

Charter of the Faculty of Medicine's commitment to its donors

The University of Geneva (UNIGE) Faculty of Medicine is committed to maintaining and promoting the excellence that enables its researchers to achieve their full potential. Funding for the Faculty's research activities depends mainly on public and competitive funding, as well as on the generosity of its private donors.

The Faculty has decided to commit to eight key principles.

- 1. Fundraising is carried out by and for researchers in accordance with UNIGE ethical and academic principles.**
- 2. Funding aims to maintain and promote the Faculty's excellence in fundamental, translational and clinical research.**
 - It supports excellence in diversity: the Faculty respects academic freedom and encourages research covering a wide range of topics. This objective reinforces its vocation as a generalist medical school.
 - It acts to strengthen its centres of excellence: the Faculty can propose large-scale projects to donors in which it commits new human and financial resources to complement the donations received.
 - It seeks external advice to challenge the excellence of projects: in particular, it requires external expertise for projects with an annual budget of CHF 500,000 or more.
 - It maintains close links with renowned scientific institutions, both locally and internationally, to foster excellence.
 - It monitors and regularly assesses research projects to increase the resources available for particularly promising projects.
- 3. The Faculty promotes effective governance and organisation to support its research.**
 - Its governance, linked to that of the UNIGE, supports long-term research projects.
 - Its financial management complies with best practice and standards established within the framework of institutional guidelines.
 - Specialised teams at the UNIGE are dedicated to internal audit and management control.
 - UNIGE is responsible for managing the risks associated with research activities.
 - The Faculty reports on its activities in [the UNIGE annual report](#). In accordance with the UNIGE's transparency policy, information on donations, bequests and subsidies is made available [on its website](#).
- 4. The Faculty is committed to continuous improvement to provide donors with a clear picture of how their donations are being used.** This approach may lead to the implementation of a quality plan or of an external certification.
- 5. The Faculty is committed to structuring its fundraising activities for the benefit of both researchers and donors.** This activity respects the ethical principles promoted by professional Swiss fundraising organisations.
- 6. The Faculty aims to maintain a quality relationship with all donors**
 - It respects donors' requests (earmarking, right to anonymity and right to information).
 - It responds to any questions or requests for information as quickly as possible, in principle within seven working days.
- 7. The Faculty monitors donations of CHF 100,000 or more on an individual basis.**
 - All new projects have an objective, a budget and a research plan. The information is reliable and relevant.
 - An earmarked donation may only be transferred to another project with the donor's approval.
- 8. For all donations of CHF 100,000 per year or more, the Faculty ensures that researchers provide an annual report setting out their scientific and financial performance in accordance with the standards required for institutional research funds.**

The HUG Private Foundation is the foundation of the Geneva University Hospitals (HUG) and of the UNIGE Faculty of Medicine. It approves the content of this charter.