

Distinguished Professor Grant

The aim of the Distinguished Professors Grant programme is to create conditions for the most distinguished researchers to conduct long-term, innovative research with great potential to achieve scientific breakthroughs. The grant will also promote the establishment and development of a research environment of highest quality.

Summary

Type of grant	Research Environment and Research Collaboration funding
Subject field	Humanities and Social Sciences Medicine and Health Natural and Engineering Sciences Educational Sciences
Applicant	Individual researcher with a doctoral degree awarded more than 12 years ago
Participating researchers	Participating researchers may not be invited to join the application
Grant period	10 years
Grant amount	5 million SEK per year
Budgetary framework	No more than 10 grants will be awarded
Call deadline	21 March 2017 (14.00/2 p.m.)
Publication of grant award decisions	No later than beginning of December 2017
Grant period start date	January 2018


[Read more about previously awarded grants](#) 

Eligibility criteria for grant applications

You must fulfil the requirements set out below to be eligible to apply for the grant. We will carry out checks to ensure that ineligible applications are rejected from further processing.

Applicant

The grant is open to individual researchers. You will be the project leader and scientific supervisor and your active participation in the project must equal at least 50 per cent of a full-time equivalent. You must hold a Swedish doctoral degree or an equivalent foreign degree awarded more than 12 years before the deadline of this call.

The grant will be administered by a Swedish HEI, or another public organisation in Sweden that fulfils the Swedish Research Council's [requirements for administrating organisations](#) . Please note that you will not be able to apply unless your organisation is an approved administrating organisation.

If you are awarded funding, you must be employed by the administrating organisation when the grant period begins unless the Swedish Research Council, the administrating organisation or another employer (where applicable) agree otherwise. The employment must equal at least 50 per cent of a full-time

equivalent. You do not have to be employed by the administrating organisation when the application is submitted.

[Read more about the researcher recruitment guidelines in the European Charter for Researchers on the EU website](#)

Career age

You may apply for a Distinguished Professor Grant if your doctoral degree was awarded more than 12 years before the deadline of this call, that is, awarded 21 March 2005 or earlier. The date of issue will be considered to be the point in time when all the requirements were fulfilled (for example mandatory courses, the oral defence of the doctoral thesis and the approved doctoral thesis). You will not be able to finalise your application if your doctoral degree was awarded at a later date.

Number of applications and previous grants

What grants may I apply for simultaneously from the Swedish Research Council?

You may only submit one application for this grant under this call for applications. Other restrictions in regard to what grants you may apply for during the same year are shown in the table below.

[Table: Grants that can be applied for in parallel](#)

What eligibility criteria apply to ongoing research grants from the Swedish Research Council?

There are certain restrictions if you are the project leader of a grant already awarded and ongoing, with a grant period (disbursement period from the Swedish Research Council) overlapping the grant period of the current grant application. Please note that the period of availability, i.e. the period during which you may draw on the grant awarded, is generally longer than the grant period. You will find information on the rules that apply to your ongoing grant in the "Approval of terms" that you received from the Swedish Research Council.

If you are the project leader of a research project grant already awarded and ongoing:

If you have an awarded and ongoing undirected research project grant, this grant amount will be deducted from the flat rate amount of 5 million SEK during the grant period overlapping your awarded Distinguished Professors grant. Please note that should you be awarded a Distinguished Professors grant, you will not be eligible as applicant for an undirected research project grant from the Swedish Research Council during the grant period.

If you are a researcher recruited under the call International recruitment of distinguished researchers:

If you were recruited under the call International recruitment of distinguished researchers, you cannot submit a Distinguished Professors grant application.

Other grants:

See the table below for further information on grants that are eligible for holders of ongoing grants.

[Table: Grants eligible for applicants with ongoing grants](#)

Note: If you have been the project leader for grants from the Swedish Research Council before, you will only be able to apply for a new grant if the final financial report for all previous grants were submitted within the stipulated time period. Please contact your administrating organisation if you are unsure whether all your final financial reports have been submitted.

