

2023-03-07

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH GRANTS 2023

Table of Contents

1	RESEARCH SUPPORT FROM THE SWEDISH HEART-LUNG FOUNDATION.....	3
1.1	General focus.....	3
1.2	General terms and conditions for applications.....	5
1.3	3R- An important part of research	6
1.4	Standard amounts for 2023	7
1.5	Date of call and decision 2023.....	8
2	THE SWEDISH HEART-LUNG FOUNDATION'S VARIOUS GRANTS.....	9
2.1	The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's Large Research Grant.....	9
2.2	Prince Daniel's Research Grant for Promising Young Researchers	10
2.3	Project grants.....	11
2.4	National collaboration projects.....	12
2.5	Research fellowships	13
2.6	Research months	14
2.7	Postdoctoral fellowship.....	17
2.8	Postdoctoral scholarship abroad	19
2.9	Returning postdoc grants.....	20
2.10	Travel grant/conference grant	21
2.11	Scientific meetings	22
2.12	Networking support.....	23
2.13	Norhedsstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation.....	24
3	APPLICATION AND DECISION	26
3.1	Application.....	26
3.2	Signature/signing	26
3.3	Decision.....	26
3.4	Justification of the decision	26
4	DRAFTING THE APPLICATION.....	27
4.1	Language of application.....	27
4.2	Popular science summary of the research programme	27
4.3	Scientific summary of the research programme.....	27
4.4	Clinical basis.....	27
4.5	Research environment	27
4.6	Research programme.....	28
5	GUIDELINES, PAYMENT AND ACCOUNTING, ETC.....	32
5.1	Appeals.....	32
5.2	Indirect costs.....	32
5.3	Requisition and the payment of granted funds.....	32
5.4	Disposition period.....	34
5.5	Reporting of granted funds	34
5.6	Guidelines for the scientific and financial reporting of grants	34
5.7	Annual report.....	35
5.8	Final report.....	35
5.9	Indication of financial support from the Heart-Lung Foundation.....	36

1 RESEARCH SUPPORT FROM THE SWEDISH HEART-LUNG FOUNDATION

1.1 General focus

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation supports research based on clinically relevant questions in cardiovascular diseases, pulmonary diseases, and tuberculosis. The foundation welcomes applications related to co-morbidity between cancer, cardiovascular diseases, and lung diseases. Furthermore, it must be clearly stated that the research concerns cardiovascular or lung diseases. The fund does not support lung cancer research or infectious respiratory diseases, except tuberculosis and COVID-19 with a distinct linkage to the cardiovascular system and/or lung diseases.

Support for basic research in the subject areas above can be provided if the research is based on clinical problems or if the results will be relevant to clinical activities in the foreseeable future. The board of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation has decided to prioritize research based on clinically relevant question formulations. To this end, when assessing projects of a more basal nature, the connection of the applicant and the project to current clinical research is considered. Available funds are allocated to projects providing a high quality regarding a scientific research question, originality and methodology that aligns well with the foundation's focus.

The Research Council of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation handles and assesses all research applications except where expressly stated otherwise. Proposals are further submitted to the Board of Directors of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation for decision.

In assessing applications for the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's Large funding round (applications for project funding, research fellowships/research months, postdoctoral scholarships, and grants for returning postdocs), the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation also engages several external medical experts.

In addition to the research question, project plan, methodology, expertise and feasibility, applications will be graded on relevance to the foundation. For each application, the assessors specify one of the following three options: *No relevance to the foundation*, *Doubtful relevance to the foundation*, or *Completely relevant to the foundation*.

Confidentiality

All assessors of applications for the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation sign a form on professional secrecy and confidentiality. Nevertheless, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation cannot guarantee complete confidentiality. Applicants are therefore advised not to attach information in their applications that may be decisive for, e.g., patent applications or the like.

The King Oscar II Jubilee Foundation

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation has a long-standing collaboration with the King Oscar II Jubilee Foundation (OII), which supports research in the field of pulmonary diseases and tuberculosis. The Research Council of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation handles and assesses all research applications for OII. Proposals for grant allocations are then submitted to the OII Board of Directors.

Applicants granted funding from OII will receive an award letter and a requisition form from OII and not from the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation. However, the Swedish Heart-Lung foundation answers questions regarding grants awarded by OII.

