

Regulations on the award of the SAKK / Dr. Paul Janssen Fellowship

1. Definition

The Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK) and Janssen-Cilag AG award the SAKK / Dr. Paul Janssen Fellowship once a year. The scholarship is endowed with CHF 30,000 and is limited to one year for the time being.

The scholarship is named after Dr. Paul Janssen, the founder of the Belgian pharmaceutical company Janssen Pharmaceutica, which has been part of the American Johnson & Johnson Group since the 1950s.

2. Aim and purpose

The SAKK / Dr. Paul Janssen Fellowship sponsors young doctors during their training to become specialists in clinical cancer research. A three or four-month stay at a prestigious guest institute abroad is designed to provide recipients of the fellowship with the opportunity to extend and deepen their existing knowledge in clinical cancer research and to acquire the methods necessary for the successful development and performance of clinical trials. The fellowship is designed to have a sustainable impact on later scientific work.

3. Duration and start of fellowship

The fellowship is awarded for a period of three to four months. Fellowships cannot be awarded retrospectively. The fellowship must be taken up within a year of its award; otherwise the sponsorship lapses. A request for a later start may be considered in the event of extenuating circumstances. The money will be transferred in Swiss francs to a bank or post office account in Switzerland at the earliest one month before the fellowship is taken up.

4. Personal requirements

Applications will be considered from doctors who are engaged in clinical cancer research, are training in Switzerland to become specialists and would like to spend part of their training abroad. Applicants must have completed a thesis and be engaged in scientific and clinical work.

5. Material requirements

The application must contain all information and documents designated essential, in particular the requisite letter of recommendation. The application may be submitted in German, French or English.

6. Terms of submission

Complete applications may be submitted electronically to Tanja.brauen@sakk.ch for the attention of the SAKK President by September 30. The application and all necessary documents must be available in a form that is capable of being copied.

The following documents are required:

- Summary in English, max. one A4 page
- Letter of motivation, max. one A4 page
- Detailed description of the training objectives and the methods to be learned, max. four A4 pages
- Curriculum vitae, including list of publications
- Letter of recommendation
- Name and address of the proposed guest institute

7. Jury

The SAKK / Dr. Paul Janssen Fellowship is awarded on the basis of an assessment by the jury, which gives an independent appraisal of the applications. The SAKK and Janssen-Cilag AG may waive the award of the fellowship if the jury considers none of the submitted applications worthy of support.

The jury is free and independent in its decisions. Its decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

The jury is made up of five independent experts, the SAKK and Janssen-Cilag AG each being represented by one person. The President of the SAKK chairs the jury. He may delegate a member of the SAKK Board to chair the jury. The members of the jury must be approved by the SAKK Board.

8. Criteria of assessment

Applications that satisfy the formal conditions of submission are forwarded for scientific appraisal by the jury.

The following criteria of assessment are applied:

- Quality, scope and feasibility of the training objectives during the guest stay
- Patient focus and degree of innovation of the training objectives
- The prospects of successfully applying what has been learned when back in Switzerland
- Previous scientific achievements of the applicant, especially in the form of independent research work or scientific publications
- The quality of the proposed guest institute, in particular the conditions of employment and specialist training opportunities at the institute

9. Reporting

Grant recipients must write a newsletter article describing their scientific activities and knowledge and skills gained, which must be sent to SAKK no later than three months after their guest visit. In addition, grant recipients must hold a presentation on their guest visit at a SAKK project group meeting.

10. Award

The official award ceremony of the SAKK / Dr. Paul Janssen Fellowship will take place at the SAKK half-year general meeting in November in Zurich.