



Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

PhD Scholarships

Academic year: 2015-2016

Country: Georgia

Opening of the Call: 01.09.2014

Submission Deadline: 28.11.2014

Scholarship	⇒	Swiss Government Excellence PhD Scholarships for foreign students
Offered by	⇒	The Swiss Government through the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS
Objectives	⇒	To enable selected applicants to undertake a PhD in one of the 10 Swiss Public Universities, the two Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology and public teaching and research institutes.
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 / University of Lugano
Federal Institutes of Technology	⇒	Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL) Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ)
Teaching and Research Institutes	⇒	Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration (IDHEAP) Institut universitaire Kurt Bösch
Validity	⇒	The scholarship is only valid for full time PhD studies in Switzerland. It is not valid for mixed PhD programs (part time in Switzerland and part time in a third country).
Target Group	⇒	Highly qualified post graduate students (in possession of the required degrees) from all academic fields.
Duration	⇒	3 years maximum
Amount and additional allowances	⇒	The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of 1'920 Swiss Francs. ⇒ Exemption of the tuition fees (except for EPFL). ⇒ Mandatory Swiss Health insurance paid by the FCS (for non-EU and EFTA grantees only). ⇒ A lump sum for air fare for non-European grantees only (provided at the end of the scholarship).

	⇒	Special 300 Swiss Francs housing allowance (paid once at the beginning of the scholarship).
	⇒	1 year half-fare public transportation card.
	⇒	Counseling and various trips, dinners and sight-seeing tours organized for Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holders.

Eligibility Criteria and specific conditions	⇒	Master degree or equivalent University degree recognized by the Swiss University.
	⇒	The applicant must not be more than 35 years old at the moment of the application.
	⇒	Applicants who are in Switzerland for more than 1 year at the beginning of the scholarship are not eligible.
	⇒	Applicants must provide a letter (e-mail) from a Professor from the Swiss host institution stating that he/she is willing to supervise the PhD. In the case where the PhD is run within a structured doctoral school applicants must provide included in their application an admission letter or the proof that they are being considered for admission. Without such a document the application will be rejected.
	⇒	Applicants must have a research proposal including a timeframe (this is the central piece 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.
	⇒	Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship.
	⇒	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 <i>sine qua non</i> 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.

Selection Criteria	⇒	The following dimensions and selection criteria are considered mainly:
	⇒	The candidate: Her/his academic profile and research capacity.
	⇒	The research project: It's originality and methodological soundness.
	⇒	The academic context: The quality of supervision and the potential for future academic cooperation.

Application Procedure	⇒	The application package can be obtained by e-mail from the Swiss Embassy in Tbilisi.
	⇒	The deadline for the submission of applications is 28.11.2014
	⇒	Applications have to be submitted in 3 copies (hard copies only).

Application Time Framework	⇒	Opening of the call:	01.09.2014
	⇒	Application Deadline:	28.11.2014
	⇒	Selection Interview, ask:	Swiss Embassy
	⇒	Beginning of the scholarship:	14.09.2015

Application documents (Please provide 3 sets)	⇒	The FCS 2015-2016 official application form (typed and printed). <u>No handwritten forms will be accepted.</u>
	⇒	Copies of all university certificates and grade-sheets (all copies must be

of copies on A4 paper.
Please do not staple the documents and/or put them into plastic sheets or binders).

- ⇒ attested, and translated if originals are not in English, German, French or Italian. Attestations can be done by the University or a Government Officer.
- ⇒ 2 letters of recommendation from Professors in the applicants field (use exclusively the official reference form provided with the application package).
- ⇒ A complete research proposal (max. 5 pages), use exclusively the official research proposal form provided with the application package.
- ⇒ A motivation letter (max. 2 pages).
- ⇒ A full curriculum vitae with list of academic publications.
- ⇒ A copy of the confirmation from a Professor at the intended Swiss University that he/she is willing to supervise the PhD studies. In the case where the PhD is run within a structured doctoral school, a copy of the PhD admission letter or at least a proof that the candidate is being considered for admission. Without such a document the application will be rejected.
- ⇒ A health certificate (use exclusively the official health certificate provided with the application package).
- ⇒ A copy of the passport (main page with personal data).

Contact institution for the application

- ⇒ Questions and application documents, have to be submitted at the following address:
Swiss Embassy in Tbilisi
Krtsanisi 11, 0114 Tbilisi

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

Wrap-up:
your check-list

- ⇒ The FCS 2015-2016 official application form with photo
- ⇒ CV with list of publications
- ⇒ Motivation letter (max. 2 pages)
- ⇒ A copy of the confirmation from a professor at the intended Swiss university stating that she/he will supervise the research
- ⇒ 2 letters of recommendation from professors (use the FCS form only)

- ⇒ A complete research proposal (max. 5 pages) using exclusively the official FCS research proposal form provided with the application package

- ⇒ Photocopies of certificates from previously attended university/colleges and diplomas with grades
- ⇒ Medical certificate (use solely the official FCS form)
- ⇒ Copy of passport