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Fondation Suisse de Cardiologie  
Fondazione Svizzera di Cardiologia

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## Regulation for Research Grants

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## 1. Purpose and scope

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

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

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

## 2. Requirements

### 2.1 Formal requirements

<sup>1</sup>The application forms can be downloaded from [www.swissheart.ch/researchgrant](http://www.swissheart.ch/researchgrant).

<sup>2</sup>Applications should be written in Arial 10, space 1.15, margin 2.0.

<sup>3</sup>Figures and tables illustrating the application are encouraged.

<sup>4</sup>References must be hyperlinked with PubMed

<sup>5</sup>The fully completed application forms need to be submitted electronically as a searchable pdf together with all requested documents and signed by the main applicant and, if required, the legally responsible person.

<sup>6</sup>The main applicant may submit only one application per year.

<sup>7</sup>If the project foresees the employment of staff, the personnel costs should be budgeted according to the guidelines of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF). Co-applicants, but not the main applicants, can claim personnel costs for themselves. The main applicant must secure employment for the duration of the project.

### 2.2 Requirements for content

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

<sup>2</sup>The Swiss Heart Foundation does not award scholarships.

### 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

<sup>1</sup>Applications must be submitted no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> as defined by the date stamp of the e-mail to [research@swissheart.ch](mailto:research@swissheart.ch).

<sup>2</sup>The Swiss Heart Foundation acknowledges receipt of the application by e-mail.

### 3.2 Preliminary evaluation

<sup>1</sup>The 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.

<sup>2</sup>The 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

<sup>1</sup>The 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.

<sup>2</sup>The applicants will be informed in writing no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

<sup>3</sup>In the case of a positive decision, the applicant will be informed in writing on the awarded amount of financial support and the payment conditions.

<sup>4</sup>Successful 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.

<sup>5</sup>The 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

<sup>1</sup>The Research Committee decides on the amount of financial support.

<sup>2</sup>As 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.

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

### 4.2 Conditions

<sup>1</sup>The Research Committee outlines the conditions for the use of the grant in a separate formal Agreement.

<sup>2</sup>The 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. Forms can be downloaded at [www.swissheart.ch/researchgrant](http://www.swissheart.ch/researchgrant).

<sup>3</sup>The 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, Berne/Switzerland."

<sup>4</sup>Those 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 without 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 special cases the Research Committee decides on the use of the equipment after having received the final report.

### 4.4 Terms of payment

<sup>1</sup>The 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.

<sup>2</sup>The 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 December 31<sup>st</sup> 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, 12 March 2021

SWISS HEART FOUNDATION

Prof Dr Thomas F. Lüscher  
Chairman of the Research Committee

Prof Dr Ludwig von Segesser  
President of the Foundation