

# Funding Opportunities

## For early career scientists

**Maddalena Tognola, Vice-Rectorate Research, Grants Office**

20 October 2022

# Outlook

1. Grants Office: what we offer

3. Tips for successful grant navigation

2. Funding opportunities:

4. Contacts

- What for
- Knowledge base
  - SNSF, Horizon Europe, Innosuisse
  - Uni internal grants

Q&A

# Vice-Rectorate Research Grants Office

First point of contact for funding questions related to large, publicly funded, competitive research programmes

Regional Office of the Euresearch Network at the University of Bern

We provide Uni Bern researchers at all levels with

- information
- personal guidance
- administrative support on acquiring and managing national and international research funding

# Euresearch Regional Office Bern

Euresearch is the Swiss network mandated by the federal government to provide

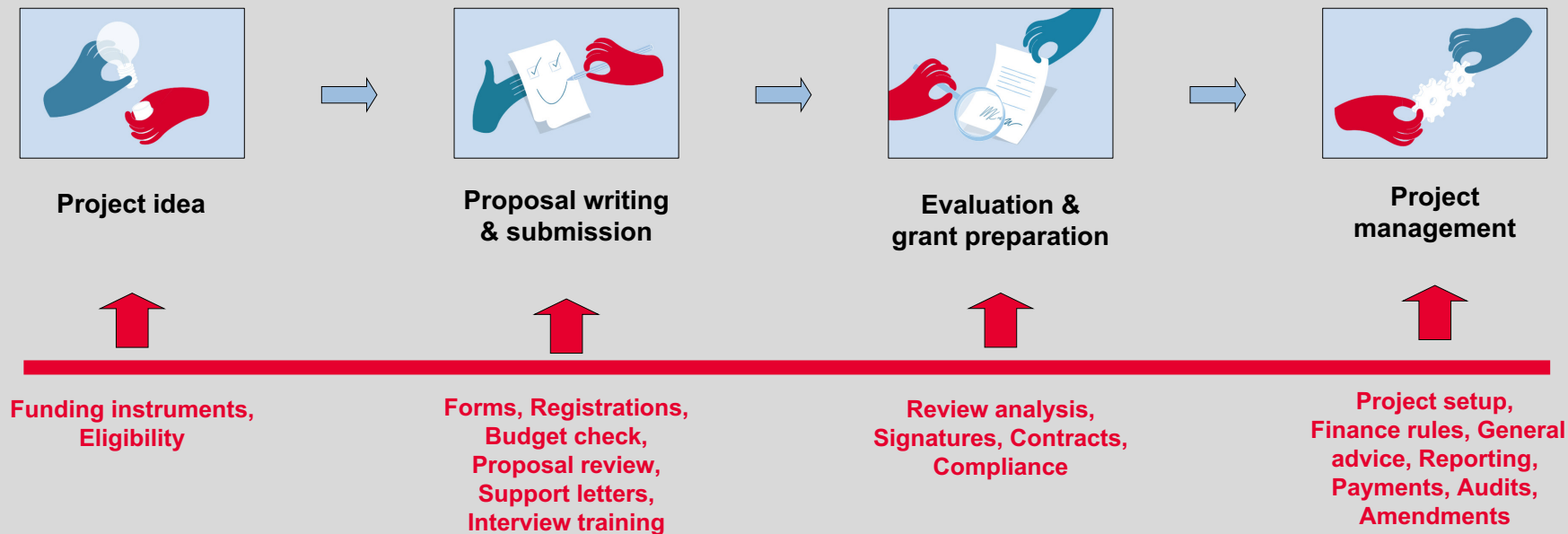
- targeted information
- hands-on advice
- transnational partnering related to European research and innovation programmes

Register on the [Euresearch website](#) to automatically receive updates on calls

Select the e-alerts option and choose keywords to obtain targeted information

# Grants Office

Services (differ by funder and by grant)



# Funding Opportunities...

... are available from different sources

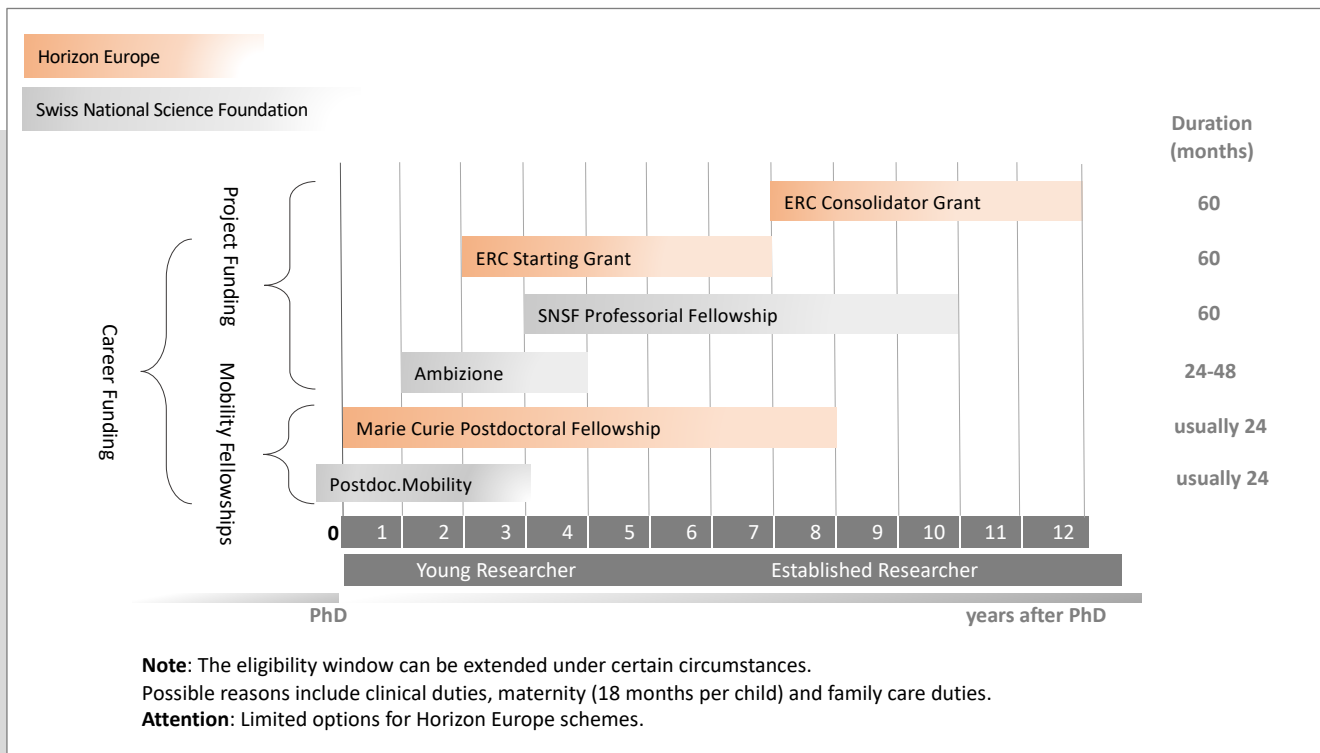
- Horizon Europe
- Swiss National Science Foundation
- Innosuisse
- University of Bern
- Foundations
- Swiss Government (Bundesämter)
- Other National Funding Agencies
- Crowd funding (e.g. wemakeit)
- Etc.

