



## SNSF Starting Grant 2025 at the UZH: Information for applicants

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### Eligibility

Please note that [different eligibility criteria](#) apply compared to the SNSF Starting Grant Call 2024 and the ERC Starting Grant 2025. Applicants must

- 1) fit within the window of eligibility
- 2) not have already achieved the policy objective of this funding instrument and
- 3) have a Swiss-link (cf. section 1.2 of the [Call document 2025](#)).

## General information on submitting the application

- The application is submitted via the platform [mySNF](#). If you do not yet have a user account, please register for a new account at least one month before the deadline.
- The [CV](#) must be created in the [SNSF Portal](#) (the new SNSF platform). Log in to the SNSF Portal with your personal [SWITCH edu-ID](#). Important: If you already have a SWITCH edu-ID (e.g. from a previous place of work), DO NOT generate a NEW edu-ID. Otherwise access to the SNSF Portal will be blocked. To log in to the SNSF Portal for the first time, you will need a mySNF account.
- Please make sure that you adhere strictly to the document requirements regarding length, number of characters, font, font size, line spacing, etc. (see the call document and information on mySNF). The character counter in mySNF for the research plan is binding! It is advisable to upload the research plan well in advance of the deadline so that there is still time to make any necessary adjustments.

## The UZH as host institution

It is recommended that applicants contact the responsible persons at the institute or department at an early stage to discuss aspects of the scientific connection and the available resources (premises, infrastructure, etc.). Some institutes have an internal selection procedure.

### Confirmation letter from UZH

The mandatory “Confirmation of the higher education institution” (confirmation letter) is issued through the internal approval process in [AVA](#), the UZH’s third-party funding platform. Through the approval process, the head of your host department/institute as well as the dean of the relevant faculty give their consent to the application and confirm the agreements regarding employment and access to space, infrastructure, equipment, etc. (cf. [template of the confirmation letter](#)).

You can log in to AVA with your **UZH login** (short name and password). **If you do not (yet) have a UZH login**, an administrative staff member of the host department/institute can enter the project data in AVA on your behalf (see the annex for required information) and then send you the confirmation letter.

Once the approval process has been completed, you can download the confirmation letter as a PDF.

### Earliest possible project start at UZH

The SNSF will communicate the funding decisions in November 2025. For administrative reasons, the earliest possible project start date at UZH is 1 February 2026. You can still postpone the start date after the decision, but your project must begin no later than 1 January 2027.

### Phase 2 of the evaluation procedure: interview preparation

For candidates whose application is accepted for the second phase of the evaluation, the UZH Research Development Office will organize an event to prepare for the presentation and interview at the SNSF. The date of the event will be communicated to the candidates in good time.

## Budget

→ In addition to the information in the call document guidelines, you will find information on each budget item in the data container "Requested funding" in mySNF when you click on "+Add expense".

### UZH Salaries (as of 2024)

The following salary figures are gross salaries (i. e. salary including employee social security contributions). In addition, the employer's social security contributions must be budgeted. The 15% flat rate percentage set by the SNSF for the UZH is automatically added in mySNF if the University of Zurich was previously selected in the data container "Higher education institution or research institution".

*Salary of applicant (assistant professor level)*

	Gross salary [CHF] 100%	Salary bracket
1 <sup>st</sup> year	150'855	24/03
2 <sup>nd</sup> year	155'958	24/05
3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> year	161'057	24/07
5 <sup>th</sup> year	166'160	24/09

Salary of personnel:

*PhD student*

	Gross salary [CHF] fixed rate	Salary bracket
1 <sup>st</sup> year	49'855	PhD student
2 <sup>nd</sup> year	51'445	PhD student
3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> year	53'034	PhD student

*Postdoc (basic assessment independent of number of years of professional experience post PhD)*

	Gross salary [CHF] 100%	Salary bracket
	101'844	18/03

*Student Assistants*

	Gross salary [CHF] 100%	Salary bracket
BA students	65'294	10/03
MA students	75'618	13/03

Salary of **other employees** (e. g. technician, auxiliary personnel, etc.)

Please contact the human resources manager of the host institute or the HR Department of the UZH (tel. +41 44 634 17 53).

**Family/child allowances (Further social security contributions)**

In the canton of Zurich, child or family allowances do not have to be budgeted separately. These are paid out monthly by UZH with the salary.

**Equipment and material of enduring value**

As an exception to art. 2.8 of the SNSF's General Implementation Regulations for the Funding Regulations, the costs for equipment may exceed the maximum of CHF 100'000, provided that the maximum budget of CHF 1 million for the project funds is not exceeded. For pieces of equipment that cost more than CHF 50,000, a quote must be submitted.

