

Looren Excellence Grant 2027

The Translation House Looren in the canton of Zurich (Switzerland), supported by the Swiss arts council Pro Helvetia, the Fondation Jan Michalski and the Max Geilinger Foundation, will award five excellence grants in 2027 for literary translators working with any language combination. With these grants, we aim to promote excellency in literary translation and foster linguistic diversity.

Who can apply?

- Translators of all nationalities who translate Swiss authors of any era and source language into any language.
- Translators who have published at least three books.
- The translation project must be a work in progress (manuscript deadline after April 2027).
- Translators applying for a Max Geilinger Excellence Grant must be translating a work of any Swiss author into English or an English-language work into German, French, Italian or Romansh.
- Please note that if you are awarded an Excellence Grant, it will not be possible to receive a residency grant (even if already confirmed) in the same year.

What we do not fund

- Translation from a pivot language.
- Texts written by deceased authors of various nationalities during short temporary stays in Switzerland (e.g. Thomas Mann).
- Translation projects must have a signed publishing contract available in German, French, Italian or English. A letter of intent is not sufficient.

What does a grant include?

We award five excellence grants: three Looren Excellence Grants, one Regula Renschler Excellence Grant and one Max Geilinger Excellence Grant. These five grants are endowed with 4000 CHF and are tied to a one-month stay at Translation House Looren. Travel costs will be reimbursed.

How to apply

We only consider applications that are submitted on time through this [link](#) with all the correct documents. All applications must be in German, French, Italian or English. Please upload the requested documents as separate files in PDF format.

Requested documents:

- Short bio, CV/resumé
- List of publications
- Description of the translation project, detailing the specific translation challenges
- Publishing contract in German, French, Italian or English and rights agreement (unless the work is out of copyright)
- 10 manuscript pages of the translation (not featuring the translator's name)
- Copy of the relevant pages of the original

Key dates

Submission deadline: 28th October 2026

The jury will decide by 5th February 2027

Grant holders can stay at Translation House Looren for one month between March and December 2027.