# Funding Opportunities...

... are available from different sources

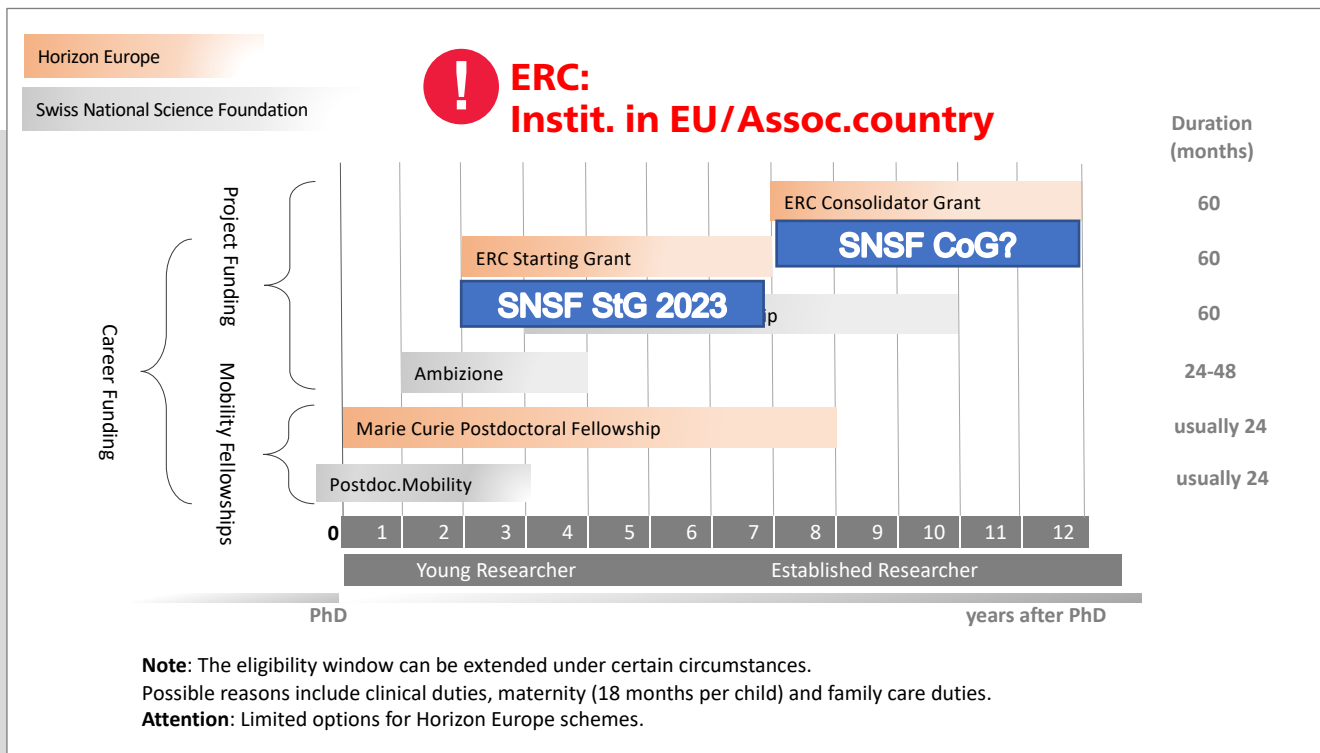
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- Other National Funding Agencies
- Crowd funding (e.g. wemakeit)
- Etc.

# Funding Opportunities (after 2023?)





# Funding Opportunities (today)



# Strategic Approach

# Knowing what kind of grant you need

# Career plan?



# Strategic Approach

## Funding as Career Development

### Career Planning - Career Development

Where will you be in 5 years from now?

- Research? Academia? Private sector? Teaching?
- What drives your passion?

### Self assessment:

- What is in my back-pack?
- What do I still miss?
  - Publications? Stay abroad? Self-confidence? Wider field of expertise? Soft skills? Teaching experience? Networks?
  - Which steps or measure will you take ?

## Strategic approach

What do you think you need?

