



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Embassy of Switzerland in Georgia

Note 160/2018

The Embassy of Switzerland presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia and has the honour to inform that Switzerland is offering Swiss Government Excellence scholarships for Georgian researchers for the academic year 2020/21.

The Embassy invites the Government of Georgia to take note of the enclosed information regarding these scholarships.

The Embassy also would like to inform the Ministry that relevant information will be submitted to the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia.

The Embassy of Switzerland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia the assurances of its highest consideration.

B

Tbilisi, 5 August 2019

Enclosure: mentioned

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia
Tbilisi

Copy: Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia





Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

PhD Scholarships

Academic year: 2020-2021
Country: Georgia
Opening of the call: 06 August 2019
Submission deadline: 28 November 2019

Scholarship	⇒	Swiss Government Excellence PhD Scholarships for foreign students
Offered by	⇒	The Swiss Government via the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS
Objectives	⇒	To enable selected applicants to undertake a PhD at one of the 10 Swiss cantonal universities, the two Swiss federal institutes of technology or the Graduate Institute.
Universities	⇒	University of Basel / University of Bern / University of Fribourg / University of Geneva / University of Lausanne / University of Lucerne / University of Neuchâtel / University of St. Gallen / University of Zurich / Università della Svizzera italiana
Federal institutes of technology	⇒	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL) Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ) Research Institutes of the ETH Domain (PSI; WSL; EMPA; EAWAG)
	⇒	Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID)
Validity	⇒	The scholarship is valid only for full-time PhD studies in Switzerland at a Swiss university. It is not valid for mixed PhD programmes (part time in Switzerland and part time in another country).
	⇒	“Cotutelle de these”: PhD students with an ongoing or planned doctoral project that is carried out within the framework of a formalized agreement between two universities (“cotutelle de thèse” cooperation between a Swiss and a foreign university) and under the joint direction of two supervisors are eligible for a 12 month research fellowship only.
Target group	⇒	Highly qualified postgraduate students (possessing the required degrees) from all academic fields.
Duration	⇒	12 months (starting in September) prolongable up to 36 months based on the achieved academic results.

Amount and additional allowances

- ⇒ The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of CHF 1'920.
- ⇒ For non-EU and non-EFTA grantees only: the FCS pays mandatory Swiss health insurance.
- ⇒ There are no family allowances.
- ⇒ No financial support for fieldwork or for conferences.
- ⇒ Scholarship holders from non-EU and non-EFTA countries receive a flight allowance (lump sum) for a ticket back to their country of origin (provided at the end of the scholarship).
- ⇒ Special CHF 300 housing allowance (paid once at the beginning of the scholarship).
- ⇒ One-year half-fare public transportation card.
- ⇒ Support services and various trips, dinners and sightseeing tours organised for Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holders.

Eligibility criteria and specific conditions

- ⇒ Master's degree or equivalent university degree achieved **before 31 July 2020** (degree certificate) recognised by the Swiss university. As a proof, the degree has to be submitted to the Federal Commission for Scholarships before the start of the scholarship.
 - ⇒ Applicant's date of birth after **31 December 1984**.
 - ⇒ Applicants must provide a letter from an academic host professor (including her/his short CV) at the chosen Swiss university confirming why she/he is willing to supervise and support the PhD thesis. Without such support, the application will be rejected.
 - ⇒ If an assistant professor supports a candidature, a full professor who is entitled to supervise the PhD during the entire scholarship has to co-sign the support letter.
 - ⇒ Applicants must have a research proposal including a timeframe. This is the centrepiece of the application. The applicant must devote all required attention to it.
 - ⇒ Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the PhD studies/ research.
 - ⇒ Applicants who have been in Switzerland since more than one year at the beginning of the scholarship in September are not eligible.
 - ⇒ Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship. Scholarship holders are expected to move to Switzerland during their grant period.
- PLEASE NOTE:**
- ⇒ The FCS application for a PhD scholarship and the application for admission by a Swiss University for a PhD study are two separate procedures.
 - ⇒ The admission to a PhD study at your chosen Swiss University is a *conditio sine qua non* for a potential attribution of a FCS scholarship - but no guarantee though for a positive decision by the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS. It is the applicant's responsibility to manage both procedures in parallel.

⇒ There are two different ways to achieve a doctorate degree (aka PhD).
The first way consists in undertaking **doctoral studies under the supervision of an academic mentor** (supervisor). In this case, the **admission to the PhD takes place after the scholarship start**.

