

Call for Lundbeck Foundation NIH BRAIN Initiative

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 Foundation wishes to encourage and support international collaboration between researchers through the sharing of experience and ideas between Danish and international research institutions. In partnership with National Institutes of Health (NIH) the Lundbeck Foundation supports the involvement of researchers at Danish institutions in the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative. The BRAIN Initiative is a multi-agency effort, with a coordinated contribution from 10 NIH Institutes and Centers (<http://braininitiative.nih.gov/>).

The purpose of the Lundbeck Foundation NIH BRAIN Initiative programme is to allow researchers at Danish institutions to join NIH BRAIN Initiative projects.

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?

Applicants must at least hold a PhD degree or have similar experience and be affiliated with a non-commercial Danish research institution.



Which proposals are eligible?

Your project proposes frontline clinical, translational or basic research with a potential benefit for Danish neuroscience. The research project may be fully based in Denmark at a Danish non-commercial research institution or partly be based at a US non-commercial research institution. In any case, the entire grant must be managed by the Danish institution.



How much?

The Lundbeck Foundation is allocating up to DKK 10 million to this call. Grants are up to DKK 3 million each and cover up to three years. The budget may include all staff and non-staff costs related to the project, including your own salary. Up to 10% of the budget can be reserved for indirect costs if appropriately justified.



How to apply?

Researchers at Danish institutions who are interested in participating in NIH funded awards are advised to contact the principal investigator of the NIH award to inquire if there is mutual interest in collaboration. If there is interest, the researcher from a Danish research institution can apply to the Lundbeck Foundation for funding of the Danish-based research activities.

You must submit your application, written in English, via the Lundbeck Foundation's application system at <https://lanas.lundbeckfonden.com/>

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
- Reference list
- CV of applicant and NIH grant holder
- Publication list
- Budget
- A letter of support from the Danish host institution
- A letter of support from the NIH grant holder

There are further details in the application guide. Please follow the guidelines 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 the scientific excellence characterised by the criteria below:

- Applicant and collaborator (scientific achievements, scientific collaboration and network, commitment)
- Research project (ground-breaking nature, potential impact, scientific approach, feasibility, synergy)
- Host environment (scientific skills, facilities, commitment)
- Expected implications for human health
- Expected benefit to Danish neuroscience

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.

Applications are evaluated by the Lundbeck Foundation Research & Prize Committee (<https://www.lundbeckfonden.com/en/grants/review-panels/>) who select the applications to be peer reviewed by external, international experts. Applicants will be invited to comment on the peer reviews. Based on the application, the peer reviews, the applicants' written reply to the peer review the Research & Prize Committee 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, 25 June 2020
- Rejection or approval of grants, November 2020



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 the Lundbeck Foundation's general grant conditions ([https://www.lundbeckfonden.com/wp-content/uploads/General Terms and conditions for Research-Grants.pdf](https://www.lundbeckfonden.com/wp-content/uploads/General_Terms_and_conditions_for_Research-Grants.pdf)) 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.*