Call for Lundbeck Foundation Postdocs

Background
The Lundbeck Foundation aspires for its grants to make a significant contribution to advances in research-based knowledge and experience in the field of biomedical, clinical and health sciences in Denmark. At the same time, our grants must help ensure that Denmark always has the best graduates and scientists at all career levels in these fields. The 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.

Lundbeck Foundation postdoc grants in Denmark and abroad
The postdoctoral training period is very important for the recruitment of future talents. It marks the first step towards a career as an independent researcher. Therefore, the Foundation awards stipends to the most talented researchers with the most original ideas for free and independent biomedical, clinical and health sciences research of the highest standard at Danish or international non-commercial research institutions.

The Foundation encourages and supports international collaboration between researchers through the sharing of experience and ideas between Danish and international research institutions. Therefore, the Foundation prioritises support for postdocs who wish to spend part or most of their time in international research groups.

Research theme
The proposed research must be within the fields of biomedical, clinical or health science, or must facilitate research within these fields.

Who can apply?
Applicants may be:
- Based in Denmark but planning to move abroad for a lengthy period, or
- Based abroad and planning to move to Denmark for a lengthy period, or
- Based in Denmark and planning to stay in Denmark

Applicants must:
- Have obtained a PhD or be able to document that they are expected to gain their PhD within six months of the application deadline
- Have obtained their PhD no more than four years ago (from the date on the PhD diploma)

Rules for leave of absence apply¹

Which proposals are eligible?
Your project proposes frontline clinical, translational or basic research within the fields of biomedical, clinical or health science, or facilitates research within these areas. Postdoc projects may be fully based in Denmark at Danish non-commercial research institutions or be based at international non-commercial research institutions where the postdoc candidate is employed by a Danish research institution for the duration of the grant. In addition, the entire grant must be managed by the Danish institution.

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¹ The PhD seniority of applicants who have taken maternity or paternity leave after gaining their PhD will be reduced by the actual number of weeks of leave multiplied by 1.5. In the case of illness or family care leave, the exact period will be deducted. The start and end dates of the maternity/paternity leave or other leave periods must be stated in the applicant’s CV. The PhD seniority of applicants who have taken leave from research for their clinical postgraduate education (Klinisk Basisuddannelse) after gaining their PhD will be reduced by 12 months.
How much?
Lundbeck Foundation is allocating up to DKK 100 million to this call for proposals. The grants are worth DKK 800,000 per year. Grants are for two to three years. 10% of the budget can be reserved for project-related, indirect costs. If at least nine consecutive months are spent abroad, applicants may apply for an additional DKK 75,000 as a lump sum to cover some of the expenses associated with travel, accommodation, etc. This must be clearly stated in the budget.

How to apply?
You must submit your application, written in English, via the Lundbeck Foundation’s application system. Please note that the Foundation will not consider or assess any application material which is not submitted via the application system.

Your application must include the following:
- Research plan
- Publication list and CV
- Budget
- Letter(s) of support from head(s) of the research groups who will host the applicant in Denmark and, if applicable, abroad
- Letter of support from the Danish host institution agreeing to manage the entire grant

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

You are welcome to contact Science Manager Ulla Jakobsen (uij@lundbeckfonden.com) or application@lundbeckfonden.com if you have any questions regarding your application.

Evaluation process
All proposals will be reviewed by the Foundation’s Talent Panel in a one-step process, based on the scientific excellence characterised by the criteria below:
- The applicant (scientific creativity, scientific achievements, collaboration and network, commitment, level of independence as a researcher)
- The research project (ground breaking nature, potential impact, scientific approach, feasibility)
- The PI and the host environment (scientific skills, facilities, commitment)
- Expected implications for human health

Each application is given an overall rating according to the below definition:
1 – excellent, 2 – very good, 3 – good, 4 – fair and 5 – weak.

For applicants wishing to spend part or all of the time at international research institutions, the following will also be assessed: Is the applicant currently truly connected with or based at a Danish research environment?

Important dates:
- Deadline for application: 1 pm CET on 6 November 2019
- Approval of grants: March 2020

What are the grant conditions?
If your proposal is successful, you must accept Lundbeck Foundation’s General Terms and Conditions for Research Grants.

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.