⇒ The second way consists in **being admitted to a doctoral school**, which provides the framework for the following doctoral studies. Please inquire your admission directly at the corresponding school.

⇒ In addition to all other application documents (including the support letter from a supervisor), the **admission letter from the doctoral school is required with the application dossier**. As this takes time applicants must plan accordingly and submit their application for admission to the doctoral school sufficiently in advance of the scholarship programme deadline.

⇒ If the chosen doctoral school does not allow you to contact a supervisor before being admitted to the school, the application for the Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship is not possible.

Selection criteria

⇒ The following aspects and selection criteria are primarily considered:
⇒ The candidate: academic profile, research capacity and motivation.
⇒ The research project: originality and methodological soundness.
⇒ The academic context: quality and context of supervision and potential for future academic cooperation.

Application timeframe

- ⇒ Opening of the call: 06 August 2019
- ⇒ Application deadline: 28 November 2019
- ⇒ Beginning of the scholarship: **01 September 2020**

Application procedure

⇒ The application package can be obtained by e-mail from the Swiss Embassy in Tbilisi.

Application documents

- ⇒ Please submit 2 sets (=1 original + 1 copy) of application documents in exact order given below: The 1st set contains the original, **signed** documents plus the confidential letters of recommendation and, if applicable the attested translations in English. The other set is the copy of the 1st set except for the confidential letters of recommendation (only 1st set). No copies for 2nd set.

- 1) **Signed FCS application form** (typed and printed) with photo.
- 2) A full CV with list of academic publications, awards etc.
- 3) A motivation letter (max. 2 pages).
- 4) A complete research proposal (max. 5 pages, **signed**), using exclusively the FCS research proposal form.
- 5) A copy of the letter from an academic host professor (including her/his short CV) at the chosen Swiss university confirming why she/he is willing to supervise and support the PhD thesis.
Applicants for doctoral schools (doctoral programmes):
In addition to all other application documents (including the support letter from a supervisor), the admission letter from the doctoral school is required with the application dossiers.
- 6) Two confidential letters of recommendation from two different professors in the applicant's field (use exclusively the FCS reference form – originals in sealed envelopes only for the 1st set). No copies for 2nd set.
Photocopies of certificates and grade sheets from previously attended universities/colleges and diplomas with grades, starting with the most
- 7)

recent. If not in English, French, Italian or German with attested certified translations in English. Do not submit the original certificates.

- 8) **Signed** medical certificate (use only the FCS health certificate form).
- 9) Two copies of the applicant's passport (main page with personal data). Dual nationals add copies of both passports. Applicants already in Switzerland during the application procedure add a copy of the residence permit for Switzerland.

⇒ **Please do not put the documents into plastic folders or binders.**

Contact institution for the application

⇒ Questions and application documents, should to be submitted to the following address – if not mentioned otherwise*:

⇒ Swiss Embassy
Shalva Radiani Street 12
0179 Tbilisi

E-mail: tbilisi@eda.admin.ch

Tel: 00995 32 275 30 01

Web: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/tbilisi>

* -



Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

Postdoctoral Scholarships

Academic year: 2020-2021

Country: Georgia

Opening of the call: 06 August 2019

Submission deadline: 28 November 2019

Scholarship	⇒	Swiss Government Excellence Postdoctoral Scholarships for foreign researchers
Offered by	⇒	The Swiss Government via the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS
Objectives	⇒	To enable selected applicants to undertake a postdoctoral research at one of the 10 Swiss cantonal universities, the two Swiss federal institutes of technology, the public teaching and research institutes or the universities of applied sciences.
Universities	⇒	University of Basel / University of Bern / University of Fribourg / University of Geneva / University of Lausanne / University of Lucerne / University of Neuchâtel / University of St. Gallen / University of Zurich / Università della Svizzera italiana
Federal Institutes of Technology	⇒	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL) Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ) Research Institutes of the ETH Domain (PSI; WSL; EMPA; EAWAG)
	⇒	Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID)
Universities of applied Sciences	⇒	University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland / Bern University of Applied Sciences / University of Applied Sciences Northwest Switzerland / University of applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland / Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts / University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland / The Zürcher Fachhochschule
Teaching and Research Institutes	⇒	Universities of teacher education
Validity	⇒	The Scholarship is valid only for full-time postdoctoral research in Switzerland. It is not valid for mixed research (part time in Switzerland and part time in another country). This scholarship is not compatible with fieldtrips outside Switzerland . Therefore no possibility and no funding for fieldwork.