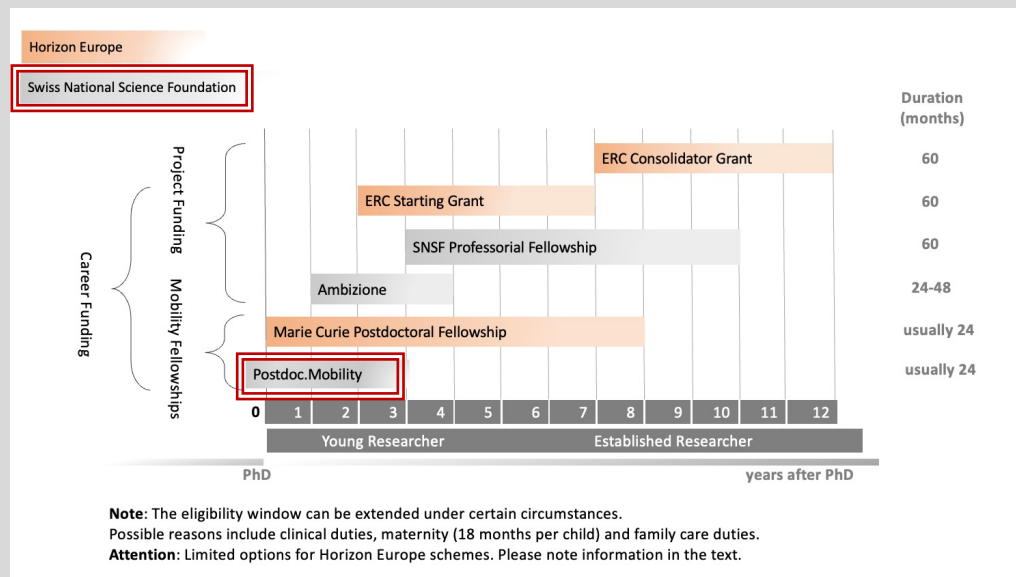
# Funding Opportunities

## Swiss National Science Foundation

### Postdoc.Mobility

Increase scientific independence & enhance scientific profile abroad

- 9 months before and up to 3Y after PhD (or equivalent)
- for Swiss postdocs (or with link to CH)
- Duration 2Y with return option
- Lump sum for salary and possibly project costs
- Calls twice per year (Feb & Aug)
- Next Deadline: 1 Feb 2023



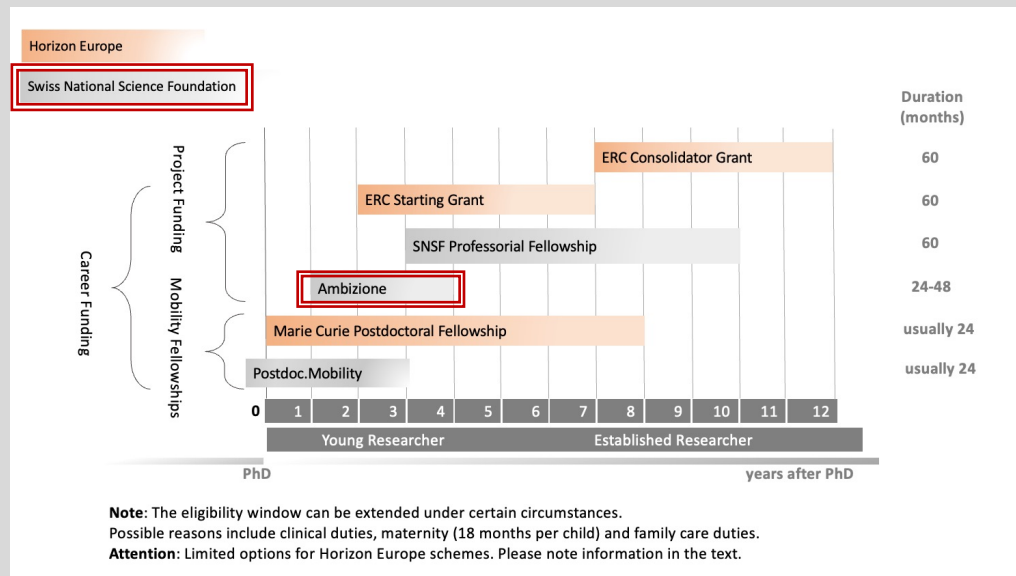
# Funding Opportunities

## Swiss National Science Foundation

### Ambizione

Become scientifically independent

- 1-4Y after PhD (or equivalent)
- Past and planned mobility important
- Duration 2-4Y in CH
- Salary and/or projects costs (up to CHF 400k)
- Annual calls
- Next deadline: 1 Nov 2022



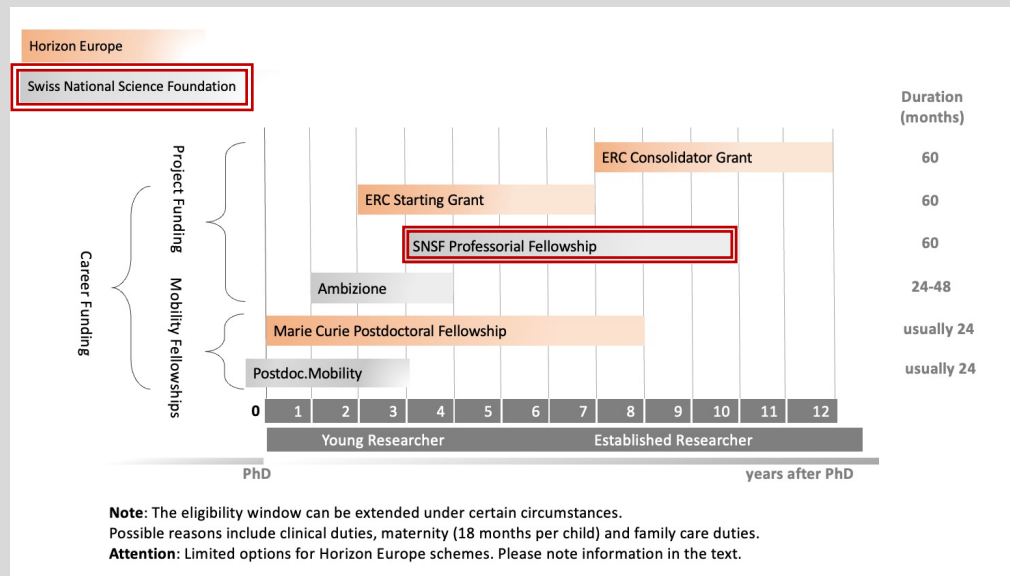
# Funding Opportunities

## Swiss National Science Foundation

### SNSF Professorial Fellowship ?

Realize a project with your own team and attain qualifications for a permanent professorship

