

# Welcome Apéro 2024

## Academic Careers

The Academic Careers Office in the Vice-Rectorate International and Academic Careers supports young academics of the University of Bern with a wide range of measures and services to ensure outstanding performance during their academic career.

The Vice-Rectorate International and Academic Careers (VRI) is structured into three thematic areas: International Office, Language Center and Academic Careers Office.

The Academic Careers Office

- launches and coordinates interfaculty initiatives and projects for the promotion of early career researchers,
- ensures the coordination and monitoring of the doctoral studies (doctoral programs and Graduate Schools),
- plans and manages specific target group-oriented funding offers for early career researchers (in particular at doctoral and postdoctoral level)
- organizes a comprehensive course program on Transferable Skills (see [www.unibe.ch](http://www.unibe.ch) > Research > Services and Advice > Academic Career Planning > Transferable Skills),
- gives advice regarding the academic career (together with the Grants Office of the University of Bern),
- provides a comprehensive range of information (on the website [www.unibe.ch](http://www.unibe.ch) under research > Services and Advice > Academic Career Planning).

The Academic Careers Office manages the following funding instruments: Twice a year (in April and October), an application round of the **Fund for the Promotion of Young Researchers** is held in cooperation with the intermediate staff association of the University of Bern (see the separate

fact sheet). With up to CHF 5,000, the pool supports innovative projects by researchers at doctoral / postdoctoral level, which serve to network and build independent profiles (e.g. workshops, conferences or innovative course formats).

With the **UniBE Initiator Grants**, a funding instrument has been created for postdoctoral researchers to prepare large external funding applications (project and career funding). A maximum of CHF 30,000 is available per grant. The intended use is very open. There is one call per year. The applications are evaluated by the Research Commission of the University of Bern.

To support the mobility of doctoral students (who are not funded by the SNSF), there is the **UniBE Doc.Mobility** grant with two application rounds per year (1 March and 1 September), also evaluated by the Research Commission. It finances stays at foreign research institutions, usually lasting 12 months.

For research stays up to eight weeks of doctoral students and postdocs, the **Short Travel Grants** offer funding for travel and other expenses up to CHF 8,000.

Together with the Office for Equal Opportunities, the Academic Careers Office also offers the **120%-Care-Grant** for early career researchers with care responsibilities from postdoc level onwards. The grant makes it possible to temporarily reduce the workload and hire a support person.

Detailed information on these specific funding schemes can be found on the respective **websites** (on the website [www.unibe.ch](http://www.unibe.ch) under Research > Funding and Prizes > UniBE funding schemes).

The University of Bern is committed to **attractive working conditions** for researchers. The information regarding the qualification positions on the level of the doctorate, post-doctorate, lectureship and assistant professorship can be found on the uni-internal website under [intern.unibe.ch](http://intern.unibe.ch) > Dienstleistungen > Personal > Anstellung > Anstellungsverhältnis > Qualifikationsfunktionen.

The University of Bern has signed DORA (the **San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment**) for a fair assessment of the output of researchers, she is committed to the **Better Science** initiative and supports the European Charter for Researchers and the European Commission's Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers (**Charter & Code**).

All information, rules and contacts on topics of **research compliance and good scientific practice**, which are important for the research work at the University of Bern, can be found on the website [www.unibe.ch](http://www.unibe.ch) under research > compliance and good research practice.