Target group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Highly qualified postdoctoral researchers at the beginning of their academic career from all academic fields. No funding for sabbaticals.
Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ 12 months (starting in September); no prolongation possible. ⇒ Grant applications for stays lasting less than 9 months will not be treated as a priority. Grant applications for stays lasting less than 6 months will be rejected.
Amount and additional allowances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of CHF 3'500. ⇒ For non-EU and non-EFTA grantees only: the FCS pays mandatory Swiss health insurance. ⇒ There are no family allowances. ⇒ No financial support for conferences. ⇒ Scholarship holders from non-EU and non-EFTA countries receive a flight allowance (lump sum) for a ticket back to their country of origin (provided at the end of the scholarship). ⇒ Special CHF 300 housing allowance (paid once at the beginning of the scholarship). ⇒ One-year half-fare public transportation card. ⇒ Support services and various trips, dinners and sightseeing tours organised for Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holders.
Eligibility criteria and specific conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ PhD degree achieved after 31 December 2016 and before 31 July 2020 (PhD degree certificate) recognised by the Swiss university. As a proof, the degree has to be submitted to the Federal Commission for Scholarships before the start of the scholarship. ⇒ Applicants who have been in Switzerland since more than one year at the beginning of the scholarship in September are not eligible. ⇒ Applicants must provide a letter from an academic host professor (including her/his short CV) at the chosen Swiss university confirming why she/he is willing to supervise and support the postdoctoral research. Without such support, the application will be rejected. ⇒ Not accepted as academic supervisors for postdoctoral scholarship applicants are their former PhD mentors and their co-directors for the cotutelle PhD if the academic supervisor is at a Swiss university. ⇒ Applicants must have a research proposal including a timeframe. This is the centrepiece of the application. The applicant must devote all required attention to it. ⇒ Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the postdoctoral research. ⇒ Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship. ⇒ Scholarship holders are expected to move to Switzerland during their grant period.
Selection criteria	<p>The following aspects and selection criteria are primarily considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The candidate: academic profile, research capacity and motivation. ⇒ The research project: originality and methodological soundness. ⇒ The academic context: quality and context of supervision and potential for future academic cooperation.
Application timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Opening of the call: 06 August 2019 ⇒ Application deadline: 28 November 2019 ⇒ Beginning of the scholarship: 01 September 2020

Application procedure

⇒ The application package can be obtained by email from the Swiss Embassy in Tbilisi (see below).

Application documents

⇒ Please submit 2 sets (=1 original + 1 copy) of application documents in exact order given below: The 1st set contains the original, **signed** documents plus the confidential letters of recommendation and, if applicable the attested translations in English. The other set is the copy of the 1st set except for the confidential letters of recommendation (only 1st set). No copies for 2nd set.

- 1) **Signed FCS application form** (typed and printed) with photo.
- 2) A full CV with list of academic publications, awards etc.
- 3) A motivation letter (max. 2 pages).
- 4) A complete research proposal (max. 5 pages, **signed**), using exclusively the FCS research proposal form.
- 5) A copy of the letter from an academic host professor (including her/his short CV) at the chosen Swiss university confirming why she/he is willing to supervise and support the postdoctoral research.
- 6) Two confidential letters of recommendation from two different professors in the applicant's field (use exclusively the FCS reference form – originals in sealed envelopes only for the 1st set). No copies for 2nd set.
- 7) Photocopies of certificates and grade sheets from *previously attended* universities/colleges and diplomas with grades, starting with the most recent. If not in English, French, Italian or German with attested certified translations in English. Do not submit the original certificates.
- 8) **Signed** medical certificate (use only the FCS health certificate form).
- 9) Two copies of the applicant's passport (main page with personal data). Dual nationals add copies of both passports. Applicants *already in* Switzerland during the application procedure add a copy of the residence permit for Switzerland.