What eligibility criteria apply to applications to or grants from other funding bodies?

If your application to the Swedish Research Council is for the same project concept as a grant awarded from or applied for to another funding body, please state so.

Participating researchers

You may not include any participating researchers in this application. Any collaboration partners and their roles shall be presented in the research plan (see instructions under Research plan below).

Costs and grant funding

The grant consists of a flat rate amount of 5 million SEK per year, including indirect costs. The grant may be used to cover all kinds of project-related costs, such as salaries (including your own salary, which must correspond to no more than your dedicated time in the project), premises costs, operating costs (such as consumables, travel costs including visits to research centres, publishing costs and minor equipment) and depreciation costs. The grant may not be used for scholarships. If a doctoral student takes part in the project, the grant may not be used to pay for his/her teaching hours.

The Swedish Research Council expects the administrating organisation to cover any cost exceeding the awarded amount.

Grant period

The grant is awarded for a period of ten years, starting from 2018. The first payment is made in January 2018 at the earliest.

Reporting and monitoring

Five years after the grant period start, a mandatory activity report focusing on the progress of the establishment and development of the research environment will be called for. This activity report also comprises an account of the HEI's contribution to the environment and may result in revised grant amounts for the remaining grant period.

How do I apply?

You apply electronically through [Prisma](#), which is the application system used by the Swedish Research Council. You create an application in Prisma by filling out the text fields, retrieving information from your personal account, and attaching the required appendices.

In order for you to be able to apply, your organisation must have become an [approved administrating organisation](#) and created an organisation account in Prisma.

Most of the required steps in Prisma are described in the [User Manual](#) and the [FAQ answers](#). Please have a look at these documents when you write your application.

Please avoid stating your or anybody else's full personal identity number in the application except where specifically requested.

Creating a personal account in Prisma

Before applying, you must create a personal account in [Prisma](#), where you will store your personal data and your CV. The information only has to be entered once, and may subsequently be supplemented or amended whenever necessary. The account will also enable you to register your publications for future use. Please note that publications stored in your account cannot be transferred to the application form. The reason for this is that the publications function is still under development and has not yet been implemented in the Swedish Research Council's calls. The publications list must therefore be presented in the form of an attached PDF file (see instructions under Publications below).

Please remember to create your personal account well in advance. The applications that you register in Prisma will be linked to your personal account.

Any participating administrators, who will be involved in the preparation of the application must also create an individual Prisma account, and agree to their participation before the deadline of the call.

Text

Some text fields are formattable, which means that in those fields you can change the font and size and insert certain tables, formulas and symbols. If you have written the text in advance using Microsoft Word, you will also be able to copy-paste the text and keep the initial formatting. Pictures can however not be inserted into the text fields.

All text fields have limitations as to the number of characters and this will be illustrated by means of a character counter. If you use too many characters you will not be able to register the application.

Attached documents and appendices

An appendix designed according to the instructions provided shall be attached to some fields. The appendix may only consist of one file, and you can only attach documents in PDF format. All appendices are limited in terms of file size and number of pages. You will not be able to attach a file that exceeds the stated maximum file size.

Signing

Both you, as applicant, and the official representative of the administrating organisation must sign the application electronically in Prisma. More information can be found under Registering the application below.

What must the application contain?

Please familiarise yourself with the application form in Prisma at the same time as you read through the instructions below.

Language

The scientific assessment of the applications is done by foreign peer reviewers. To guarantee a well-functioning procedure and a level playing field in the review process, we therefore ask you to submit your application in English.

Application subsections

The application form contains the following tabs:

- Descriptive data
- Establishment and development plan of research
- Budget and research resources
- Publications
- Letter of support
- Administrating organisation
- Review panels
- Participants (only administrators in this call)
- CV

Below you will find an outline of the information required under each tab. Mandatory information is marked with an asterisk (*) in Prisma.

