

Call for Applications for Research Funding from the Research Talent Development Fund/Fonds zur Förderung des akademischen Nachwuchses (FAN)

The University of Zurich Research Talent Development Fund (Fonds zur Förderung des akademischen Nachwuchses, FAN) – supported by UZH Alumni – promotes outstanding, original-thinking young research talent. We are on hand so that junior researchers are able to decide at an early stage to pursue an academic career, and we ensure that they have guidance and support as they progress. Different forms of support are available depending on their field and their research plans. Doctoral and habilitation candidates, candidates for equivalent academic qualifications, and heads of research groups, may apply for direct financial support for their research project, but the FAN also encourages international mobility at an early stage, and also helps to manage difficult transitions, such as that between the doctoral thesis and habilitation, more smoothly.

Who Can Apply for What?

Applications are open to young research talent from all faculties. The following criteria apply:

Type of Support	Description	Entitlement
Fellowships	<p>Support primarily covers the applicant's salary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctoral candidates: Own salary; • Habilitation candidates and candidates for equivalent academic qualifications, as well as heads of research groups: Own salary or salary of participating doctoral candidates or research associates. <p>One-off amounts of CHF 50,000 to CHF 100,000 in total are granted. These figures also include social insurance contributions.</p>	<p>The following individuals may apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctoral candidates (from the 3rd year of their doctoral studies onwards); • Habilitation candidates and candidates for equivalent academic qualifications, as well as heads of research groups (generally from the 3rd year of research onwards for applications from the Faculties of Medicine and Science, and from the Vetsuisse Faculty). <p>Applicants must be employed at UZH or associated with the University through their planned research project.</p>
Grants	<p>Support covers, for example, stays abroad which result in substantial progress with a research project, or bridging loans in order to prepare for applications for external funding (following a doctorate), for example, or for academic publications which are necessary to achieve habilitation or an equivalent academic qualification. One-off amounts of between CHF 20,000 and CHF 40,000 are granted.</p>	<p>Doctoral candidates (from the 3rd year of their doctoral studies onwards) and habilitation candidates or candidates for an equivalent academic qualification, as well as heads of research groups.</p> <p>Applicants must be employed at UZH or associated with the University through their planned research project.</p>

The FAN coordinates its fellowship and grant support with UZH's own academic career development program. Candidates may apply to both for support, although a note to this effect must be included where multiple submissions are made. If funding has already been granted by another institution, a copy of the letter informing you of that award must be enclosed.

When and Where Can I Apply?

The FAN calls for applications once a year. The next submission deadline is 15 February 2019, and the earliest a project can begin is 1 August 2019. Project funding is generally awarded for one year. Applications must be submitted in pdf format by email to: sibylle.ambuehl@alumni.uzh.ch.

What Should the Application Contain?

- A brief outline of the research project (no more than 2,500 characters, including spaces);
- A detailed description of the project (no more than 25,000 characters, including spaces, excluding the bibliography);
- A CV (in view of the target group of the FAN, this must also state the applicant's year of birth), with a list of publications;
- The applicant's licentiate, Master's or doctoral degree diploma;
- A project plan (duration, funding period (up to 31 December 2020 at the latest, and the percentage of the standard working week to be worked);
- A budget (salary, including the employer's social insurance contributions; material expenses, travel and conference costs may also be covered where justified), in accordance with the template on the FAN website;
- A letter of recommendation from two professors, one of whom must be at the University of Zurich. The second recommendation (or any optional third one) should preferably come from a professor at a different university. In particular, it must be clear from the letter of recommendation that the applicant is one of the best in their discipline, and that they have both the academic and personal qualities to pursue a successful career in research and teaching at the university level.
- Other income due during the period to be covered.

Applications may be submitted once only. They must be written in German or English.

Who Reviews the Applications?

The FAN advisory board reviews the applications and decides on awards, taking the available resources into account. The key decision-making criteria are academic qualifications and the applicant's suitability for an academic career, as well as excellence and originality in their research work. Applicants will be notified of the board's decision by the end of June 2019 at the latest. No reasons will be given.

Where Can I Find Further Information?

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