



Call for Lundbeck Foundation Postdocs 2020

Background

The Lundbeck Foundation has an aspiration for its grants to make a significant contribution to advances in research-based knowledge and experience in the fields 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 encourages diversity at all levels. 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

Postdoctoral training plays an important role in developing talent.

The Foundation considers change in research environment and/or research topic of paramount importance for establishing a solid basis for a future independent research career.

This programme supports

1. Scientists in Denmark who wish to conduct research at a research institution outside Denmark for up to 36 months (and no less than 12 months) and who plan to return to Denmark to continue their research.
2. Scientists from abroad who wish to conduct research in an established Danish research environment. Scientists from abroad that already have a research position in Denmark are eligible if the employment is from March 2020 or later.
- 3 Scientists in Denmark who wish to move to a different research environment within Denmark. Scientists that already have a research position in the new research environment are eligible if the employment is from March 2020 or later.
4. Scientists in Denmark who wish to continue to conduct research within their current affiliated research environment and already have had at least 3 years of PhD, postdoctoral and/ or industrial training in another research environment and/or on a different research topic.

The Foundation prioritises proposals that include lengthy international research experience.



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 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

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. PhD seniority will be reduced by 12 months for applicants who have taken leave from research to complete their clinical postgraduate course (Klinisk Basisuddannelse) after gaining their PhD.



Which proposals are eligible?

Postdoc projects may be fully based in Denmark at Danish non-commercial research institutions or be based at a non-commercial research institution outside Denmark. The entire grant must be managed by a Danish non-commercial research institution.



How much?

The Lundbeck Foundation is allocating up to DKK 70 million to this call for proposals. The grants are worth DKK 800,000 per year. 10% of the budget can be reserved for project-related, indirect costs. If at least six consecutive months are spent at a foreign research institution 8% of the budget covering the period can be reserved for project-related, indirect costs at the foreign research institution. 2% of the budget covering the period can be reserved for project-related, indirect costs at the Danish host institution. Only the main applicant may apply for a postdoc salary. This postdoc salary must comply with the collective agreement applicable to the Danish host institution and includes centrally negotiated allowances and pension. Grants are for two to three years. If at least 12 consecutive months are spent abroad, applicants may apply for an additional DKK 100,000 as a lump sum to cover some of the expenses associated with travel, accommodation, etc. Applicants who have children and wish to go abroad for at least 12 consecutive months may apply for additional support of DKK 50,000 per accompanying child per year. The DKK 100,000 lump sum and the additional DKK 50,000 per child per year 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 including a CV from head(s) of the research group(s) 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 (uj@lundbeckfonden.com), Scientific Officer Anette Høye (ah@lundbeckfonden.com) or Head of Talent Programmes Thomas Sinkjær (ts@lundbeckfonden.com) if you have any questions regarding your application.

Evaluation process

The assessment process is a one-step process, handled by the Foundation's [Talent Panel](#).

All applications are scanned for eligibility by the Foundation's Grants & Prizes Department prior to involvement of the panel. Panel members are initially presented with a list of applications allowing them to declare conflicts of interest, if any.

Each application is assigned three panel members, who serve as reviewers and who should be ready to provide a brief presentation of the candidate and project and to give their comments before the entire panel begins discussing the application at panel meetings.

The evaluation will be based on the scientific excellence of the research proposal and career development potential of the applicant.



Scientific excellence is assessed based on the following criteria:

- The research project (ground-breaking nature, potential impact, scientific approach, feasibility)
- The host(s) and the host environment(s) (scientific skills, facilities, commitment)
- Expected implications and impact for human health

Each application is given an overall rating for scientific excellence according to the scale below:

- 1 – excellent
- 2 – very good
- 3 – good
- 4 – fair
- 5 – weak

Career potential is assessed based on the following criteria:

- The applicant (research skills, scientific achievements, collaboration and network, commitment, level of independence as a researcher, communication skills)
- Change in research topic as compared to past research
- Change in research environment as compared to past research environments
- Support and guidance of more established scientists (mentoring)

Each application is given an overall rating for career potential according to the scale below:

- 1 – excellent
- 2 – very good
- 3 – good
- 4 – fair
- 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?

If a grant from the Foundation will extend an applicant's postdoc career beyond four years, the following will also be assessed: Competitiveness for an academic tenure track position.

Each panel member submits her/his two ratings and comments to the Foundation prior to the review meeting. At the review meeting, proposals are discussed and equally rated against the criteria for assessment of scientific quality of the proposal and career potential of the applicant.

The Foundation prioritises funding for applicants based in Denmark at the time of the application deadline who wish to spend part or most of their time in international research groups.

Important dates:

- Deadline for application: 1 pm CET on 10 November 2020
- Approval of grants: March 2021



What are the grant conditions?

If your proposal is successful, you must accept the [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.*