- 3-10Y after PhD (or equivalent)
- Connection to Switzerland
- Duration 3-5Y
- Salary and projects costs (salary plus CHF 1 million)
- Annual calls
- Next Deadline: 1.2.2024? (1.2.2023: SNSF STG 2023 Transit Measure)



# Funding Opportunities

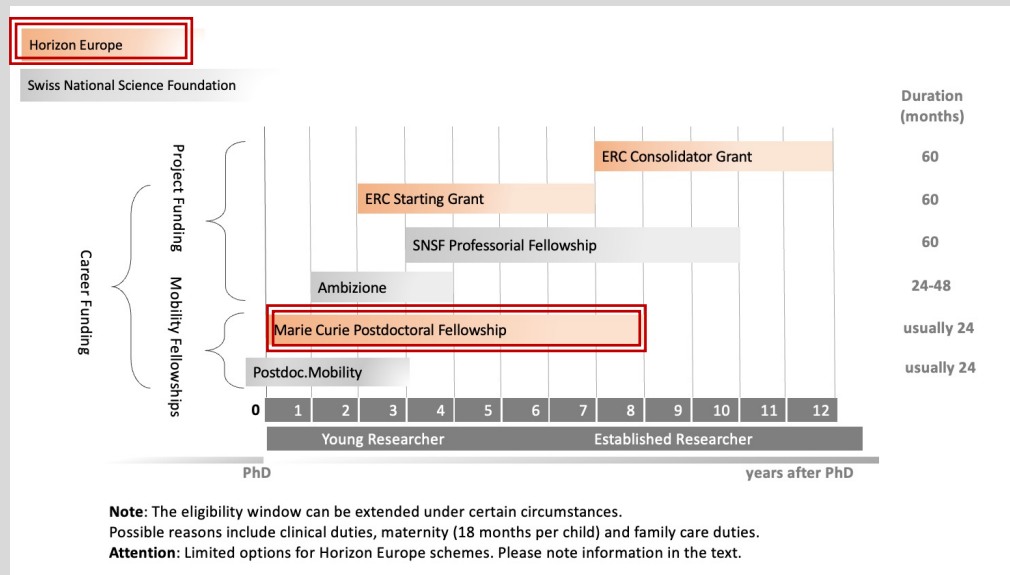
## Horizon Europe

- 👍 CH considered outside “Europe”
- 👍 If you apply with a non-CH host institution

### MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowship

Complete high-quality training in Europe or go global

- Up to 8Y after PhD
- Duration usually 2Y (GF: 3Y)
- Lump sum for salary and research costs
- Annual calls
- Next deadline: mid September 2023





# Funding Opportunities

## Horizon Europe



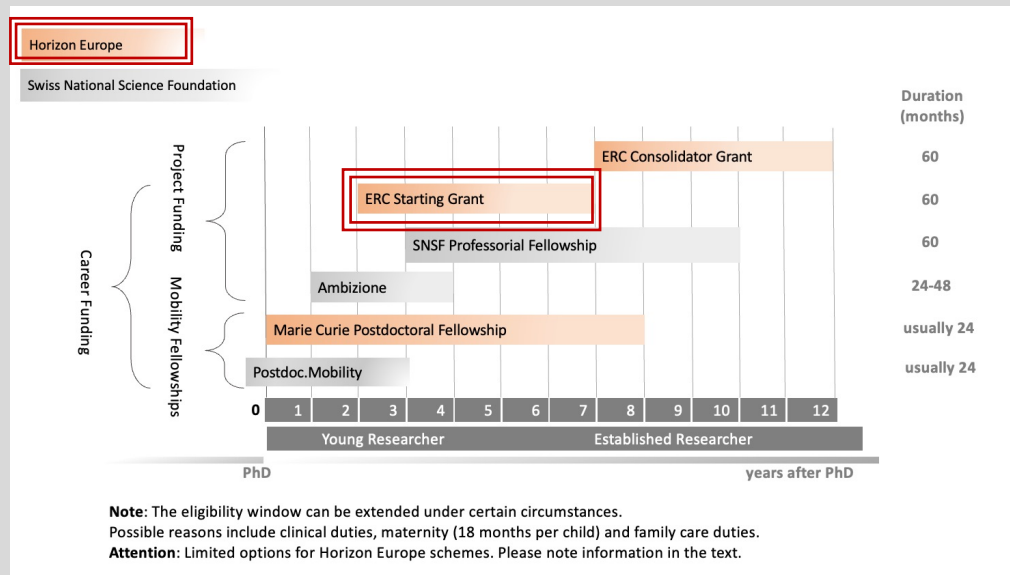
If you apply with a non-CH host institution

### ERC Starting Grant

Conduct an innovative, "high risk – high gain" project with your own team

- 2-7 years after PhD
- Scientific excellent researchers and projects
- Duration usually 60 months
- Max. EUR 1.5 million per project
- Annual calls
- Next deadline: 25 Oct 2022, (then 2023)

