**Application form**

**Call name: Mertz Fellowship 2025**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Eligibility** | 1) Applicants must be enrolled in a PhD programme/project at the time of applying or within 5 years of finishing their PhD.  2) Applicants must be employed, including during the time of the grant, at a Swiss Institute of Higher Education and/or research facility **or** at an Australian university or research facility (in both cases the “home institution” hereafter). For reference: [list of Australian universities](https://www.studyaustralia.gov.au/english/study/universities-higher-education/list-of-australian-universities) and [agencies](https://www.directory.gov.au/departments-and-agencies) and list of [Swiss Institutes of Higher Education](https://www.sbfi.admin.ch/en/the-institutes-of-higher-education) and/or research facility, including those identified under Article 15 of the [Federal Act on the Promotion of Research and Innovation](https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2013/786/en). |
| **Type of application expected** | Applicants based in Switzerland must propose a project at a “host institution” in Australia.  Applicants based in Australia must propose a project at a “host institution” in Switzerland.  For details on the expected research areas (polar/high altitude), please refer to the call text. |
| **Award** | AUD 11,000.00  Two (2) fellowships awarded to two (2) applicant based in Switzerland or in Australia.  The grant can be used to cover all or part of the travel and accommodation costs of living in order to reach the project objectives. |
| **Application** | A complete application consists of:  1) Completed application form (compulsory)  2) CV of the applicant, including a publication list (compulsory – free format)  3) Home institution support letter (compulsory – free format)  4) Host institution support letter (compulsory – free format)  Letter of recommendation and references relevant to the project can be included.  **All documents must be saved in PDF with the name of the applicant in the title** |
| **Deadline** | 31 October 2025, 11:00pm (CET) |
| **Submission and**  **questions** | [tristan.piguet@eda.admin.ch](mailto:tristan.piguet@eda.admin.ch) |

**Part 1: General Information**

|  |
| --- |
| First name(s): |
| Surname(s): |
| Academic title: |
| Career stage (incl. date or planned date for PhD or other career steps): |
| Home institution at time of project: |
| Host institution for project: |
| Email:  Phone:  Professional postal address: |

**Part 2: Proposed Project**

|  |
| --- |
| Title: |
| Scientific keywords  *Note that only projects with a clear polar (Arctic/Antarctic) or high-altitude dimension are eligible for this fellowship* |
| Start date:  End date: |
| Summary (max. 100 words):  *Present here concisely the main goals and added-value of the project* |
| Objectives (max. 200 words):  *Describe here the objectives of the project, including scientific goals, networking and capacity-building component for your career* |
| Planned scientific work (max. 300 words):  *Describe here the scientific work to be undertaken during the project, including planned use of grant and timeline* |
| Relevance and added-value (max. 300 words):  *Explain here the relation to any overarching scientific projects towards which the submitted project will contribute, and relevance of the project for home and host institutes* |
| Additional aspects (max. 100 words): |

**Evaluation criteria**

Quality of the proposed project (30%)

Relevance of the proposed project from a collaboration perspective (30%)

Relevance of the proposed project from a career / capacity building perspective (30%)

Feasibility (10%)

© 2025 Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Embassy of Switzerland in Australia. All rights reserved