

Swiss League Against Epilepsy Guidelines for Research Recognition Award

1. The Research Recognition Award from the Swiss League Against Epilepsy (Epilepsy League) is given to support scientific projects in the field of experimental or clinical epilepsy and epileptology and is primarily intended as start-up funding. It is awarded to scientists or clinicians active in Switzerland, with preference given to those who are carrying out studies on causes of and therapies for epilepsies. The award grant can be used to cover salaries, running costs, or purchase of equipment, and is paid to the relevant institution. The Epilepsy League does not cover any administrative or overhead costs of the project it supports. The money must only be used to carry out the respective project.
2. The Epilepsy League posts a call for applications on its website, publishes the call in its specialist journal as well as in other relevant professional journals. The call for applications is also sent to relevant professional societies for publication (e.g. Swiss Neurological Society, Swiss Society for Sleep Research, Sleep Medicine and Chronobiology SSSSC and Swiss Society for Neuroscience SSN). The deadline for applications is the end of each calendar year.
3. Applications must be written in English. They should include a summary of the research project, a project description (max. 5 pages: background information, aim or hypothesis to be tested, methods, expected outcome and significance of the work), a detailed budget, the applicant's curriculum vitae and publications list, and a letter of support from the applicant's director of research or supervisor. If more than one researcher is involved in the project, the application should state who is the project manager/corresponding author and the names of other persons involved in the project and their roles. If applications for support have also been submitted to other bodies, this should be declared, along with the outcome of the submission.
4. Applications are reviewed by the research commission of the Epilepsy League. The commission is elected for a period of three years by the board of the Epilepsy League. Re-election is possible.
5. Where applications are submitted by members of the Epilepsy League board (or their collaborators), the research commission can ask an external expert to join the evaluation

panel. In the case of applications by members of the research commission or their collaborators, the respective commission member abstains from evaluating the project.

6. The criteria for awarding the grant are scientific excellence, opportunity to learn new methods and techniques, establishment or strengthening of international collaborations, feasibility of the project and anticipated benefit to patients. Several projects can be supported during the same year. The Epilepsy League specifically encourages applications for smaller projects and/or by junior researchers.
7. All applicants are informed in writing of the decision concerning their application within four months of the deadline for applications. The Epilepsy League does not communicate the reasons for the decision.
8. Upon completion of the project or at the latest two years after the award has been received, a report on the project must be submitted to the Epilepsy League head office and approved by the research commission. The support received from the Epilepsy League must be mentioned in all publications relating to the corresponding project and a copy of these articles or publications must be sent to the Epilepsy League office.
9. If the project cannot be implemented as planned, at the latest two years after the award has been received, the applicant must inform the Epilepsy League office of the specific reasons for this. The funds used must be listed in detail. If the total funds used are less than the grant received from the Research Recognition Award, the remaining, unused funds must be returned to the Epilepsy League within three months.

Zürich, February 2024



Prof. Dr. Barbara Tettenborn,
President of the Swiss League Against Epilepsy



Dr. Julia Franke, Secretary of the
Swiss League Against Epilepsy