<https://erc.europa.eu/apply-grant/starting-grant>



# Funding Opportunities

## Horizon Europe

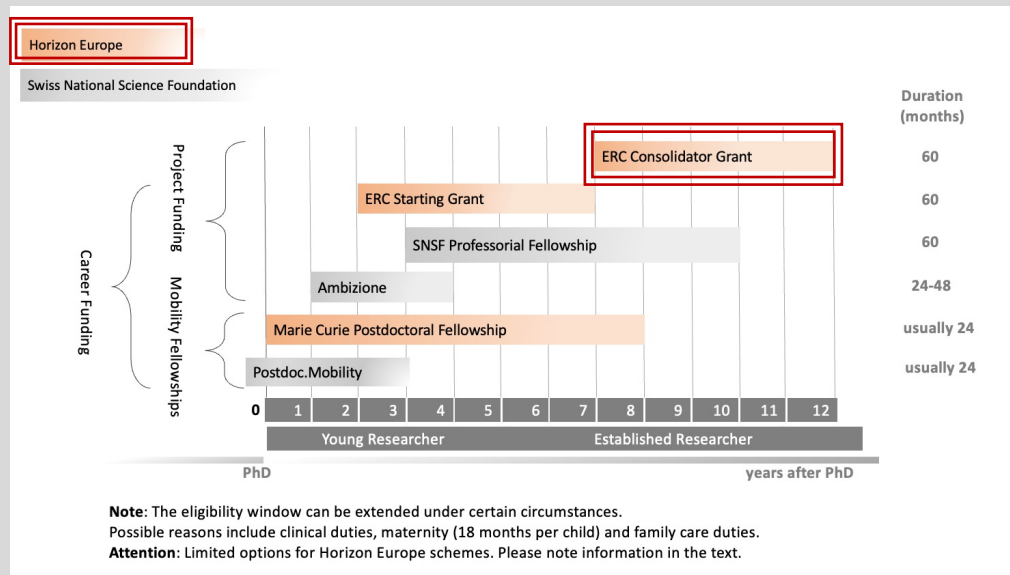


If you apply with a non-CH host institution

### ERC Consolidator Grant

Conduct an innovative, "high risk - high gain" project with your own team

- 7-12 years after PhD
- Scientific excellent researchers and projects
- Duration usually 60 months
- Max. EUR 2 million per project
- Annual calls
- Next deadline: 2 Feb 2023



# Swiss National Science Foundation

## Horizon Europe Measures

### Transitional Measures

- Third Country status of CH -> SNSF Transitional Measures (mandated by the SERI)
- Goal: maintain CH's strong position as a research hub
- The measures are based as far as possible on the European calls, yet have their own deadlines

<https://www.snf.ch/en/A7fep1IPxz1XezVS/page/find-funding-scheme>

### Find the funding scheme that is right for you

[Overview of funding schemes](#)  
[Supplementary measures](#)

[Projects](#) [Careers](#) [Programmes](#) [Infrastructures](#) [Science Communication](#) **[Horizon Europe measures](#)** [International](#)

1 - 5 of 5 funding schemes

#### Quantum Transitional Call

Funding for researchers in Switzerland excluded from quantum topics of the Horizon Europe call "Digital and emerging technologies for competitiveness and fit for the green deal".

**Submission deadline:** 02.11.2022

**Duration:** 1-4 years

**Category:** Horizon Europe measures, Projects

#### SNSF Advanced Grants

Grants for leading researchers

**Submission deadline:** 02.11.2022

**Category:** Projects, Horizon Europe measures

#### SNSF Swiss Postdoctoral Fellowships (SPF)

Grants for early career researchers.

**Submission deadline:** 01.12.2022

**Category:** Horizon Europe measures, Careers

#### SNSF Starting Grants

Grants for researchers who want to lead an independent research project and direct a team of researchers in Switzerland.

**Submission deadline:** 01.02.2023

**Duration:** 5 years

**Category:** Careers, Horizon Europe measures

#### SNSF Consolidator Grants 2022

Consolidate your scientific independence in Switzerland.

**Submission deadline:** 01.06.2022

**Category:** Horizon Europe measures, Programmes, Careers

# Funding Opportunities

## SNSF - Horizon Europe Measures

### SNSF Swiss Postdoctoral Fellowships

Complete high-quality training in CH

- Up to 8Y after PhD
- Duration usually 2Y
- Open to all research disciplines
- Lump sum for salary and research costs
- Mobility rule: not resided or carried out main activity in CH for more than 1Y in the 3Y prior to the submission deadline
- Next deadline: 1 December 2022

For all SNSF calls: eligibility window can be extended under certain circumstances (maternity, etc.)

#### SNSF Swiss Postdoctoral Fellowships (SPF)

Grants for early career researchers.

**Submission deadline:** 12-24 months

**Category:** Horizon Europe measures, Careers, International



# Funding Opportunities

## SNSF - Horizon Europe Measures

### SNSF Starting Grant

Conduct an innovative, "high risk - high gain" project with your own team in CH

- Up to 8Y after PhD
- At least 2Y of research experience
- Scientific excellent researchers and projects
- Duration usually 5Y
- Max. CHF 1.8 million per project
- Next deadline: 1 Feb 2023 (call opens 1. Nov.)

#### SNSF Starting Grants

Grants for researchers who want to lead an independent research project and direct a team of researchers in Switzerland.

**Submission deadline:** 01.02.2023

**Duration:** 5 years

**Category:** Careers, Horizon Europe measures



# Funding Opportunities

## SNSF - Horizon Europe Measures

### SNSF Consolidator Grant

Conduct an innovative, "high risk - high gain" project with your own team in CH

- 7-12Y after PhD
- Research independence and contributions to science without PhD supervisor
- Scientific excellent researchers and projects
- Duration usually 5Y
- Max. CHF 1.75 million per project
- Next deadline: in 2023? -> will depend on CH's association status towards Horizon Europe

#### SNSF Consolidator Grants 2022

Consolidate your scientific independence in Switzerland.

