renewable)

Type of scholarships

Postdoctoral Scholarships:

Target Group

Highly qualified postdoctoral researchers from all academic fields

Eligibility Criteria and specific conditions

PhD degree

There should not be a gap of more than 5 years between the award of the PhD and the application deadline

Applicants who are in Switzerland since more than 1 year at the beginning of the scholarship are not eligible

Applicants must provide a letter (e-mail) from a Professor from the Swiss host institution stating that he/she is willing to supervise the Research

Applicants must have a research proposal including a timeframe (this is the central piece of the application.

The applicant must devote all required attention to it)

Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Scholarship are not eligible for a new scholarship

Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the Research

Duration

12 months (renewable maximum 6 months)

Type of scholarships

Fine arts scholarships:

Target Group

Highly qualified young artists from all artistic branches. Master scholarships are only offered to citizens of the countries with which Switzerland has a direct reciprocity agreement in the realm of arts scholarships

Eligibility Criteria and specific conditions

Bachelor degree or equivalent degree

The candidate should not be more than 35 years old at the moment of the application

Applicants who are in Switzerland since more than 1 year at the beginning of the scholarship are not eligible

Applicants must apply to the chosen Conservatory or Art School as well as for the scholarship. The two procedures are separate ones

Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Scholarship are not eligible for a new scholarship

Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the PhD program

Duration

The duration of the Master program (according to the ECTS credits)



Application package

The application Package:

The 2014-2015 application package has to be sent by e-mail to the prospective candidates. It includes:

- 1) Application guidelines
- 2) 2014-2015 application form
- 3) Project proposal form
- 4) Recommendation letter form
- 5) Medical certificate form

IMPORTANT POINTS

- o Applicants must apply for **only 1 University**. Applicants who have applied for 2 or more Swiss Universities (Ex: ETHZ & EPFL) **will not be taken into consideration by the Swiss Diplomatic Representation**.

- o For Research Fellowships, Postdoctoral Fellowships as well as PhD Scholarships: a complete research proposal (max. 5 pages), **using exclusively the official research proposal form** provided with the application package (see. APPLICATION GUIDELINE.78252()0c52(a)1.78252(r)3.4;35.56 49



Exclusion Criteria

Applications will not be taken into consideration if they are in one of the following situations:

- o The applicant does not fulfill the eligibility criteria stated on the FCS website and application guidelines
- o The application is incomplete, does not respect the guidelines, does not include the proper FCS forms or is badly prepared
- o Applications for 2 or more Universities
- o Applicants do not have an invitation letter from a Professor willing to supervise the research in one of the Swiss Academic institutions
- o Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Scholarship are not eligible for a second scholarship
- o Applicants are in Switzerland for more than 1 year at the beginning of the scholarship.
- o **All applicants whose applications are rejected must receive a written communication stating that their application has not been taken into consideration for the second round and as a consequence will not be sent to Switzerland.**

**Thank you very much for your cooperation and involvement for the
Swiss Government Scholarships!**