

Support for Young Academics: Open Round 2026/2

In order to support early career researchers, the Faculty of Science invites PhD students, postdocs, and members of the "Unterer Mittelbau" to apply for the "Open Round 2026/2". Three types of proposal can be submitted:

- Support for a **research stay** of 1-2 months at another university or research institution
- Support for a **field trip** that is not an integral part of your project
- Support for a **visit of a guest scientist** to Bern, to work with a young academic at the Faculty of Science

Typical support per project is CHF 2'000-6'000, covering travel, accommodation and necessary research costs (e.g. use of equipment). Meals and standard lab consumables are explicitly not covered. When choosing accommodation, we ask you to use the principle of economy and mindfulness and to include a copy of your budget with your application. **We will reject unrealistic or unclear cost estimates regardless of the scientific merit of the application.**

The application (max. 2 pages) should i) describe the scientific motivation for the project, ii) outline how it will further the applicant's career and scientific networking, and iii) provide a detailed budget, including an indication of how much match-up funding is available from the home institute. Finally, iv) a current CV should be attached to the application.

The application needs to include a short abstract (max. 100 words) concisely summarizing the purpose of the project. It should also provide the name of a senior contact person (e.g., supervisor).

! Participation in conferences, workshops, and winter/summer schools **is not supported** by this funding instrument. Importantly, the open round is intended to fund activities for which other funding is not available.

! Applicants who have already received funding through the Open Round **are not eligible** for further funding. If an application is approved through the Open Round, it is expected that travel within Europe to destinations marked "yellow" and "green" under the University of Bern's travel traffic light system will be made by train. For cities marked "red," it must be determined whether they can be reached by night train.

The deadline for applications is June 22, 2026. Decisions are expected around July 03, 2026. The money needs to be spent in 2026.

Please send applications to Stefan Lisiecki (nachwuchsfoerderung.dcbp@unibe.ch) by email. Please indicate "Open Round 2026/2" in the subject line.