



Application Guidelines for the UZH Entrepreneur Fellowships BioTech and MedTech

Please advise these guidelines to prepare your application for the UZH Entrepreneur Fellowship.

1. What is the UZH Entrepreneur Fellowship?

With the UZH Entrepreneur Fellowships in BioTech and MedTech, the University of Zurich (UZH) provides funding, advice, and support to young researchers in life sciences and related fields who intend to start up a company based on research carried out at UZH. The Fellows will be given the opportunity to further develop their technology, product or novel service and to evaluate the potential for the commercialization of such a technology, product or service before founding a company.

2. What are the terms of the UZH Entrepreneur Fellowship?

The detailed terms of the funding are compiled in the *General Terms*.

3. Who can apply?

Eligible candidates for an UZH Entrepreneur Fellowship in BioTech and MedTech

- holds a MSc or doctoral degree (PhD, MD, PharmD, DMD or DVM) in life sciences or related fields. Doctoral students who plan to complete their thesis within six months after the application deadline can apply. Researchers are encouraged to apply within 5 years after they have obtained their doctoral degree. For parents, this period may be longer.
- must submit their project as a single applicant;
- have to be supported by an UZH professor (host professor) who is ready to act as a mentor during the fellowship and will provide the necessary lab space and infrastructure to carry out the project.
- are employed at the UZH at least for the time of the Fellowship.

4. How do I apply?

Submission deadline is every year 15 April and 15 September (23:59 CET).

Applications must be written in English and include:

- The filled in application form including a detailed description of the development and the business idea that is based on research results obtained at UZH and is linked to a potential translation into practical application in the area of BioTech or MedTech (form A1);



- The project budget including the intended utilization of the CHF 150'000 (form A2). Funding obtained or requested from other sources that is related to the project must be declared.
- The CV of the applicant (max. 2 pages), including a brief outline of the career goals;
- A letter of support by a host professor at UZH, stating why and how she/he plans to support the candidate and the project, what infrastructure will be available to the fellow, and how she/he assesses the presented project idea.

Forms A1 and A2 are available at www.innovation.uzh.ch/entrepreneur-fellowships.

All application documents [forms A1, A2, CV, and support letter] have to be sent as PDF (preferable in one single file) to: support@innovation.uzh.ch.

5. Do I have to hand in any consent(s) by the ethics committee and/ or veterinary office?

If you are planning to perform research on humans or to carry out animal experimentation that requires the consent from the responsible ethics committee or the veterinary office according to law, you must submit a copy of this consent by the start date of your fellowship at the latest.

6. How does the review procedure work and what are the selection criteria?

Applications that comply with the guidelines will be evaluated by the evaluation committee and the Jury. The evaluation process is organized in two steps.

Step 1: Pre-selection

The evaluation committee pre-screens the proposal based on the submitted written documents. The committee consists of two UZH Professors along with members from Unitectra, the Therapy Development Accelerator (TDA) and the BioEntrepreneurship & Innovation (BEI) Program. The opinion of external experts may be obtained if needed.

Step 2: Interview

Selected candidates are invited to present their project and business plan to the jury. The Interview is held in English. The jury consists of two UZH Professors together with two industry experts representing the fields of BioTech and MedTech. Based on the assessment of the written documents and the oral presentation, the jury takes the funding decision.

The UZH Entrepreneur Fellowship is awarded based on the following criteria:

- Project is based on excellent scientific work done at the UZH;
- High innovation potential (e.g. unique and defensible technology, existing or envisaged intellectual property protection);



- Compelling market opportunity and business case (while this may not be fully determined at proposal stage, a broad outline has to be presented);
- Feasibility (convincing project plan, resources, competences, team);
- Personal potential of the applicant (motivation, entrepreneurial spirit).

7. Reapplication

Rejected applications may be resubmitted. However, a project and/or applicant may not re-apply for the UZH Entrepreneur Fellowships more than twice. Furthermore, the jury expects to see a progress of the project and/or business case in the reapplication.