

SRIT, 28.09.2021

SNSF Advanced Grants 2021

1. Basic data

Budget: 2.5mio CHF, including:

- Applicant's salary and personnel costs
- Equipment and other direct costs (travels, consumables, IPR costs, OA, ...)
- 15% overhead

Duration: max 5 years

Minimum **time commitment** of applicant: 30%

Evaluation in 2 steps, all documents to be submitted at once. Second step includes interview with applicant.

2. Timeline

Opening of the call	1 October 2021
Pre-registration deadline	1 November 2021
Submission deadline	1 December 2021
Invitations for interviews	mid-February 2022
Step 1 results	End of February 2022
Interviews	March/April 2022
Communication of results	May 2022
Earliest project start	June 2022

3. Eligibility criteria

Applicants:

- Active researchers who are **recognized leaders in their respective field**, with outstanding research **track-record over the last 10 years**;
- Open to any discipline and topic; applicants can be of any nationality;
- Projects have a ground-breaking, high-gain/high-risk nature.
- The percentage of employment at a Swiss research institution must be **at least 50%**;
- Grantees of **ongoing ERC projects** cannot submit a proposal to the SNSF Advanced Grants Call 2021 **unless** the existing project **ends before the end of September 2022**.
- An SNSF Advanced grant can only start once the previous ERC frontier research grant agreement has ended.

Host Institution:

- Must be a higher education institution or a non-commercial research institution outside the higher education sector; must be established in Switzerland.
- The host institution must employ the applicant for the duration of the project.

4. Application

The online application consists of:

- ☐ **Extended synopsis:** max 5 pages, (excl. references) – evaluated at 1st stage
- ☐ **CV of the applicant:** max 2 pages – evaluated at 1st stage
- ☐ **Ten-year track record:** max 2 pages – evaluated at 1st stage
- ☐ **Research plan:** max 14 page (excl. references) – evaluated at 2nd stage – consists of 2 sections:
 - Section a: State-of-the-art and objectives
 - Section b: Methodology
- ☐ **Resources:** max 3 pages – evaluated at 2nd stage
- ☐ **Commitment of Host Institution:** mandatory

5. Pre-registration

Applicants need to pre-register in mySNF by **1 November 2021** and provide info on:

- ☐ Designated host lab/institution
- ☐ Basic data I (incl. project title, disciplines)
- ☐ Basic data II (incl. summary, keywords)

Send an e-mail to adg@snf.ch confirming the completion of the pre-registration.

6. Evaluation

Evaluation process is based on:

- step 1: extended synopsis, CV, track record;
- step 2: **all documents + interview**

Evaluation criteria

Scientific quality of the research project

- Ground-breaking nature and potential impact of the research project
 - ☐ The extent to which the proposed research addresses important unsolved scientific questions and technical challenges

- ☐ The extent to which the objectives are ambitious, moving the field beyond the current state of the art (e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development between or across disciplines)
- ☐ The extent to which the proposed research is high-risk/high-gain
- Scientific Approach
 - ☐ The extent to which the outlined scientific approach is feasible, taking into account the high-risk/high-gain nature of the project
 - ☐ The extent to which the proposed research methodology is appropriate to achieving the goals of the project
 - ☐ The extent to which the proposal involves the development of novel methodology
 - ☐ The extent to which the proposed timescales, resources and PI commitment adequate and properly justified (only applied in Step 2)

Qualification of the applicant

- Applicant - capacity and creativity
 - ☐ The extent to which the applicant has demonstrated the ability to conduct ground-breaking research
 - ☐ The extent to which the applicant has the required scientific expertise and capacity to execute projects successfully
 - ☐ The extent to which the applicant has demonstrated sound leadership in the training and advancement of young scientists

7. Further documents and guidance

- ☐ Official [SNSF Advanced Grants guidelines](#)
- ☐ Submission platform: [mySNF](#)
- ☐ SRIT contact person: martina.pestoni@usi.ch
- ☐ SNSF Advanced Grants e-Mail: adg@snf.ch