

Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships for Foreign Scholars and Artists, in figures

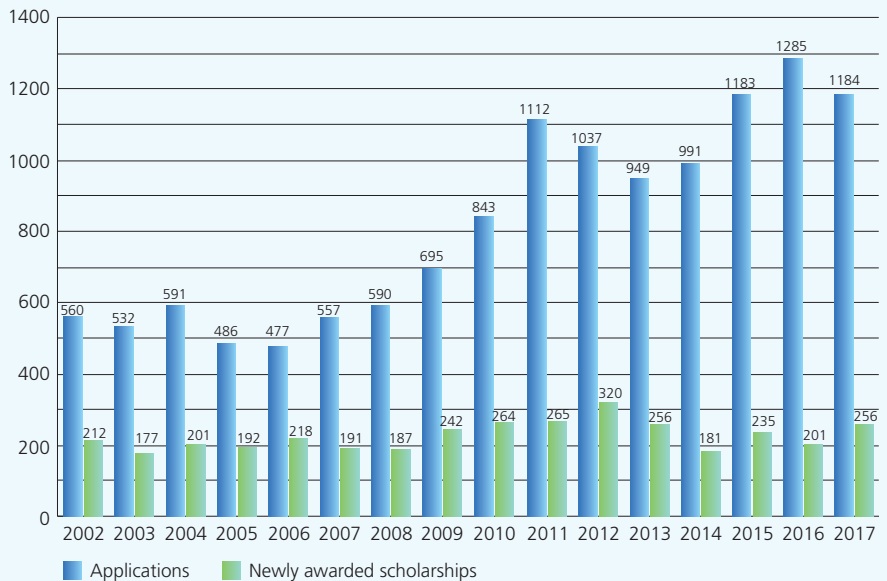
Around 260 newly awarded scholarships for the 2017-2018 academic year

Each year the Swiss Confederation awards Government Excellence Scholarships to foreign researchers and artists. These scholarships are intended for young researchers from abroad who have completed a master's degree or PhD and for foreign artists holding a bachelor's degree. They also promote international exchange and research cooperation between Switzerland and over 180 other countries.

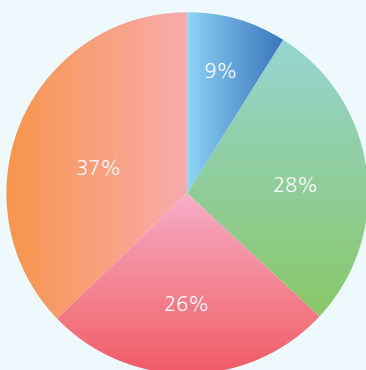
Overview of key aspects

Around 1,200 candidates submitted their applications to a Swiss embassy for the academic year 2017-2018. Of these applications, the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students (FCS) selected a total of 256 in the spring of 2017 to be awarded the scholarship. In addition, the FCS authorised extensions of up to twelve months to 136 existing scholarship holders. Each scholarship recipient is guided and supervised by a Professor at a Swiss higher education institution. A total of just under CHF 10 million has been earmarked for scholarships for the year 2017.

Number of applications and newly awarded FCS scholarships since 2002



Distribution of newly awarded FCS scholarships in 2017 by field of study



- Art
- Humanities and social sciences
- Biology and medicine
- Mathematics, natural science and engineering