**Submission deadline:** 01.06.2022

*Next deadline in 2023?*

**Category:** Horizon Europe measures, Programmes, Careers, International



# Funding Opportunities (special)

## Swiss National Science Foundation

### Open access: Book Processing Charges

SNF Homepage -> Funding ->  
Find funding scheme -> Open Access  
book publications



Examples: <https://www.snf.ch/en/6virvB61hgpPeZcJ/news/news-200326-235-funded-open-access-books>

# Funding Opportunities

## Innosuisse / Swiss National Science Foundation

### BRIDGE - Proof of Concept

For young researchers: Have you come up with an idea for developing your research results into a marketable product? Are you looking for an opportunity to test and refine your idea?

- Funding max. CHF 130,000 per year for salary and research costs
- Duration up to 1Y (+ 6 months)
- Calls: 4 calls in 2022
- Next deadlines: 5 December 2022
- Website: <https://www.bridge.ch/en/proof-of-concept>



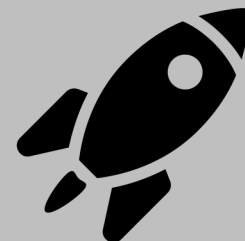
# Funding Opportunities

## Innosuisse

### Science-based innovation projects

Develop new types of products, services or processes with/without an implementation partner

- Duration 6-18 (36 Months)
- Monthly evaluation meetings (decision within 6-8 weeks)



contact the Innovation Office /  
Sébastien Hug

# Funding Opportunities

## University of Bern

Preliminary data?

Networking?

Care duties?

[https://www.unibe.ch/research/promotion\\_of\\_research/uni\\_internal\\_grants/initiator\\_grants](https://www.unibe.ch/research/promotion_of_research/uni_internal_grants/initiator_grants)

**Uniinterne Förderinstrumente**

Forschungsförderung

Uniinterne Fördergefässe

ID Grants	Initiator Grants	Projekt-pool	SISF	SELF	Anschubfinanzierung	Reisekosten	120%-Care-Grant	UniBE Doc.Mobility

- > **Initiator Grant:** Vorbereitung kompetitiver Drittmittelanträge, für Postdocs, 1xFrst/Jahr, bis 30'000 CHF
- > **Projektpool:** Organisation von vernetzenden Aktivitäten, für Mittelbauangehörige, 2xFrsten/Jahr, bis 5'000 CHF
- > **120%-Care-Grant:** für Postdocs, Assistenzdozierende, Dozierende in Qualifikationsphase und Assistenzprofs mit und ohne TT mit Betreuungspflichten, Reduktion Anstellungsgrad und Anstellung von Supportperson, 4xFrsten/Jahr, bis 20% der reduzierten Stellenprozente
- > **Unibe Doc.Mobility:** für mobile Doktorierende, i.d.R. 1 Jahr, 2xFrsten pro Jahr, Anstellung als Doktorand/in mit Arbeitsort Ausland

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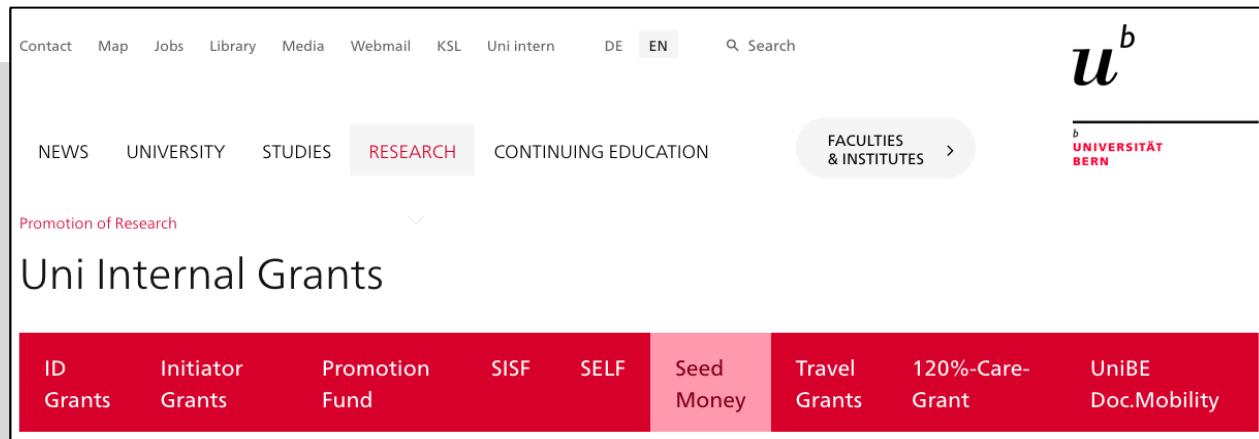
Matthias Hirt

# Funding Opportunities

## University of Bern

### Seed Money & Travel Grants

Deadline: none



**Seed money:** Up to CHF 10'000 for preparing a European collaborative project (Horizon Europe) as coordinator or major contributor.

**Travel Grants:** To set up new international projects to be carried out at UBERN (PhD required)

# Funding Opportunities

## University of Bern

### Initiator Grant

Deadline: Feb 2023  
(tbc)  
Max. CHF 30,000

The screenshot shows the University of Bern website. The top navigation bar includes links for Contact, Map, Jobs, Library, Media, Webmail, KSL, Uni intern, DE, EN, and a search bar. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links for NEWS, UNIVERSITY, STUDIES, RESEARCH (highlighted), and CONTINUING EDUCATION. A dropdown menu for RESEARCH is open, showing 'Promotion of Research' and 'Uni Internal Grants'. Under 'Uni Internal Grants', a horizontal menu lists various funding opportunities: ID Grants, Initiator Grants (highlighted), Promotion Fund, SISF, SELF, Seed Money, Travel Grants, 120%-Care-Grant, and UniBE Doc.Mobility.