Costs of equipment and material of enduring value are eligible for funding if the equipment is of key importance to the research work and will be acquired specifically for the research project.

Equipment and facilities that generally form part of the basic infrastructure, operation and standards of a scientific institution may **not** be debited to the SNSF grant. These include, in particular:

- standard IT equipment incl. hardware and software;
- laboratory facilities and equipment;
- any other facilities and equipment routinely made available for the relevant research field in a research institution or environment.

**Travel, accommodation, and board costs**

Information on rates applicable at UZH can be found here:

<https://www.staff.uzh.ch/en/personal/Expenses/Information-Expenses.html>

**Overhead**

For each SNSF Starting Grant, the SNSF pays the UZH an overhead to compensate for indirect research costs. The UZH receives this overhead in addition to the amount received by the grantee, so that the overhead does not need to be taken into account in budgeting. The overhead contribution is fixed annually and in recent years has been between 11% and 15% of the allocated funds.

At the UZH, the overhead contribution is distributed as follows: The faculty and the institute where the grantee is located receive 20% each, and 10% goes to the grantee. The remaining 50% remains centrally at the UZH and is part of the basic financing of the university.

## Annex: Information to be entered in AVA

Log in to AVA (<https://ava.uzh.ch/en-US/>)

Klick on „New project“ and enter a short title

Choose „Ready“ > Prepare a project application > SNSF Starting Grant 2025

### Applicant

You may also register someone other than yourself as applicant. Please note, however, that the respective person will not automatically receive access to the project. In addition, you need to add him/her in the general project overview under "Access".

Salutation\*  
[Redacted] ▼

First name\* [Redacted]      Name\* [Redacted]

E-mail\* [Redacted]

Date of PhD defense (may differ from the issue date of the diploma)\*   
mm/dd/yyyy

Current institution (if not UZH)

Country of current institution (if not UZH)  
-

### Affiliation at UZH (during the project)

Faculty / Central Services\*  
[Redacted] ▼

Please select the faculty (or central services) where the project will be carried out.

Organizational unit\*  
[Redacted] ▼

Please select your institute/clinic

Employee number (if known)  
[Redacted]

Profit center (if known)

## Contacts

### Administrative contact person (if known)

Select an administrative contact person who supports you later in the (financial) management of the project (optional). Please note that this person will be notified and receives access to your project application.

Select

### Head of organizational unit (institute/department/clinic)

Please select the head of the organizational unit where the project will be carried out.

Select

### Dean of Faculty



Please select the dean of the faculty where the project will be carried out.

First name

Last name

E-mail

Select

## Project information

Short title (max. 40 characters)\*

SNSF StG 2025 TEST

The short title or acronym must relate to the specific project and may not e.g. simply name the sponsor or the beneficiary. In the case of clinical trials, the register number may be used.

Full project title\*

SNSF StG 2025 TEST

Please use the exact same project title as in your submission to the funding agency. This will facilitate the creation of a project account later on.

Planned start of project\*



mm/dd/yyyy

Duration in months\*

End of project

Call Deadline\*



mm/dd/yyyy

Application/project number (if known)

In the case of EU projects = SEP or submission reference

Keywords



Please add one keyword per field.

## Employment and time commitment

I confirm the following employment and time commitment agreed with the institute/clinic during the project period of the SNSF Starting Grant:

### Employment

- I apply for funding of my salary (in whole or in part) through the SNSF Starting Grant (SNSF StG). I confirm that I will be employed at least 80% (0.8 FTE) at UZH and will devote at least 70% of my working time to the SNSF StG project and the remaining time primarily to teaching duties. (The financing of the teaching obligation can be covered by the SNSF StG. Any other arrangement must be clarified with the institute and the faculty in advance. The teaching obligation for SNSF professors at UZH is 2-4 semester hours per week with a 100% employment level.)
- I am a clinical researcher and am applying for funding of my salary (in whole or in part) through the SNSF Starting Grant (SNSF StG). I confirm that I will be employed at least 50% (0.5 FTE) at the UZH and will devote at least this time to the SNSF StG project. The remaining time will be devoted primarily to my clinical work and teaching duties. (Funding for teaching duties can be covered by the StG; clinical work is not funded by the SNSF. The teaching obligation for SNSF professors at UZH is 2-4 semester hours per week with a 100% employment level.)
- My employment during the requested project period is already financed by other sources. I confirm that I will be employed at least 50% (0.5 FTE) and will dedicate at least this time to the SNSF Starting Grant project.

