

SWISS OBESITY CLINICAL RESEARCH AWARD

First edition — 2026

Art. 1 Purpose

The Swiss Multidisciplinary Obesity Society (SMOB) hereby establishes the “Swiss Obesity Clinical Research Award” (the “Award”) to honour outstanding, clinically relevant scientific research in the field of obesity conducted in Switzerland.

The Award recognises a clinician-scientist whose peer-reviewed original research article makes a substantial and clinically relevant contribution to the field of obesity medicine and/or surgery.

Art. 2 Award and Endowment

The Award is endowed with a prize of CHF 2,500 (two thousand five hundred Swiss francs).

The Award is granted for the first time in 2026 and will thereafter be granted annually.

Art. 3 Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Award, the submitted work must fulfil all of the following criteria:

1. The work is a peer-reviewed original research article (original scientific paper) with clinical relevance to the field of obesity.
2. The work was published during the last 12 months or has been formally accepted for publication (“in press” / “accepted”) during this period, in a peer-reviewed journal.
3. A substantial part of the underlying research was conducted in Switzerland.
4. The candidate is the first author or the last (senior) author of the article.
5. The candidate was professionally active in Switzerland during the period in which the research was conducted.

Case reports, reviews, meta-analyses, editorials, letters, conference abstracts, and non-peer-reviewed publications are not eligible.

Art. 4 Application

Applications may be submitted by the candidate personally or nominated by a third party (e.g. a mentor, department head, or SMOB member), subject to the candidate's consent.

A complete application must include:

- A copy of the published article, or, if not yet published, proof of acceptance for publication (e.g. acceptance letter or DOI of the accepted manuscript);

- A short letter of motivation (maximum one page) outlining the clinical relevance and originality of the work; a visual abstract summarizing main findings is also encouraged;
- A curriculum vitae of the applicant (first or last author);
- Confirmation that a substantial part of the work was conducted in Switzerland and that the applicant was professionally active in Switzerland during the conduct of the research.

Applications must be submitted electronically to the SMOB Board (Vorstand) via the address communicated in the annual call for applications.

Art. 5 Application Deadline

For the 2026 award cycle, applications must be received by 16 October 2026 (23:59 CET). From 2027 onwards, the SMOB Board will publish the annual deadline in due course, in the annual call for applications.

Art. 6 Jury and Selection Procedure

The SMOB Board acts as the Jury for the Award.

The Jury evaluates all eligible applications based on scientific quality, originality, methodological rigour, and clinical relevance and impact of the work for obesity care in Switzerland.

The Jury's decision is final and not subject to appeal. No correspondence will be considered regarding the outcome of the selection process.

Board members who are themselves applicants, co-authors of a submitted work, or otherwise conflicted (e.g. close personal or institutional relationship with an applicant) will be excluded from the discussion and decision regarding the affected application.

The Jury reserves the right not to grant the Award in a given year if no submitted work meets the required quality standard.

Art. 7 Award Ceremony

The Award is presented during the SMOB Annual Meeting.

The recipient is expected to present the awarded work in the form of a short lecture during the SMOB Annual Meeting.

Art. 8 Miscellaneous and Final Provisions

By submitting an application, the applicant agrees that their name, affiliation, and the title of the awarded work may be publicly announced and published by SMOB (e.g. on the SMOB website, in the annual meeting program, and in related communications).

The SMOB Board may amend these Regulations at any time. Amendments take effect for the following award cycle unless otherwise decided by the Board.

These Regulations were adopted by the SMOB Board and enter into force for the 2026 award cycle.

Adopted by the SMOB Board on: 18 August 2026

On behalf of the SMOB Board: Prof. Dr. med. Bernd Schultes, President