Descriptive data

Under this tab, please list the project title in Swedish and English, and select SCB classification codes and key words. Please also provide an abstract and a popular science description (see instructions below).

Abstract

The research plan abstract should contain a short description of:

- The research activities to be undertaken.
- The project implementation: the project organisation, the time table and the scientific methods to be used.
- The significance of the planned research.
- The importance to the research field, particularly in terms of innovation, originality and the potential for break-through.

The abstract should include a brief outline of the aim and the implementation of the research activities. Please use a language that can also be understood by somebody with a different scientific background.

The outline may contain a maximum of 1 500 characters, including blank spaces (approximately half an A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

Popular scientific description

Describe the project in a way that makes it possible to understand for a person not familiar with the subject. Describe why and how the research will be conducted, and explain in what way the new knowledge might be important.

The popular scientific description is an important tool for us when we provide information about research financed by the Swedish Research Council. If your application is approved, we therefore reserve the right to use the description for information purposes.

Note: Unlike the rest of the application, the popular scientific description must be written in Swedish.

The description may contain a maximum of 4 500 characters, including blank spaces (approximately one A4 page in Times New Roman, size 12, single spacing).

Establishment and development plan of research

Under this tab, please enclose you establishment and development plan of research and the account of your research leadership merits, and describe ethical considerations.

Ethical considerations

Present the ethical issues raised by the research, and explain how they will be addressed in the research activities. We also ask you to indicate whether the research includes animal experiments, experiments involving human subjects, or the handling of personal data. If the research does not raise any ethical issues, this should also be stated.

Establishment and development plan

In this section you are requested to attach your establishment and development plan in a PDF format. Please note that the appendix may only contain one file, with a maximum size of 10 MB.

The plan should consist of a short but complete description of the research task as well as a motivation of the proposed added value of the planned research environment in the short and long term. The plan should be given a forward-looking focus. The maximum length is ten page-numbered A4 pages in Times New Roman, font size 12, single spacing, including references and any images. **You will not be able to register your application if your attached document exceeds the maximum number of pages.**

The establishment and development plan must include the following four parts, under different headings and in the following order:

1. Research plan

Research plan for the research to be conducted at the HEI within the framework of the grant (maximum 5 A4 pages). The research plan must describe all of the following parts:

- Purpose and aims
- Survey of the field
- Project description
- Significance
- Need of and access to equipment and infrastructure
- International and national collaboration

2. Research environment

Description of the research environment and how you with the support from the HEI intend to build up and maintain and, if applicable, integrate it with an existing environment.

3. Added value

An account of the added value that the described research and environment will bring to the research activity and quality within the field at the HEI, in Sweden and internationally. Particular focus on innovation, originality and potential for research break-through should be made clear.

4. Gender equality aspects

An account of how the described research environment will affect gender equality at the HEI.

Research leadership

Attach your account for your documented experience of creating an attractive and creative research environment and fostering of research excellence, including the supervision of PhD-students and postdocs.

The document should be attached in PDF-format and must not exceed two A4 pages in Times New Roman, font size 12, single spacing. **You will not be able to register your application if your attached document exceeds the maximum number of pages.**

Budget and research resources

Specify your dedicated time in the project (as a percentage of full-time equivalents). Your dedicated time as project leader must equal at least 50 per cent of a full-time equivalent.

Since the grant is awarded as a flat-rate amount, you do not have to provide a budget in the application.

Explanation of the proposed budget

Briefly describe the main costs you intend to cover under the frame-work of the grant. The statement may contain a maximum of 2,000 characters including blank spaces (equivalent to approximately half an A4 page in Times New Roman, font size 12).

Other funding

List any other funding (whole or part) of the project received/applied for by you or any other researcher besides the funding requested in this application. Quote the rounded amounts in SEK.

List other available research funds for the planned research environment than those requested in this application. Quote the rounded amounts in SEK.

Publications

Under this tab, please attach your publications lists in a PDF format. Please note that the appendix may only contain one file, with a maximum size of 10 MB.

