The EPFL Doc.Mobility scheme will conclude at the end of 2024, until then 3 more calls for applications will be issued.
What is Doc.Mobility?
Grant that offers **financial support** to doctoral students who wish to carry out a research stay abroad in an academic institution.

Possibility to **deepen** their **scientific knowledge**, to **develop** their **scientific network** and to **advance** their **doctoral work**

It is granted for a minimum of **6 months** and a maximum of **12 months**. A division into stays of at least 3 months each is possible in exceptional cases and if special reasons are given.
Who can apply?
Doctoral students in all disciplines represented at EPFL provided they meet the following conditions:

- Have been registered for at least 12 months as a doctoral student and are employed at EPFL at the date of the application deadline
- Successfully passed the candidacy exam at the time of the start of the mobility stay
- Not be in the last 6 months of their PhD studies
- Not be funded by a project of the SNSF (Swiss National Research Foundation)
- Be of Swiss nationality, have a valid residence permit or a valid cross-border commuter permit
- To confirm in writing their intention to continue their doctorate at EPFL after the mobility stay and to obtain the doctorate there
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>PhD salary</td>
<td>50% by the grant, 50% by the lab/usual funding source</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel expenses</td>
<td>1 round trip ticket in Economy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research expenditure</td>
<td>max. CHF 3’000 per year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conferences / Congresses / workshop attendance</td>
<td>max. CHF 2’000 per year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matriculation fee</td>
<td>75% max. CHF 15’000 per year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family allowance</td>
<td>Child: CHF 12’000 per year, Partner: CHF 4’000 per year</td>
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The grant does not include a contribution to personal living expenses, such as rent in the host country. These must be covered by the EPFL salary that the doctoral students will continue to receive during their mobility stay.

Doctoral students will be registered at EPFL during their stay abroad. Their existing doctoral employment contract at EPFL will remain in force.

The mobility stay abroad is treated as paid leave.

For the duration of the stay, half of the salary will be covered by the Doc.Mobility grant, while half needs to continue to be covered by their usual funding source.

Doctoral students remain affiliated to the Swiss social insurance system. They continue to be insured with the AVS/AI/APG/AC, Pension (Publica), SUVA (accident). In this way, they can avoid having gaps in their contributions when an insurance case arises.

The doctoral school cannot guarantee to doctoral students that their existing employment contract will remain in force and that they will continue to receive a salary if they have an external contract i.e., if the salary is not paid by EPFL. In this case, doctoral students must make the necessary arrangements in advance directly with their external employer.
How to apply?
Complete applications must be submitted by doctoral students in electronic format via the dedicated [Google Form](https://docs.google.com/forms) by the submission deadline that 1 May 2023.

Applications must contain the following documents:

- a CV of two pages maximum
- the transcript of Doctoral School credits
- a project proposal (using the [template](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1234567890) provided)
- a copy of the last salary slip
- a copy of any financial contribution received from other organisations or institutions related to their thesis
- a letter of support (using the templates provided)
  - by thesis director
  - by academic host abroad
  - by academic institution abroad
- Partnership and/or family certificate, if applicable
Evaluation process
Eligibility & formal requirements

EDOC checks eligibility and formal requirements
Coordinates selection process

Scientific review

The selection committee examines the applications on three aspects:
1. the quality of the scientific project
2. the motivation of the applicant
3. the quality of the host institution

Decision

The committee evaluates each application in comparison with the others and selects the best applications for the grant.

Notification

The Doctoral School communicates the decision of the selection committee to the applicants in writing, indicating the reasons.
What is the timeline?
Launch of the Call: 1 March 2023
Deadline for applications: 1 May 2023
Notification of decision: 1 August 2023

2024
Possible start of the research stay abroad
How is the grant paid?
50% of the PhD Salary for the period of the research stay (in one instalment)

The amount granted paid in one instalment
(Contribution to Travel expenses, Research expenditure, Conferences, Matriculation fee, Family allowance)

Doctoral student's salary paid as usual in monthly instalments
Where to find more information?
Doc. Mobility website

For those interested
- Regulations
- FAQ
- Information set

For applicants
- Doc. Mobility Submission Form
- Template – Doc. Mobility Project Proposal Form
- Template – Letter of support from host institution abroad
- Template – Letter of support from Host
- Template – Letter of support from thesis director

For grantees
- Request for release of the EPFL Doc. Mobility grant
- Doc. Mobility Research stay – Final General Report

Contact

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