

# Cotutelles de thèse and PhD partnerships

**Call for applications 2021**  
**Submission deadline**  
**31 March 2021**

Allowance for travel and  
living expenses

## When is your doctoral project a cotutelle de thèse or PhD partnership?

When you are researching and writing your PhD thesis under the joint direction of two PhD supervisors at a Swiss higher education institution and a higher education institution abroad.

### Advantages include ...

- *guidance of two PhD supervisors, each of whom contributes his/her own specialist knowledge and preferred methodological approaches*
- *access to the infrastructure of both higher education institutions as well as to local networks – for instance, programmes offered in conjunction with doctoral studies*
- *knowledge of different research, institutional and academic cultures*
- *cultivation of contacts in the academic world of two countries, enhancing employability in academic and non-academic careers*

To cover additional travel and living expenses incurred in connection with a cotutelle de thèse or PhD partnership, the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) grants an allowance of up to CHF 10,000.– for projects that are regulated by a formal agreement between a Swiss higher education institution and a partner higher education institution in Europe or Israel.

## You are eligible if you ...

- *are matriculated as a PhD candidate at a Swiss higher education institution or have an employment contract at such an institution*
- *are a Swiss citizen or hold a B, C or G residence permit*
- *have studied at least one year at a Swiss university (bachelor's, master's or doctoral level)*
- *are not over the age of 40 as of 31 March 2021*

The explanatory notes provide further information on eligibility requirements. Download at: [swissuniversities.ch/en/cotutelles](http://swissuniversities.ch/en/cotutelles).

## Are you interested in applying?

The two partner institutions are responsible for approving your cotutelle de thèse project or PhD partnership: please enquire with your PhD supervisors and the office responsible for cotutelles de thèse at the Swiss higher education institution. The partner institutions regulate the modalities (deadlines and scope of responsibilities) of your cotutelle de thèse project or PhD partnership in a cooperation agreement. This agreement forms an integral part of your application for funding.

You must submit your application to swissuniversities via the responsible office at the Swiss higher education institution by 31 March 2021 at the latest.

**Please note that each institution may also set its own deadlines – be sure you hand in all necessary documents on time.**

## Questions about the programme?

swissuniversities – the rectors' conference of Swiss higher education institutions – is responsible for administration of the cotuelles de thèse and PhD partnerships programme. swissuniversities organises the annual call for applications, manages the evaluation process and communicates decisions.

[cotuelles@swissuniversities.ch](mailto:cotuelles@swissuniversities.ch)

[swissuniversities.ch/en/cotuelles](https://www.swissuniversities.ch/en/cotuelles)

All application documents are available for download on our website, where you will also find information about contact persons at the participating Swiss higher education institutions.

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# 49 countries

The call for applications is open to cotuelle de thèse projects and PhD partnerships with partner institutions in the Bologna system and in Israel.

