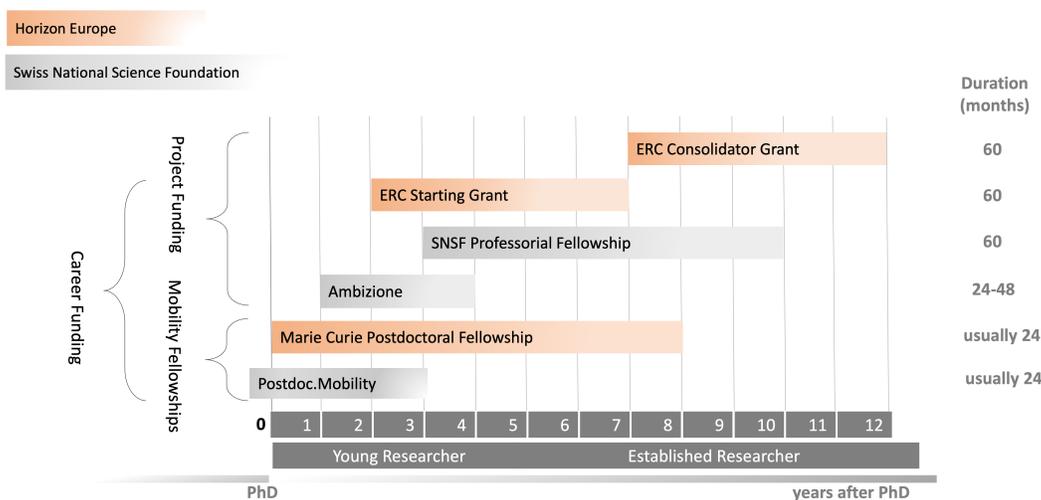


## You have finished your PhD – What now?

You recently successfully completed your PhD at the University of Bern, for which we offer you our warmest congratulations. We have prepared an overview of some of the national and European funding possibilities in order to help you with the mid- and long-term planning of your academic career. This summary will help you with questions such as: Where do I obtain financial support in order to further my scientific research? Which postdoc fellowships would be suitable for me?

### Overview: Individual fellowships and grants according to level of academic experience



**Note:** The eligibility window can be extended under certain circumstances. Possible reasons include clinical duties, maternity (18 months per child) and family care duties.  
**Attention:** Limited options for Horizon Europe schemes. Please note information in the text.

### European Research Council (ERC): Starting und Consolidator Grants



Supported are pioneer research projects, the topic of which the researchers themselves can choose. Projects must be scientifically excellent, innovative and ambitious. A typical ERC project has a profile that while risky promises a large scientific gain if successful. It is expected that applicants have already published in internationally recognized journals. With an ERC grant, you can finance yourself and establish your own research group.

As Switzerland is currently not associated to the Horizon Europe Framework Programme, researchers are not eligible to apply to the ERC Starting and Consolidator Grants 2023 with a Swiss host institution. For the ERC Starting Grant 2023 call, the SNSF launched the transitional measure SNSF Starting Grants 2023. This is an integrative call which, in addition to being the transitional measure for the 2023 ERC Starting Grant, also covers the SNSF Professorial Fellowships (the successor scheme of Eccellenza and PRIMA). To at least partially make up that researchers with Swiss host institutions are/were not eligible for the ERC Consolidator Grant 2023, an SNSF Consolidator Grant 2023 has been set up.

Further info:

<https://www.snf.ch/en/dBWxFSYnpjinskjD/page/horizon-europe-snsf-transitional-measures>  
[www.erc.europa.eu](http://www.erc.europa.eu)

#### ERC Starting Grant:

**Aim:** Conduct an innovative project with your own team.

2-7 years after PhD, for scientifically excellent researchers and projects, duration usually 60 months, EUR 1.5 million per project (plus an additional EUR 1 million for certain major costs), annual call for proposals.

**ERC Consolidator Grant (CoG):**

**Aim:** Conduct an innovative project with your own team.

7-12 years after PhD, for scientifically excellent researchers and projects, duration usually 60 months, EUR 2 million per project (plus an additional EUR 1 million for certain major costs), annual call for proposals.

**Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA): Postdoctoral Fellowships**


The aim is to promote the mobility of postdoctoral researchers, the research topic can be chosen freely. The fellowship also serves to acquire new skills that lead to an increase in competitiveness of the applicant in their future career. To be eligible, applicants must not have spent more than 1 year in the host country in the last 3 years before the deadline.

As Switzerland is currently considered a non-associated Third Country with respect to the Horizon Europe Framework Programme, participation in a MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship with a Swiss host institution is not possible. However, it is possible to complete the 12- to 24-month outgoing phase of an MSCA Global Postdoctoral Fellowship in Switzerland.

On the government's behalf the SNSF launched the SNSF Swiss Postdoctoral Fellowships (SNSF SPF) as a transitional solution for researchers who intended to apply for a MSCA European Postdoctoral Fellowship. For more information, please visit the [SNSF website](#).

Further info: [www.ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions](http://www.ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions) > Actions > Postdoctoral Fellowships

**MSCA European Postdoctoral Fellowship (EF):**

**Aim:** Complete high-quality training in Europe.

Up to 8 years after PhD, for researchers from all over the world, duration usually 24 months, lump sum for salary and research costs, annual call for proposals.

