Call for proposals 2020 – Translational Medical Research

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Call for proposals 2020
Translational Medical Research

The Leenaards Foundation stimulates creative dynamics in the Lake Geneva region. We support people and institutions that are able to deploy creativity and innovation in the fields of culture, aging and biomedical science. Projects are selected on the basis of quality as well as their ambition to accompany the rapid mutations in today’s society.

The Leenaards Foundation supports Translational Medical Research at the university hospitals in the Lake Geneva region carried out in collaboration with other academic institutions. The aim is to strengthen structural links between clinical and basic research.
Amount at disposal for the call 2020

The amount at disposal is 1,5 million Swiss Francs (CHF) to be distributed between 2–3 major and innovative project(s) with maximum budgets between 500 KCHF and 750 KCHF.

Supported research team(s) will be free to plan the use of the funds over the duration of the projects (maximum 3 years).

Conditions

The project will investigate a clinical problem from an original and innovative angle, linking it to a component of advanced basic research, be it experimental research, bioinformatics or epidemiological analyses.

The project must include a human research component. The proposal must stand on its own; however, it may be embedded in the context of an existing study.

Preference will be given to projects attesting a new collaboration between 2–3 groups in the Lake Geneva region, with at least one of the two academic hospitals, as well as with UNIL, UNIGE and/or EPFL. Two groups from institutions of the Lake Geneva region may seek the collaboration of a third group belonging to an institution of another region/country.

The Prize is not renewable.
By submitting your project, you agree - if supported by the Leenaards Foundation - to actively participate in promoting the launch and results of your project.

This implies:

- write a summary in French of your research project for the general public
- actively participate in the production of a video on your research project and make yourself available for media, if required.
- include the Leenaards logo and/or the mention «project supported by the Leenaards Foundation» on communication and publications related to the research project (press releases, articles, presentations, etc.)
- participate in the Leenaards awards event.

Candidats

The primary applicant will be a clinical scientist (MD, MD-PhD, or PhD, below age of 45), with a strong academic career track, who has demonstrated her or his capacity as an independent investigator to lead original clinical research.

The project’s co-applicants (max. 2), preferably also at a relatively early stage in their careers, will have shown their skills in their respective fields. Their contributions in the project must be clearly specified. All applicants must hold a «stable position» for the entire duration of the project.
Applicants who have been granted the «Leenaards Prize for Translational Medical Research» during the last 3 years (2016–2018) are not eligible, and the project cannot be an extension of a previous Leenaards project.

Online applications & guidelines for submission

For the first evaluation round, applicants need to submit:

- **letter of intent*** (maximally 4 pages, including the most important references pertaining to the project). This letter should highlight the general importance of the project, provide a summary of the research plan and describe the importance of the collaborations and the specific roles of the primary investigator and the co-investigators in the project (max. 2 co-applicants). The authors are invited to describe how the interaction between the applicants is ensured.

- **budget** (and other sources of funding, if any) must be specified

- **short curricula vitae (CV)** of the primary investigator and maximum two co-investigators must be submitted. Maximal length of 4 pages each, including a list of the 10 personal references considered the most important in the perspective of the project. No additional reference list should be submitted. Please, refrain from providing bibliometric data.

*layout: arial font, size 11, single-spaced, margins 1.5 cm on all sides
Applications should be submitted in English (pdf file). Support documents (letter of intent / budget / CV’s) are to be submitted as separate files. They should be in pdf format and follow the specified layout.

The electronic application form is available directly via our online application system.

Applications must be submitted online, before 11th March 2019 [www.leenaards.ch/scientifique/call-for-proposals](http://www.leenaards.ch/scientifique/call-for-proposals)

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**Deadline, selection & timetable**

The evaluation of projects will take place in two stages:

1. An initial selection (based on letters of intent due before 11th March 2019) will be made by the Jury in March 2019. Decisions will be communicated to applicants by 15th April 2019.

2. The applicants of the selected projects will be invited to prepare a full proposal by 27th May 2019 for evaluation by the Jury and external experts (specific instructions will be given at this stage). An official support by the directions of the involved institutions will be required at this stage.

The final decision will be communicated by the end of September 2019, and the project could start earliest in January 2020.
Contact

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