



## PhD Opportunity in Biomedical Ethics

The Institute for Biomedical Ethics at the University of Basel (IBMB), Switzerland (<http://ibmb.unibas.ch/>), is dedicated to research and teaching of biomedical ethics at the Medical and Science Faculties. We are currently looking for dynamic and independent graduate students (Master's degree) or medical doctors who are interested in carrying out their PhD work in biomedical ethics. The candidate will be working within the framework of the following project:

**“Decision making in times of scarce resources: A mixed-method study”** a project funded by the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences as part of the Käthe Zingg-Schwichtenberg Fund dedicated to advance research in biomedical ethics.

**Project Information:** The COVID-19 pandemic has been raising several ethical questions around the use of limited medical resources in emergency situations and beyond. In Switzerland, ethical guidelines have been developed on how to triage patients in hospitals, in case the risk emerges that extensive medical care cannot be provided to all patients who need it (resource scarcity). However, there is less information on how to deal with prehospital triage decisions, and on the impact of decision-making in times of scarce resources on older persons, a segment of society that has been particularly affected by COVID-19. Using a mixed-method approach, including a survey with older patients from geriatric clinics and interviews with professionals, the current project is aimed at filling these two gaps.

**Position Available starting:** Immediately

**Length of PhD Program:** 3 years (full-time)

**PhD Salary:** In accordance with SNSF doctoral salary guideline

### Qualifications:

- Master's degree in philosophy, psychology, bioethics, public health, medicine, and other related fields.
- Excellent language skills in English.
- Ability to speak and understand German. Additional knowledge of French is highly desirable.
- Willingness to contribute towards an empirical project.
- Outstanding Master's and Bachelor's academic grades.
- Enthusiasm, responsibility and interest in an academic career.
- Knowledge of qualitative and quantitative research design.

### We offer:

- Enrolment in a Swiss Bologna accredited PhD Program in Bioethics, Health Policy and Legal medicine.
- Student will complete empirical methods courses as part of the PhD Program in order to successfully conduct their PhD Project.
- Student will have the opportunity to engage in a cutting-edge topic of public health ethics and elderly care.
- Student will also have the possibility to contribute to the academic life at the IBMB, including contributions to teaching, as well as collaboration in other research projects and academic publications in peer reviewed journals.

**Environment:** The University of Basel is the oldest Swiss university with a long tradition in ethics and the humanities. It has a long-standing reputation in outstanding research and teaching. Doctoral candidates at the University come from many international countries providing a vibrant and rich community. More information about the University is available at <https://www.unibas.ch/en/University/About-University.html>. The city of Basel is a global centre for biomedical research with major academic institutions and research departments of leading life science companies. Basel is a multicultural city and ranks among the best in terms of quality of life.

**Applications:** Applications must be submitted in English and should include in a single PDF file: (1) A detailed CV, including an overview of study results (grades), the title of your master thesis, contact information of (at least) two (academic) referees, and a PDF-file of the master thesis; (2) A motivation letter (maximum two pages, double-spaced, font 12), specifying your interests in the topic and PhD in Basel.

Applications for the project should be sent via email directly to PD Dr. Tenzin Wangmo ([tenzin.wangmo@unibas.ch](mailto:tenzin.wangmo@unibas.ch)) with email subject “KZS-Funded Project” by 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2022.