⇒ **Please do not put the documents into plastic folders or binders.**

Contact institution for the application

⇒ Questions and application documents, should be submitted to the following address – if not mentioned otherwise below*:

⇒ Swiss Embassy
Shalva Radiani Street 12
0179 Tbilisi

E-mail: tbilisi@eda.admin.ch
Tel: 00995 32 275 30 01
Web: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/tbilisi>

* -



Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

Research Fellowship

Academic year: 2020-2021
Country: Georgia

Opening of the call: 06 August 2019
Submission deadline: 28 November 2019

Scholarship	⇒	Swiss Government Excellence Research Scholarships for foreign students
Offered by	⇒	The Swiss Government via the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS
Objectives	⇒	To enable selected applicants to undertake research in the <i>realm</i> of their PhD or medical specialisation at one of the 10 Swiss cantonal universities, the two Swiss federal institutes of technology, the public teaching and research institutes or the universities of applied sciences.
Universities	⇒	<u>University of Basel</u> / <u>University of Bern</u> / <u>University of Fribourg</u> / <u>University of Geneva</u> / <u>University of Lausanne</u> / <u>University of Lucerne</u> / <u>University of Neuchâtel</u> / <u>University of St. Gallen</u> / <u>University of Zurich</u> / <u>Università della Svizzera italiana</u>
Federal institutes of technology	⇒	<u>Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL)</u> <u>Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ)</u> <u>Research Institutes of the ETH Domain (PSI; WSL; EMPA; EAWAG)</u>
Teaching and research institutes	⇒	<u>Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID)</u>
Universities of applied sciences	⇒	<u>University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland</u> / <u>Bern University of Applied Sciences</u> / <u>University of Applied Sciences Northwest Switzerland</u> / <u>University of applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland</u> / <u>Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts</u> / <u>University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland</u> / <u>The Zürcher Fachhochschule</u>
Universities of teacher education	⇒	<u>Universities of teacher education</u>
Validity	⇒	The Scholarship is valid only for full-time research in Switzerland. It is not valid for mixed research (part time in Switzerland and part time in another country). This scholarship is not compatible with fieldtrips outside Switzerland . Therefore no possibility and no funding for fieldwork. Furthermore, this scholarship type is not available for scholars holding a PhD degree. PhD students with an ongoing or planned doctoral project that is carried out within the framework of a formalised agreement between two universities

		<p>("cotutelle de thèse" cooperation between a Swiss and a foreign university) and under the joint direction of two supervisors are eligible for a 12 month research fellowship only.</p>
Target group	⇒	Highly qualified postgraduate researchers from all academic fields as well as young medical doctors.
Duration	⇒	12 months maximum (starting in September); no prolongation possible. The research fellowship cannot be upgraded into a prolongable PhD scholarship.
	⇒	Grant applications for stays lasting less than 9 months will not be treated as a priority. Grant applications for stays lasting less than 6 months will be rejected.
Amount and additional allowances	⇒	The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of CHF 1,920.
	⇒	For non-EU and non-EFTA grantees only: the FCS pays mandatory Swiss health insurance.
	⇒	There are no family allowances.
	⇒	Scholarship holders from non-EU and non-EFTA countries receive a flight allowance (lump sum) for a ticket back to their country of origin (provided at the end of the scholarship).
	⇒	Special CHF 300 housing allowance (paid once at the beginning of the scholarship).
	⇒	One-year half-fare public transportation card.
	⇒	Support services and various trips, dinners and sightseeing tours organised for Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holders.
Eligibility criteria and specific conditions	⇒	Master's degree or equivalent university degree achieved before 31 July 2020 (degree certificate) recognised by the Swiss university. As a proof, the degree has to be submitted to the Federal Commission for Scholarships before the start of the scholarship.
	⇒	Applicants must be born after 31 December 1984 .
	⇒	Applicants who have been in Switzerland since more than one year at the beginning of the scholarship in September are not eligible.
	⇒	Applicants must provide a letter from an academic host professor (including her/his short CV) at the chosen Swiss university confirming why she/he is willing to supervise and support the research. Without such support, the application will be rejected.
	⇒	Applicants must have a research proposal including a timeframe. This is the centrepiece of the application. The applicant must devote all required attention to it.
	⇒	Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the research/studies.
	⇒	Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship.
	⇒	Scholarship holders are expected to move to Switzerland during their grant period.
Selection criteria	⇒	The following aspects and selection criteria are primarily considered:
	⇒	The candidate: academic profile, research capacity and motivation.
	⇒	The research project: originality and methodological soundness.
	⇒	The academic context: quality and context of supervision and potential for future academic cooperation.

