Call for Lundbeck Foundation Professors

Background
The Lundbeck Foundation’s ambition is to make Denmark leading in neuroscience research by funding relevant biomedical, health, clinical and other sciences in Denmark. The goal is to foster world-class research at Danish universities and Danish university hospitals. At the same time, our grants must help provide an environment that stimulates the best graduates and scientists at all career levels.

The purpose of the Lundbeck Foundation professorship programme is to support the development of a research environment centred on an internationally recognised scientist and research leader in order to advance ground-breaking research. We expect the Lundbeck Foundation Professor to make significant contributions to research and, at the same time, develop and mentor junior researchers.

Lundbeck Foundation believes that diversity strengthens science and for this reason diversity, including, but not limited to, gender and ethnic origin, is encouraged. It is therefore important that we receive applications from as many qualified scientists as possible, from all backgrounds.

Research theme
The research should be within the field of basic or clinical neuroscience, or science with clear relevance to neuroscience. The term ‘neuroscience’ is used here in its broadest sense, hence including medical, technical, natural and social sciences as well as humanities.

Who can apply?
We expect you to be a researcher qualified to the level of full professor and to have demonstrated excellent research leadership. We welcome internationally recognised researchers with a track record of significant and excellent achievements over the past ten years. We expect the successful applicants to spend the majority of their time on the project.

Which proposals are eligible?
Your project proposes frontline clinical, translational or basic research and you have a compelling vision for your research and clear ideas of its potential impact. The research must be based at a non-commercial Danish research institution.

How much?
You can apply for DKK 20-40 million for a period of six years with an option for renewal. We expect to award 4-6 grants. Renewal decisions are made by our Grants & Prizes Panel, based on an external peer review. The budget may include all staff and non-staff costs related to the project. Up to 10% of the budget can be reserved for project-related, indirect costs if appropriately justified and based on a negotiation with the Foundation.

In special cases, Lundbeck Foundation will fund relocation expenses when grant recipients move to Denmark.
How to apply?
You must submit your application, written in English, via Lundbeck Foundation’s application system.

Your application must include the following:

- Research plan
- Publication list and CV
- Budget
- Letters of support from the Danish host institution

There are further details in the application guide on the application form.

You are welcome to contact Science Manager Ulla Jakobsen, uj@lundbeckfonden.com, or Programme Manager Lars Torup, lt@lundbeckfonden.com, if you have any questions regarding your application.

Evaluation process

The evaluation will be based on:

- Excellence of the applicant (scientific achievements, creativity, commitment, leadership skills / capacity development, collaboration and network)
- Excellence of the research project (ground-breaking nature, potential impact, scientific approach, interdisciplinarity, feasibility)
- Excellence of the host environment (scientific skills, facilities, commitment)
- Expected impact on Danish neuroscience
- Expected implications for human health
- Current funding level of the applicant

Each application is given an overall rating according to the definitions below:

Score A: Internationally outstanding; has exceptional novelty, quality and innovativeness; fully meets all scientific standards and excels in many or all of these. Recommended for funding or to continue to the next phase.

Score B: Very good since the applicant meets all scientific standards; or good quality in terms of overall scientific standards; or the reviewer has concerns about one or more aspects of the application.

Score C: Meets some of the scientific standards; or needs significant changes and improvements; or has serious flaws and does not meet the scientific standards. Not recommended for funding.
The assessment will be divided into two steps:

**Step 1.**
Applications are evaluated by Lundbeck Foundation’s Grants & Prizes Panel who select the applications to continue to the next step.

**Step 2.**
Selected applications are peer reviewed by three external, international experts who then provide the Foundation with a written report. Applicants will be invited to comment on the written reports. Selected applicants will be invited to an interview by the Grants & Prizes Panel. Based on the application, three independent peer reviews, the applicants’ written reply to the peer review and interviews with applicants, the Grants & Prizes Panel will make recommendations for funding or rejection to the Foundation’s Board of Trustees, who will make the final decision.

**Important dates:**

- Deadline for application: 13.00, 7 January 2021
- Interviews of the applicants: 4-5 November 2021
- Board’s approval of grants: December 2021

**What are the grant conditions?**

If your proposal is successful, a contract will be drafted. As part of this process, you and your host institution will be required to accept Lundbeck Foundation’s General Terms and Conditions for Research Grants as well as individual, project-specific amendments, including requests for indirect costs, which will be subject to negotiation.

The purpose of the Lundbeck Foundation is to create powerful ripple effects that bring discoveries to lives through investing actively in business and science at the frontiers of their fields.