These regulations apply to institutes working with controlled substances that fall under the Swiss Narcotics Act (BetmG) and are not classified as medicines.

Legal Basis
- Swiss Narcotics Act (BetmG)
- Ordinance on the Control of Narcotics (BetmKV)

In the following, a summary of the main legal foundations is provided. The complete provisions of the legislation can be found on the legislation pages of the Federal Government (www.admin.ch → Classified compilation).

**Swiss Narcotics Act (BetmG)**

**Art. 14 Abs. 2 BetmG**
Institutions involved in scientific research may be granted a licence by the relevant cantonal authority to cultivate, acquire, store and use narcotics to the extent required for their own needs.

**Art. 17 Abs. 1 BetmG**
Businesses, persons and institutions who hold a licence under Articles 4 and 14 paragraph 2 are obliged to keep constant records of all dealing with narcotics.

**Art. 18 Abs. 1 BetmG**
The businesses, persons, facilities and institutions subject to official control must make their areas under cultivation, production, sales and storerooms accessible to the control agencies, together with their stocks of narcotics and all related receipts. They must provide information whenever requested to do so by the authorities.

**Ordinance on the control of Narcotics (BetmKV) only available in German**

**Art. 16 Wirkung der Betriebsbewilligung (BetmKV)**
Die Betriebsbewilligung ermächtigt deren Inhaberin oder Inhaber zur Abgabe und zur Vermittlung kontrollierter Substanzen an:

- Personen und Unternehmen, die eine Bewilligung nach Artikel 4 Absatz 1 BetmG oder eine Ausnahmebewilligung nach Artikel 8 Absätze 5–8 BetmG besitzen; [...] 
- die verantwortliche Person von wissenschaftlichen Instituten, die eine Bewilligung gemäss Artikel 14 Absatz 2 BetmG besitzen;
Obtaining Narcotics

The provisions referred to above are essential for ETH Zurich institutes wishing to obtain the relevant narcotics. Both those institutes already working with narcotics and those starting to do so are required to appoint a narcotics manager and to obtain a license:

1) Familiarize yourself with the legislative principles.
2) Appoint someone to be the narcotics manager for your area.
3) Fill in the form from the Cantonal Agency for Therapeutic Products (Kantonale Heilmittelkontrolle: Startseite → Bewilligungen → Betriebe → Wissenschaftliche Institute) and send it to the address given on the form.
4) A license is normally valid for 5 years for scientific institutes and costs CHF 250. This cost is borne by the institute itself.
5) Inform the Safety, Security, Health and Environment (SSHE) department when the narcotics manager for your institute/area is appointed or changed. Please send this notification in an e-mail to cabs@ethz.ch.
6) We include all the narcotics managers in our distribution list and, if necessary, keep all the managers on the list informed, for example if we are notified of changes to the legislation.
7) SSHE reserves the right to conduct internal inspections.