The list shall include publications made in the last eight years, and the five publications that are the most relevant to the planned research environment shall be marked with an asterisk (*). Please indicate your name in bold. Sort the publications under the following numbered headings in the given order:

1. **Peer-reviewed original articles**
2. **Peer-reviewed conference contributions** (the findings presented may not have been reported in other publications).
3. **Monographs**
4. **Research review articles**
5. **Books and book chapters**
6. **Popular science publications including books/presentations**

Note: Only include articles (or equivalent) that have been published or accepted for publication at the time of applying. The application cannot be supplemented with publications after the call has closed

Letter of support

Here you should attach a formal letter of support from the HEI where the research will be conducted. The document shall be attached in PDF format and not exceed two A4 pages in Times New Roman, font size 12, single spacing. Please note that the appendix must be presented as a single file of maximum 4 MB

The letter must be written in English and be signed by an authorised representative of the HEI. The applicant's name must be clearly presented, as well as the name and function/position of the person who wrote and signed the letter of support.

The letter of support must describe:

- How the HEI intends to support and contribute to the establishment and development of the research environment
- How the HEI intends managing the research environment in the short and long term.

The commitments of the HEI with regards to the need for resources entailed by the described research environment must be clarified, as well as the HEI's views on the development and support of the environment after the grant period. The administrating organisation commits to these obligations by signing the application.

Administrating organisation

Under this tab, please state the administrating organisation and the project site. The administrating organisation is the organisation that administers and accounts for the funds of the project awarded under the terms and conditions laid down. The project site is the organisational unit where the project will be based. The administrating organisation and the project site generally correspond to the HEI and the department where the project leader will be employed.

An application can only be linked to an administrating organisation with an approved Prisma account. Unless your administrating organisation already has such an account, you will have to ask it to [apply for an organisation account](#) with the Swedish Research Council.

Review panels

Under this tab, you are requested to enter the review panel, or the review panels (in order of priority), that you wish to assess your application scientifically. The final decision on the allocation of applications between the review panels will be made by the Swedish Research Council.

[Review panels](#) 

Participants

In this section, you may invite participating administrators to join the application. A participating administrator is a person who does not take part in the project itself but can help you register and edit information in the application. **Please note that you cannot include participating researchers in this application.**

You may invite participating administrators who do not yet hold a Prisma account. Each one of them must however open a personal Prisma account to be able to contribute to your application,

Any participating administrators must accept the invitation before you can finalise the application registration. Please make sure that you use the right email addresses when you send invitations to participants, and that each address is linked to the invited person's Prisma account.

CV

Under this tab, please retrieve and enter relevant CV data stored in your personal Prisma account. The following information (where available) must be provided in your CV and limited to the number specified:

- **Education:** Graduate studies, specialist degree, as well as basic and advanced education.
- **Professional history:** Current employment (including whether it is a permanent position or not) and longer relevant positions you have held, postdoctoral visits (should also be included as a position/employment if applicable), research exchanges that are relevant for the research described and any longer interruption in the research that has affected your ability to qualify as a researcher.
- **Merits and awards:** Fellowship, supervised persons (postdocs and postgraduate students; indicate the total number for each category and indicate up to 10 persons that are most relevant), up to 10 of your most relevant awarded competitive grants, up to 10 of your most relevant awards and distinctions, as well as up to 20 potential other merits of relevance to the application.
- **Intellectual property:** For example patents and freely available computer programs that you have developed; please indicate up to 10 of your most relevant.

Registering the application

When you open the Registering the application tab, the system will perform a check to verify if any mandatory information is missing and inform you of any need for supplements. The application will not be registered unless you click the Register button.

Please remember to use the preview function in order to double-check your application before submitting it!

Note: Please note that all invited participants must accept your invitation before you can proceed to register the application. Invitations that have not been accepted have to be removed.