### Planned absences from work

- I plan to be temporarily absent/not at UZH during the project period (e.g. for field research).  
Please explain in the comment field how many weeks per year you will be absent and whether this concerns the lecture period. Please note that short absences of professors may require the approval of the dean or the university management. (Further information can be found here: [https://www.prof.uzh.ch/en/your\\_professorship/your\\_appointment/leaves/shortterm\\_absences.html](https://www.prof.uzh.ch/en/your_professorship/your_appointment/leaves/shortterm_absences.html))

Explanations of planned absences from work

### External affiliations and/or external obligations to supervise junior researchers

- I have a simultaneous employment/affiliation with another organization during the project period. This has been agreed with the head of the institute and the dean. (Please note that employment at and affiliations with other institutions/companies must be approved by the Executive Board of the University before taking up the professorship at UZH).
- I have external teaching commitments and/or external commitments to supervise junior researchers during the project period.

Notes on external appointments/commitments

## Salary coverage and position

Please indicate how your salary will be financed during the project period of the SNSF Starting Grant. The information will be included in the confirmation letter from UZH (see template "Confirmation letter").

- The salary of my professorship is already guaranteed for the duration of the project, regardless of the project application.
- The salary of my professorship is to be financed by the SNSF Starting Grant for the entire duration of the proposed project. (Please indicate the planned level of employment in FTE in the comments field below).
- The salary of my professorship is only partially guaranteed for the duration of the project applied for and is to be partially financed by the SNSF Starting Grant. The following breakdown has been agreed with the institute/clinic and the faculty (please also indicate in the comments field below from when to when your salary is to be financed by the SNSF Starting Grant and at what level of employment in FTE):

Please only enter numbers without a % sign and "0" for categories that do not apply.

% Grant	
% Faculty	
% Organizational unit (Institute/Department/Clinic)	
Other (please specify)	%
<b>Sum</b> <b>0</b>	

Comments:

Employment level (in FTE) / partial funding of the salary by the SNSF Starting Grant (from/to, employment level in FTE)

What kind of position will you receive (or keep) if your proposal is successful? (People who do not yet hold a professorship will be employed at UZH with an SNSF Starting Grant as a "SNF-Förderungsprofessor:in" [externally funded assistant professor]).



## Calculate budget

Responsible      Duration  
Beatrice Scherrer   -

### Budget

Please enter the total amount you are applying for. If you do not know the total yet, you are welcome to calculate your project budget here (incl. salary rates at UZH).

How do you want to proceed? \*

Enter total amount (Budget)    Calculate project budget

Budget\*

Currency\*

CHF

## Equipment and infrastructure

### Equipment

I confirm that all costs for equipment can be covered by the project funds and/or my own funds. \*

- Yes
- No, but additional equipment costs are covered by other sources.
- I have no costs for equipment

### Infrastructure

- I do not need any specific infrastructure for my project.
- I need access to specific infrastructure for my project.

## Lab/office space

The lab and/or office space required to carry out the project has been secured as follows: \*

- The host institute has sufficient space, which will be made available to me.
- I already have sufficient space available.
- I already have sufficient space, but adjustments will be necessary.

# Compliance checklist

## Compliance with ethical and legal requirements

 Information about UZH services and about SNSF/EU requirements for Open Science (incl. DMPs) are available under "Download & Info" at the top right.

Do you conduct animal experiments as part of your research project? \*

Yes  No





Does the project use or study any of the following biological materials?\*

None

Genetic resources 

Human embryonic stem cells 


Genetically modified organisms, pathogenic organisms or alien organisms that are released 

Organisms in closed systems 


Do any of the following safety-related issues arise in your research project?\*


None


Project needs dangerous substances or preparations. 


Project may lead to products or knowledge with high potential for misuse. 

Project might lead to knowledge or products with military applications («dual use»). 

Project uses goods which may be subject to import/export regulation. 

Project uses data from third parties who require you to fill a data security declaration. 

The project is funded by a U.S. institution and uses telecommunications equipment or services as an essential component of a system or as critical technology of a system. 

Project involves partners from third countries, that may raise issues of academic freedom and foreign interference. 

## Data protection & ethics

Does your research involve persons and/or personal data (e.g. surveys, experiments, observations, etc.)? \*

Yes  No

## Reputation

Can you conceive of any reputational risk to yourself or UZH if the media covered your project? \*

Yes  No