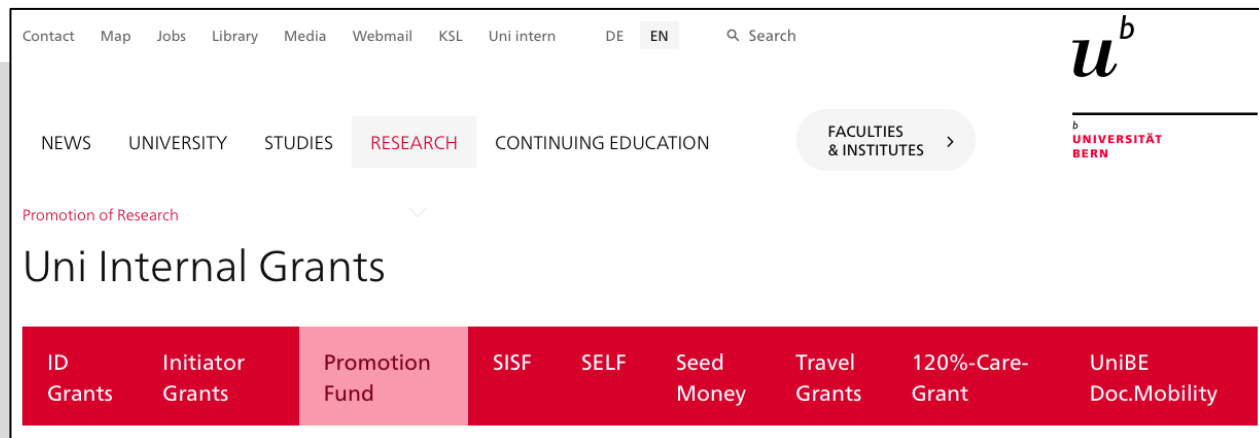
The "UniBE Initiator Grants" support the preparation of third-party funding applications post PhD. These applications can be either for support of the researcher themselves (individual funding) or for support of their own projects (project funding)

# Funding Opportunities

## University of Bern

### Promotion Fund

Deadline: spring 2023  
Max. CHF 5,000



The fund aims to encourage **networking activities of young researchers** from doctoral study (PhD) level upwards

# Funding Opportunities

## University of Bern

### 120% Care Grants

Deadlines: 1.3. / 1.6. /  
1.9. /1.12.

Contact Map Jobs Library Media Webmail KSL Uni intern DE EN Search

NEWS UNIVERSITY STUDIES **RESEARCH** CONTINUING EDUCATION FACULTIES & INSTITUTES >

Promotion of Research

### Uni Internal Grants

ID Grants	Initiator Grants	Promotion Fund	SISF	SELF	Seed Money	Travel Grants	120%-Care-Grant	UniBE Doc.Mobility
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The Care Grant makes it possible for postdoctoral researchers with care responsibilities, who have a level of employment of between 80% and 100%, to reduce their level of employment for up to 12 months to at least 60%

# Funding Opportunities

## University of Bern

UniBE Doc.Mobility

Deadline: 1 March 2023

The screenshot shows the University of Bern website with the 'RESEARCH' menu item highlighted. Below the navigation bar, the 'Promotion of Research' section is visible, featuring a red banner for 'Uni Internal Grants'. A table lists various grant types, and a 'UniBE Doc.Mobility' button is located in the bottom right corner of the banner area.

ID Grants	Initiator Grants	Promotion Fund	SISF	SELF	Seed Money	Travel Grants	120%-Care-Grant	UniBE Doc.Mobility
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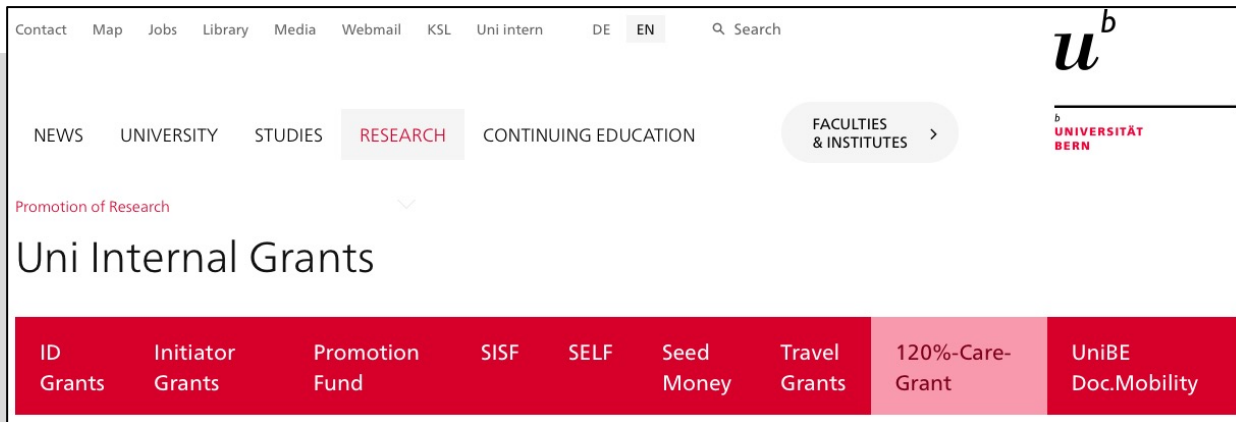
UniBE Doc.Mobility grants support stays abroad of doctoral students enrolled at the University of Bern and not funded through the SNSF.

# Funding Opportunities

## University of Bern

### Short Travel Grants

Deadlines: 1.3./1.9.  
Up to 8'000 CHF



The screenshot shows the University of Bern website with the 'RESEARCH' menu item highlighted. Below the navigation bar, the 'Uni Internal Grants' section is visible, featuring a table with various grant categories.

