European Research Council (ERC)

Swiss Physical Society 9 Sept 2024

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euresearch
Swiss guide to European
research and innovation

CH participation in 2024 ERC-Calls

Switzerland has the status of 'to be associated' **third country**. Meaning:

Calls	Swiss Status
ERC Starting Grant 2025	**Eligible**
ERC Consolidator Grant 2025	**Eligibile**
ERC Advanced Grant 2024	**Eligible**
ERC Synergy Grant 2025	**Eligible**

Updates from State Secretariat for Education Research Innovation (SERI)
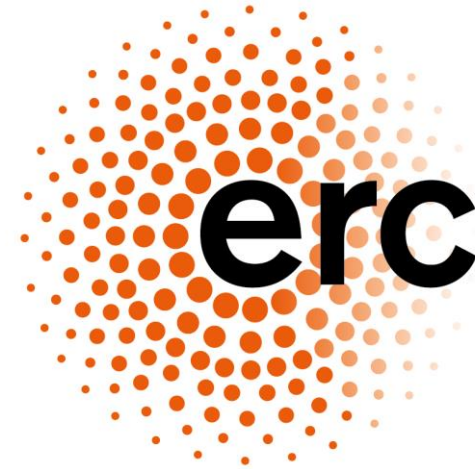
↳ www.horizon-europe.ch

What is the European Research Council?

ERC funds and promotes:

- Bottom-up research

- Ground-breaking and ambitious projects

- 5-year projects

- Individual excellent PIs

ERC offers 4 core grant schemes:
       Starting grant
       Consolidator grant
       Advanced grant
       Synergy grant

erc

European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

ERC – Grant Schemes

Starting Grants

2-7 years after PhD
Up to € 1.5 Mil
(+ 1Mil)

Consolidator Grants

7-12 years after PhD
Up to € 2 Mil
(+ 1Mil)

Advanced Grant

Excellent scientific
track record
Up to € 2.5 Mil
(+ 1Mil)

Synergy Grants

2-4 PIs (any career stage)
Up to € 10 Mil
(+ 4Mil)

Eligibility extensions – Starting and Consolidator

Eligibility time window

Enforced very strictly – based on date of PhD DEFENSE

Extension Possible:
   Maternity, paternity
   Clinical training
   Military service
   Long illness
   Asylum seeking
   Natural disasters
   (Special conditions for MDs)

Expected ERC 2025 Calendar

The 2025 work programme is expected to be published in July 2024

	Starting Grant	Consolidator Grant	Advanced Grant	Synergy Grant
Call identifier	ERC-2025-StG	ERC-2025-CoG	ERC-2025-AdG	ERC-2025-SyG
Call opens	10 July 2024	26 Sept 2024	19 May 2025	11 July 2024
Call deadline	15 Oct 2024	14 Jan 2025	29 Aug 2025	6 November 2024

Tips for Getting Started

1. ERC Website for: Work Programme and Information for Applicants per grant
   - Docs key for rules and conditions, evaluation criteria, etc

2. Register early on the Funding and Tenders Portal (submission)

3. Decide on evaluation panel (StG and CoG Info for Applicants, AdG Info for Applicants)

4. Contact host institution for host support letter (included in StG template)

5. Look at previously funded ERC projects in your field on the ERC database

6. Contact ERC NCPs (for proposal-related issues) or Euresearch Regional Office (for admin/budget questions)

Proposal Structure

Part A (Administrative forms)

- General information
- Administrative data
- Budget
- Ethics
- Call specific questions

Part B1

a) Cover page & summary
b) Extended synopsis (5 pages)
c) CV &
d) Track-record] 4 pages

Part B2

- Scientific proposal (14 pages)

  a) State of the art and objectives
  b) Methodology
  c) Resources

B2 not evaluated in Step 1 (only in Step 2 & 3)

Annexes

- Commitment of the Host Institution (s), ethics docs, etc

Proposal Structure – Evaluation Tips

Part A (Administrative forms)

- General information
- Administrative data
- Budget
- Ethics
- Call specific questions

Part B1

a) Cover page & summary
b) Extended synopsis (5 pages)
c) CV &
d) Track-record ⎤ 4 pages

Part B2

- Scientific proposal (14 pages)

  a) State of the art and objectives
  b) Methodology
  c) Resources

B2 not evaluated in Step 1 (only in Step 2 & 3)

Evaluation: Step 1

Only doc read by your panel members – many GENERALISTS

Evaluation: Step 2

Part B1 and B2 sent out to remote reviewers – SPECIALISTS

Evaluation criteria

Excellence is the only evaluation criterion

Research project

- Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

- Scientific approach

Principal investigator

- Intellectual capacity and creativity

- Scientific expertise and capacity to execute the project

Tips to fulfill the evaluation criteria

Research project

- Ground-breaking nature, ambition and feasibility

- Scientific approach

1. **Ground-breaking nature** – detail the state of the art well enough so that you can explicitly show
    a. problems with it / gaps in it and
    b. your ambitious objectives designed to solve them
2. **Feasibility** – show the logical structure of your project – the link between the problems in the state of the art, your objectives, and your 'sub-projects' designed to solve them
3. **Scientific Approach** – showcase any novel methods as well as your expertise as a PI (your additions to the state of the art and your skills as an expert in your field re your methods)
4. Make your reviewers and panel members *want* to read your narrative – **tell them a story**

Euresearch services for ERC grants

Eligibility check / Admin or Budget questions

(EUresearch regional offices – located in your own grants office)

Proposal-related questions or a review of both B1 and B2

(ERC National Contact Points erc@euresearch.ch)

Information Events and Training workshops:

ERC CoG 2025 Info Day &

Horizon Europe Introduction

EUresearch events

Thank you!

Jennifer McClung   **Rita de Brito**

National Contact Points for ERC
Euresearch Network Office
Bern – Switzerland

ERC Questions - erc@euresearch.ch

Evaluation Process

Starting Grant, Consolidator Grant, Advanced Grant

Synergy Grant

Remote assessment by Panel members: **only** Synopsis (B1) and CV
Panel meeting
Proposal rejected (scores B&C + A non-invited*) / Proposal retained for step 2 (score A invited)

Remote assessment by Panel members and Reviewers of the full proposal (**part B1 + part B2**)
Panel meeting
+ Interview (online; 30 min)
Score A (recommended for funding)& B(rejected)

Interviews with all PIs (45 min)
Score A (recommended for funding)& B(rejected)

* can reapply next year