



Regulation for Research Grants

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1 Purpose and scope

¹The Swiss Heart Foundation supports research on cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases by granting financial contributions for research projects conducted in Switzerland.

²This regulation defines the procedure, the requirements and the extent of research promotion by the Swiss Heart Foundation.

³It applies to all grant applications for research projects in Switzerland submitted to the Swiss Heart Foundation.

2 Requirements

2.1 Formal requirements

¹Financial support for a research project can only be applied for over our Research Portal (swissheart.ccgrantracker.com).

²Figures and tables illustrating the application are encouraged.

³References must be hyperlinked with PubMed.

⁴The fully completed application is submitted electronically. Upon registration in the application, Co-applicants and Collaborators will be invited and are required to agree to their inclusion in the application electronically.

⁵The lead applicant may submit only one application per year.

⁶If the project foresees the employment of staff, the personnel costs should be budgeted according to the guidelines of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF). Neither Lead- nor Co-applicants can claim personnel costs for themselves. They must secure employment for the duration of the project.

⁷Institutional overheads cannot be deducted from granted financial contributions.

2.2 Requirements for content

¹The Swiss Heart Foundation supports research projects dealing exclusively with cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases.

²The Swiss Heart Foundation does not award scholarships through the call for Research Projects.

2.3 Reasons for exclusion

The Research Committee of the Swiss Heart Foundation may reject applications without explanation based on formal grounds or upon evaluation of the project.

3 Procedure

3.1 Deadlines

The deadline for submitting applications via our Research Portal is **31 May, 5 pm**.

Receipt of the application will be confirmed by our system.

3.2 Preliminary evaluation

¹The office of the Research Committee of the Swiss Heart Foundation evaluates the formal requirements of the applications. Applications not conforming to the Instructions for Applications or received after the deadline will be rejected.

²The office of the Research Committee forwards the valid applications to the members of the Research Committee for evaluation. External reviewers can be engaged depending on subject matter in specific cases.



3.3 Decision of the Research Committee

¹The Research Committee of the Swiss Heart Foundation examines the applications and takes its decision for financial support at its own discretion based on scientific merit.

²The applicants will be informed in writing no later than 31 December of the current year.

³In the case of a positive decision, the lead applicant will be informed by e-mail on the awarded amount of financial support and the payment conditions.

⁴Successful applicants will receive an Agreement to be legally signed and returned to the Swiss Heart Foundation, thereby declaring their consent to comply with the set rules.

⁵The decisions of the Research Committee are final. The Swiss Heart Foundation does not engage in correspondence about their decisions and does not accept appeals.

4 Financial contributions

4.1 Amount

¹The Research Committee decides on the amount of financial support.

²As a rule the Swiss Heart Foundation grants amounts not exceeding CHF 100'000 per project and year. The Research Committee may allow exceptions for multicentre projects.

³The research grants are generally intended to cover a period of one to two years, and can, in justified cases and depending on the project, be extended.

⁴For grants with a budget exceeding 100'000 CHF to be considered, the necessary additional funding must be confirmed in writing. Otherwise, the application will be rejected without review.

4.2 Conditions

¹The Research Committee outlines the conditions of the grant in a separate formal Agreement.

²Grant amounts exceeding CHF 50'000 will be halved. The first instalment is paid upon acceptance of the Agreement and further deliverables. The second instalment is paid upon approval of the first interim or final report, whichever comes first.

³The funding recipients must submit a written interim report once a year on the use of the financial support and the scientific progress. Within six months after the end of the funding period, the recipients must submit their final report together with the publications and the financial report. The documents are to be recorded and submitted directly via our Research Portal.

⁴The recipients are requested to mention the funding of the Swiss Heart Foundation in all publications related to the project and in internal reports with e.g. "This work was supported by a grant from the Swiss Heart Foundation, Bern/Switzerland."

⁵Recipients who have not started their project within one year must refund the full amount unless a credible reason is provided. Anyone who does not submit a credible report with specific reasons within two years will be barred from further applications.

4.3 Use of equipment

After conclusion of the project all equipment acquired through the support of the Swiss Heart Foundation must stay in Switzerland and remain available to the research unit that submitted the project. In exceptional cases the Research Committee decides on the use of the equipment after having received the final report.

4.4 Terms of payment

¹The Research Committee specifies the terms of payment in its Agreement. The recipient must provide the name and institution of the account holder and relevant bank payment information.

²The granted amount of money will be transferred to a research account at the academic institution of the main applicant in the following year and will expire on 31 December of the funding year if not



requested. Differing arrangements require the notification and consent of the Swiss Heart Foundation.

5 Closing provisions

This regulation was approved by the Research Committee and the Board of the Foundation.

Bern, 20 March 2026

SWISS HEART FOUNDATION

Prof Dr Thomas F. Lüscher
Chairman of the Research Committee

Prof Dr Stefan Osswald
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