ID Grants	Initiator Grants	Promotion Fund	SISF	SELF	Seed Money	Travel Grants	120%-Care-Grant	UniBE Doc.Mobility
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**Short Travel Grants:** for Docs and Postdocs, Short visits 2-8 weeks. Regulations are being revised (more open).



# Funding Opportunities

## UniBE Venture Fellowship

Translate your scientific results into innovative products/services

- Eligibility: Candidates must have a Master or PhD (or medical degree) prior to the start of the Fellowship
- Goal: To develop application-focused research to validate the Proof-of-Concept and determine the potential for commercialization with the aim to start her/his own business, and acquire entrepreneurial skills and develop a relevant network
- Next deadline: (tbc)
- Website: [https://www.unibe.ch/university/organization/executive\\_board\\_and\\_central\\_administration/vice\\_rectorate\\_research/innovation\\_office/index\\_eng.html](https://www.unibe.ch/university/organization/executive_board_and_central_administration/vice_rectorate_research/innovation_office/index_eng.html)

# Funding Opportunities

## Funding search

With Unibe Login or VPN:  
Research Funding Opportunities:  
[Research Professional](#)

Foundations and Sponsors:  
[Fundraiso.ch](#)

Find more funders in the  
acknowledgement section of your peers's  
publications

The logo for Research Professional, featuring a red asterisk icon followed by the text "Research Professional" in a bold, sans-serif font.The logo for Fundraiso.ch, featuring a stylized building icon to the left of the text "fundraiso.ch" in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the text is the tagline "Das Verzeichnis von Stiftungen, Fonds & Sponsoren" in a smaller font.

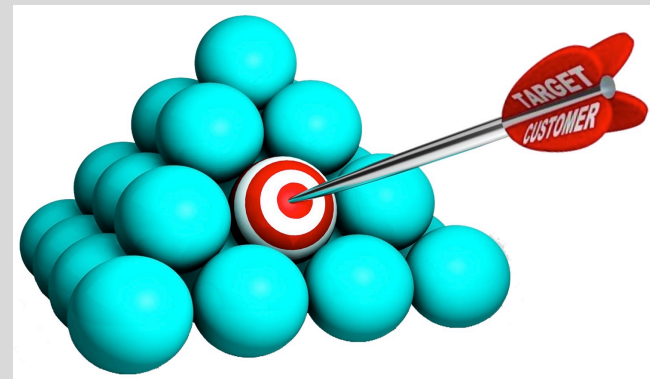
## Tips

# Funding Agencies have their Goals

Important: each funding instrument has its own goal

ERC →  
frontier research by the most  
excellent researchers

Marie-Curie PF →  
career development/employability



# Tips

## Dos & Don'ts

Know what the funding agencies want to support with their money

Check the following:

- What/who did the agencies fund before?
- Deadlines and time-to-decision (SNSF, MSCA, ERC)

Read the evaluation criteria before you start (and during) writing

Always follow the templates

Do not try to fit a "finished proposal" into a very different proposal/funding scheme

And never ever forget:  
proposal writing  $\neq$  academic writing

# Tips

## Take Home Messages

Career plan: think ahead/plan for the future

Mobility and networking matter

Use the rifle (not shotgun) approach: focused, carefully tailored submissions

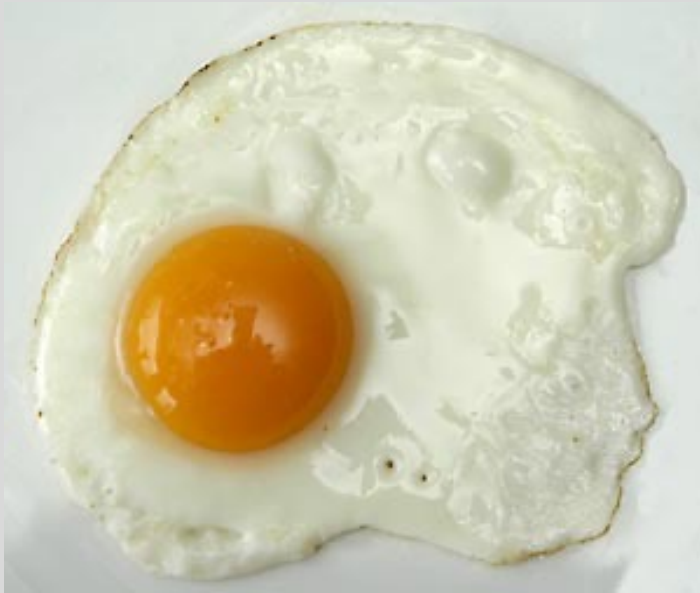
Submitting and resubmitting: do not give up

Proposal/grant writing  $\neq$  academic writing

Seek advice from advisory services (Grants Office, Promotion of early career researchers, etc) early enough

## Tips

Don't associate your failure with your value



# Your contacts

## Vice-Rectorate Research

- For questions about specific grants:  
Grants Office
  - Find your advisor: [GO website](#)

WiSo, Phil.Hum. : Stefan Widmer

Theol.& Phil.Hist : ad interim Stefan Widmer, starting Jan. 2023 new person

[grantsoffice@unibe.ch](mailto:grantsoffice@unibe.ch)

# Useful Websites

## Overview and Links

### University of Bern resources

- [“Hilfsmittel für Gesuche und Projekte”](#)
- [The doctorate](#)
- [After your PhD](#)

### Funding search tools

- [Research Professional](#)
- [Fundraiso.ch](#)

### Online job portals

- [ETH Get Hired](#)
- [myScience](#)
- [Academics.ch](#)
- [EURAXESS](#)



# Reach out to us!

## We will do our best to help you

**Vice-Rectorate Research, Grants Office**

20 October 2022

**u<sup>b</sup>**

b  
**UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN**



[grantsoffice@unibe.ch](mailto:grantsoffice@unibe.ch)

Maddalena Tognola

Maddalena.tognola@unibe.ch

**Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions!**