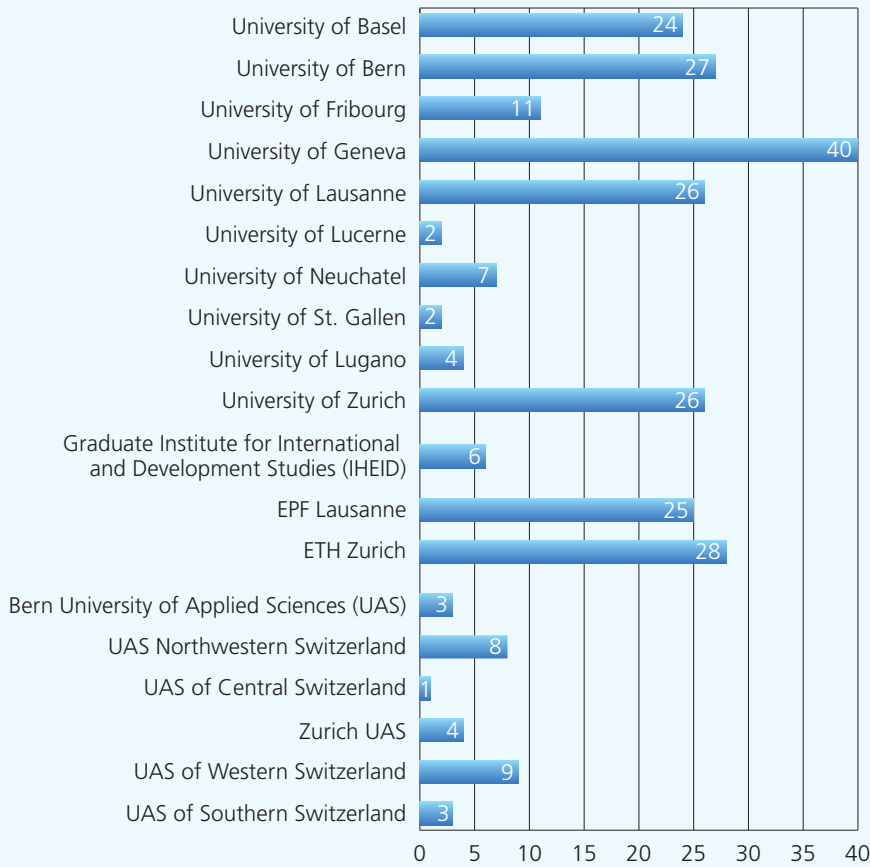
Guidance and supervision of scholarship recipients



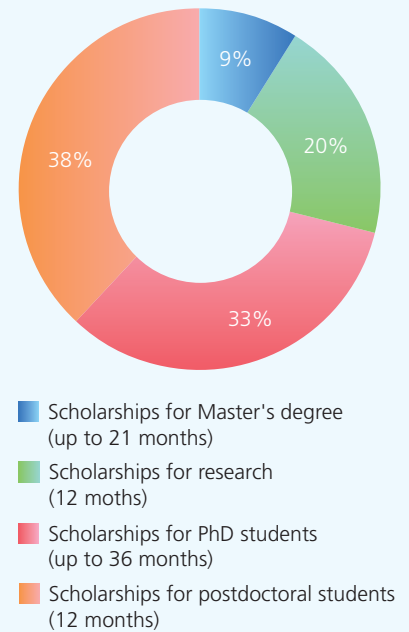
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In addition to the 256 newly awarded scholarships for the 2017–2018 academic year, the FCS authorised extensions of up to twelve months to 136 existing scholarship holders.

Allocation of newly awarded FCS scholarships in 2017, by higher education institution



Distribution of newly awarded FCS scholarships in 2017 by type



Generally speaking, scholarships are awarded for a period of twelve months. FCS scholarships awarded at can be extended up to 36 months for PHD-level scholarships and up to 21 months for art scholarships. In both cases, scholarship recipients must be backed by their supervising professor in order to obtain an extension from the FCS.

169 FCS scholarships were awarded to foreign students wishing to attend one of Switzerland's ten cantonal universities; 53 FCS scholarships were awarded for attendance of Switzerland's two federal institutes of technology; 28 FCS scholarships were awarded for attendance of a Swiss university of applied sciences; and 6 FCS scholarships were awarded for studies at the Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies. Most FCS scholarship holders for the 2017–2018 academic year will attend the University of Geneva (40), followed by ETH Zurich (28) and the University of Bern (27).