The registered application can then be viewed in your personal Prisma account, under Applications in the Applications and grants tab. If necessary, a registered application may be de-registered, edited and re-registered up to the call deadline. **You are responsible for ensuring that the application is complete, that is to say that the application form is filled out correctly, the required appendices are attached, and the requested information is provided in accordance with the instructions. Please only submit specifically requested information. After the closing date, additions to the application will only be accepted in cases where we have asked for them.**

Signing the application

When you register the application, it will automatically be signed by you in your capacity of project leader. The application must also be signed by the official representative of the administrating organisation in order for it to be considered complete and be processed further in the review process. This representative is normally the head of the department where the research will be conducted, but that will depend on the organisational structure of your administrating organisation.

The signature *of the applicant* confirms that:

- The information contained in the application is correct and in line with the instructions from the Swedish Research Council.
- Any side-line occupation and/or commercial ties have been reported to the administrating organisation, and that no conflict with the principles of good research practice has been established.
- The necessary permits and approvals are in place at the start of the project, e.g. concerning the ethical review.

The signature *of the administrating organisation* confirms that:

- The organisation will accommodate the research and the equipment, and employ the applicant during the time period and to the extent presented in the application.
- The organisation approves the cost estimate presented in the application.
- The project will be conducted in accordance with Swedish law.

The parties must have discussed the above-mentioned points before the representative of the administrating organisation approves and signs the application.

Note: The official representative of the administrating organisation must have signed the application in Prisma no later than one week (seven calendar days) after the application deadline for it to be considered further in the review process.

What happens next?

When the call closes (at 14.00/2 p.m. on the final day for submission of applications), the registered application will automatically become final and given a registration number.

Your registered application will automatically be forwarded to the official representative of the administrating organisation, who must sign the application no later than one week (seven calendar days) after the application deadline. You will receive an auto-generated email when the application has been signed.

You will find information about the status of the application, the registration number and the application signature under the tab Applications and grants in your account.

Scientific evaluation

The scientific assessment of the application will be made by active researchers. These peer reviewers evaluate each application (in competition with the other applications) on the basis of the assessment criteria established by the Swedish Research Council.

If an application does not comply with the instructions, this will be taken into account in the application review.

[Review panels](#) 

[How your application is evaluated](#) 

[The Swedish Research Council's conflict of interest policy](#)

[The Swedish Research Council's gender equality strategy](#)

Decision

Shortly after the grant funding decisions have been taken, information on the grants awarded will be published on the Swedish Research Council's website. After that, a notification of decision and a final statement on your application can be found in your personal account under the tab Applications and grants. The final statement contains the application grading and, in some cases, written comments.

Note: As from 12 October 2015, users of genetic resources (genetic material of actual or potential value) and traditional knowledge relating to genetic resources obtained after 12 October 2014 shall comply with the EU's ABS Regulation and make a "due diligence" declaration. This only applies to recipients of grant awards. "Due diligence" entails the user showing that the genetic resource and the knowledge used have been obtained according to the applicable legislation of the country in question and that any benefit from the genetic resource is allocated in a fair and reasonable way.

Exceptions apply to research into: the human genome, material covered by the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, material included in the WHO Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework and genetic material obtained from international waters,

For questions about the EU's ABS Regulation and the due diligence declaration, please contact the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (information in Swedish).

Contact

Questions relating to the application content:

For questions relating to the application content, please email: ansokrp@vr.se or telephone any of the contact persons listed below:

Erika Godoy, +46 (0)8-546 44 029

Gergana Angelova Hamberg, +46 (0)8-546 44 146

Lucas Pettersson, +46 (0)8-546 44 277

Anne Carnwall, +46 (0)8-546 44 030

Technical questions

In the first instance, please consult the help menu in Prisma, where you will find instructions and [FAQs](#) as well as a detailed [user manual](#), which describe most of the required steps in Prisma.

If you cannot find the answer to your technical question in the above-mentioned information material, please contact [our technical support team](#). Please note that depending on the workload, it may take up to 1-2 working days before you get a reply.