



# Information Sheet

## for grant holders regarding the Covid-19 pandemic

### Effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Research Funding

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The extraordinary situation surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic affects us all. The Swiss Federal Council's current recommendations and imposed measures lead to restrictions and changes in all areas, including professional and economic life.

We have considered a range of questions that may accompany this exceptional situation including the following:

**1 Will the Swiss Cancer League / Swiss Cancer Research foundation allow project extensions due to delays related to Covid-19?**

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Grant holders can request cost-neutral extensions by writing to the Scientific Office. Please be sure to state the grant reference ID and the duration of the expected delay. Deadlines for financial and scientific progress reports for prolonged grants will be adapted accordingly.

**2 Facilities and research labs are closed due to Covid-19. Is there anything to consider regarding the funding received from the Swiss Cancer League / Swiss Cancer Research foundation?**

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If facilities and research labs are closed due to Covid-19 and research work cannot be conducted due to the closure, grant holders paid by funds awarded from the Swiss Cancer League / Swiss Cancer Research foundation are advised to claim partial unemployment ([Kurzarbeit](#) / [chômage partiel](#)).

We will consider requests to put your grant on hold, by suspending your grant if you want to pause activities on the grant and payments.

**3 My research project cannot be completed due to Covid-19. Is there a possibility to apply for additional funding?**

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As non-profit organizations, the Swiss Cancer League / Swiss Cancer Research foundation are not in the position to provide additional funding to cover short period delays or project interruptions related to Covid-19.

**4 I had planned to activate my grant, but have difficulties in finding and hiring appropriate personnel. What can I do?**

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You can delay the start date of your grant by delaying the activation of the grant by up to 12 months.

**5 I hold a bursary or I am about to start one. However, the location abroad is affected by Covid-19. What are my options?**

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Researchers planning or conducting a stay abroad must follow the advice issued by the Federal Office of Public Health ([FOPH](#)) and Federal Department of Foreign Affairs ([FDFA](#)), as well by the responsible authorities in the countries in question.



Bursary recipients recently awarded may request to postpone the start of their bursary for up to one year from the original start date.

Bursary recipients already abroad can request cost-neutral extensions by writing to the Scientific Office. Please be sure to state your bursary reference ID and the number of months for which an extension is required.

## **6 Are delays in payment instalments expected?**

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Payments are currently being issued according to schedule.

## **7 I have received funding for a scientific conference or workshop. How should I proceed if the event needs to be cancelled?**

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If the conference or workshop will be held at a later time, you may request to transfer the awarded funds prior to the conference. Additional funds cannot be requested. If the conference was cancelled and resumption at a later time is not envisaged, funds must be paid back to the Swiss Cancer League / Swiss Cancer Research foundation. Exceptions will be considered if costs have already incurred. Please contact the Scientific Office on how to proceed in such cases.

## **8 Are changes in the application submission and review process expected due to Covid-19?**

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No changes in the application and review process are expected at this time. All main applicants from the July 2020 round will be notified on the outcome of their grant application by the end of December 2020.

The next deadline for grant applications is 31 January 2021. It is not possible to request extensions beyond this deadline.

## **Further questions?**

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Please contact the [scientific-office@swisscancer.ch](mailto:scientific-office@swisscancer.ch)  
+41 31 389 93 63.

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