**MSCA Global Postdoctoral Fellowship (GF):**

**Aim:** Complete high-quality training outside Europe (mandatory return phase to Europe).

Up to 8 years after PhD, for European nationals or long-term residents, duration between 24 and 36 months, lump sum for salary and project costs, annual call for proposals.

**Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)**


The SNSF offers a wide range of funding schemes for young scientists and provides a useful selection tool.

Further info: [www.snf.ch](http://www.snf.ch) > Funding > Find funding scheme

**Postdoc.Mobility**

**Aim:** Increase scientific independence and enhance scientific profile while abroad.

9 months before and up to 3 years after PhD or equivalent qualification for Swiss postdocs (or link to Switzerland, see regulations), duration usually 24 months (with return option), lump sum for salary and possibly project costs, twice-yearly call for proposals.

**Ambizione**

**Aim:** Become scientifically independent.

The SNSF awards two types of Ambizione grants: "Ambizione grant with salary" and "Ambizione project grant". The following applies to both grants: 1 to 4 years after PhD or equivalent qualification, for highly qualified researchers, past and planned mobility is an important evaluation criterion, duration 24-48 months in Switzerland, contribution covers salary and/or project costs (project funds up to CHF 400,000), annual call for proposals.

**SNSF Professorial Fellowship NEW**

**Aim:** Realize an independent research project with your own team and attain qualifications for a permanent professorship.

3 to 10 years after PhD or equivalent qualification, for highly qualified Swiss researchers (or link to Switzerland, see regulations), duration usually 60 months in Switzerland (mobility possible), contribution covers salary and project costs (project funds up to CHF 1 million), PRIMA Leadership Program as a support measure for female Professorial Fellowship recipients, annual call for proposals. **For 2023, the SNSF Professorial Fellowships are integrated in the SNSF StG call.**

## University of Bern



The Vice-Rectorate Research of the University of Bern supports young researchers with personal counselling, an informative web presence and different funding instruments.

Further information: [www.unibe.ch](http://www.unibe.ch) > Research > Promotion of early career researchers

### Promotion Fund

**Aim:** Carry out activities to build or strengthen a scientific network.

For intermediate staff at the University of Bern, contribution up to CHF 5,000 for networking and innovative activities (e.g., meetings, workshops, professional development measures), biannual call for proposals.

### UniBE Initiator Grant

**Aim:** Prepare your own third-party funding application.

For postdocs at the University of Bern, contribution up to CHF 30,000 for the preparation of large, competitive third-party funding applications (project and individual costs), annual call for proposals.

### UniBE Short Travel Grants for (Post)Docs

**Aim:** Improve your academic profile through a stay abroad

For doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers at the University of Bern, stay abroad from two to eight weeks, max. grant amount per application is CHF 7,000 for research stays within Europe and CHF 8,000 for stays outside of Europe.

### 120%-Care-Grant

**Aim:** Reduce employment level and employ a support person.

For postdoctoral researchers (or equivalent position) with a postdoc agreement (excluding postdocs paid by the SNSF), reduction of work-time percentage with employment of support person.

## „Research Professional“ international database for funding opportunities

**\*Research Professional** An extensive database that simplifies the search for suitable funding instruments for your research. Funding opportunities and fellowships for postdocs, research prizes, travel grants and many other calls for proposals can be found quickly and easily. The service is free of charge for researchers at the University of Bern and Inselspital.

Further information: [www.unibe.ch](http://www.unibe.ch) > Research > Promotion of Research > Funding > Funding Search > Research Professional

## „Fundraiso.ch“ swiss directory of foundations, funds and sponsors



A comprehensive online and up-to-date directory that enables you to search for foundations, sponsors and funds for your project efficiently and independently. The service is free of charge for researchers at the University of Bern and Inselspital.

Further information: [www.unibe.ch](http://www.unibe.ch) > Research > Promotion of Research > Funding > Funding Search > Fundraiso

## Online job portals

Academic positions in science and research can be found on the following job portals:

 <p>ETH GET HIRED: <a href="http://www.eth-gethired.ch/en">www.eth-gethired.ch/en</a></p>	 <p>academics.ch: <a href="http://www.academics.ch">www.academics.ch</a></p>
 <p>myScience <a href="http://www.myscience.ch/jobs">www.myscience.ch/jobs</a></p>	 <p>EURAXESS: <a href="https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs">https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu/jobs</a></p>

If you have questions or would like a detailed consultation, please contact one of the following offices in the Vice-Rectorate Research:

For questions concerning an academic career:

**Dr. Matthias Hirt** +41 (0)31 684 40 29 matthias.hirt@unibe.ch  
**Dr. Judith Zbinden** +41 (0)31 684 48 05 judith.zbinden@unibe.ch

For questions concerning a planned project for a specific funding instrument:

**Grants Office** grantsoffice@unibe.ch

Further information about the promotion of early career researchers:

[www.unibe.ch](http://www.unibe.ch) > Research > Promotion of early career researchers > Career steps > Post-doc

Further information on European funding programs:

[www.unibe.ch](http://www.unibe.ch) > Research > Promotion of Research > Funding > Funding Programs