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Further information

Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships
 for Foreign Scholars and Artists:
 🌐 www.sbfi.admin.ch/scholarships_eng

1920 CHF

Monthly scholarship amount for PhD-level research and art scholarships

3500 CHF

Monthly scholarship amount for postdoctoral research scholarships

22%

Success rate in 2017
Of the 1,184 scholarship applications submitted for the 2017–2018 academic year, 256 candidates were awarded an FCS scholarship.

FCS scholarship recipients come from eighty different countries



FCS scholarships are made available potential candidates in over 180 different countries. Switzerland awards scholarships to candidates from industrialised countries on the basis of reciprocity. For developing countries, scholarships are awarded on a one-sided basis. For the 2017–2018 academic year, FCS scholarship recipients come from a total of 80 different countries (marked blue in the chart).

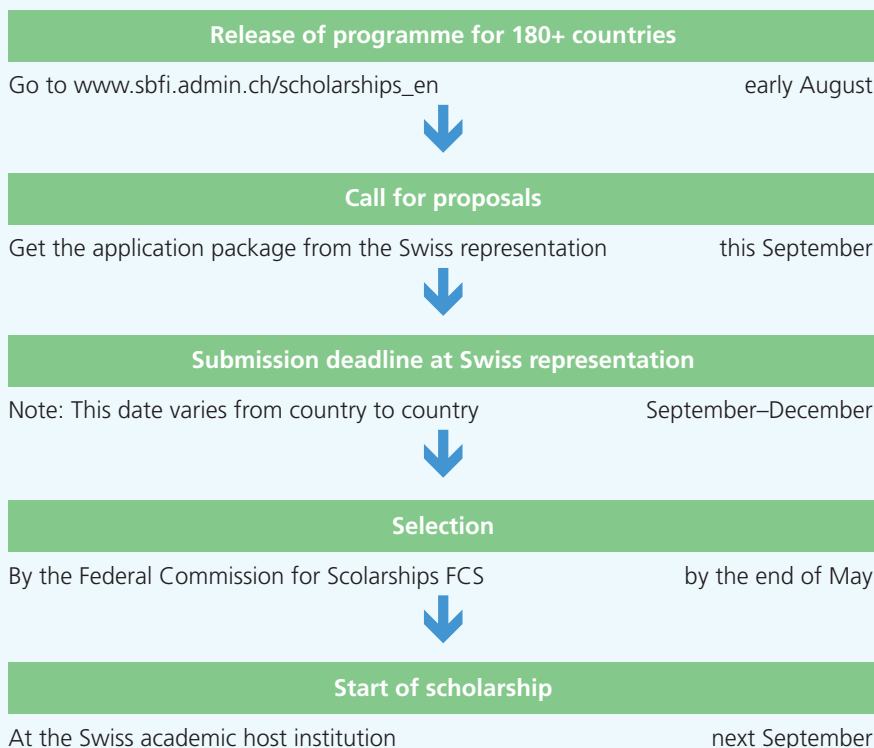
FCS scholarship recipients from Armenia

The Swiss Embassy in Yerevan, Armenia is working with a local partner, the Luys Foundation, to present information about a few of the FCS scholarship recipients from Armenia. The FCS scholarship recipients present their research projects in brief interviews and videos here: <http://bit.ly/2f0lh9n>

**53%
and 47%**

Distribution by gender
Newly awarded FCS scholarships in 2017 were fairly equally distributed between women (53%) and men (47%).

Application procedure



Application procedure

Candidates submit their scholarship applications at the Swiss embassy in their country of origin. The various Swiss embassies will carry out a preliminary selection and forward the short-listed applications to the FCS.

Selection criteria

The FCS assesses scholarship applications according to the following three criteria:

- a) Candidate profile
- b) Quality of the research project or artistic work
- c) Synergies with academic setting and potential for future research cooperation

Next call for applications

The next call for scholarship applications for the 2018–2019 academic year will be announced online in August 2017.