1.2 General terms and conditions for applications

- The application is submitted on the research website of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation:
www3.hjart-lungfonden.se.
- To apply for funding, both the main applicant and co-applicants must be employed in the health service, affiliated with a department at a higher education institution in Sweden, or employed by a Swedish higher education institution. If the applicant lacks such employment/affiliation at the time of application but will be taking up an appointment during the project period, this must be certified at the time of application.
- Although the applicant does not have to be a registered medical practitioner or clinician, a premium will be placed on documented collaboration with clinically established researchers.
- Framework grants may be used for both operating costs and salaries. The framework grant shall also cover publication costs.
- The main applicant must successfully have defended his or her doctoral thesis.
- The main applicant must be employed at least 50 % in Sweden, and the grant may only be used for research conducted in Sweden. Exceptions to the rule can occur if the person has employment as a senior professor, then a lower percentage is applied.
- Research applications that use SCAPIS data service based on clinical problems are welcome. The applications are evaluated together and in competition with all applications. If the application covers national data from SCAPIS, it must be clearly stated that the applicant has access to the data. Costs should be clearly disclosed to avoid costs that have already received/will receive funding through the main study.
- Most grants awarded by the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation are conditional on the submission of an annual report. "Annual report", page 35.
- The majority of the grants awarded by the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation are conditional on the submission of a final report at the end of the grant period. "Final report", page 35.
- An additional investment will be made in prevention research "Norhedsstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation" page 24. Other applications for prevention research will be processed as normal in the regular funding round and are unaffected by this additional investment.
- In the research application, specify which one of the following research areas best fits your application:

- **Care research** - *care research primarily refers to patient-centred research focusing on nursing and rehabilitation.*
- **Basic research** – *early, hypothesis-generating research. The primary goal is to increase molecular, structural, and theoretical knowledge.*
- **Translational research** – *research mainly focused on disease mechanisms and new treatments where the results are expected to be applied to clinical research to patient benefit.*
Clinical and epidemiological research – *patient-based research such as disease occurrence, treatment outcomes and prognosis. Register research is also included.*
- **Prevention research** - *entails studying what possibilities exist to prevent disease from occurring in a healthy individual (primary prevention) or to avoid the worsening of a medical condition (secondary prevention).*

1.3 3R- An important part of research

Working according to the 3Rs principles – to replace, reduce and refine animal experimentation – is a legal requirement for those performing animal experiments¹. It is also a good way to increase the quality of Swedish research by developing new, improved methods and working routines and ensuring that the best method available is used in each individual study. We find that all partakers involved in a research project need to contribute in order for the 3Rs principles to be fully implemented. As research funders, we also want to take our responsibility in this work. We therefore urge researchers who apply for funding from us to let the 3Rs principles permeate their applications.

The 3Rs imply to carefully investigate and consider whether animal-free methods could be applied, how the number of animals used can be minimized without negatively affecting the scientific relevance, and how animals are handled so that animal welfare is improved and any suffering reduced. In order for more animal experiments to be replaced and refined, new methods and working routines need to be developed and evaluated, which may require special investments. When all partakers that influence a research project contribute to implementation of the 3Rs principles, it will lead to increased quality in Swedish research, better use of resources, and more relevant research results.

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation assumes that the researcher takes this into consideration in their research project, but it will not be part of the evaluation

1.4 Standard amounts for 2023

For research fellowships, doctoral research months, postdoctoral research months, and returning postdoc grants, a standard amount is used based on average salary, social security contributions, and indirect costs of 18 percent.

This amount relates solely to salary and may not be used for costs other than salaries.

Working as a	Amount
Doctoral student	SEK 55,000/month
Doctoral student medicine	SEK 62,000/month
Postdoc (not medicine)	SEK 70,000/month
Registered medical practitioner, specialty trainee/registrar	SEK 90,000/month
Researcher	SEK 89,000/month
Specialist physician	SEK 125,000/month

Grants for postdoctoral scholarships abroad cover the applicant's living expenses in the form of a stipend at the EMBO flat rate for the country in question, [Contract rates \(embo.org\)](https://www.embo.org), see table below.

Exchange rate in 2023 (autumn postdoctoral fellowship abroad, date 12 September 2023):

EUR: 11,90 SEK

USD: 11,09 SEK

For other exchange rates, please contact us at:

Email: forskning@hjärt-lungfonden.se

Phone: 08-566 24 220

Rates of EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023

Please note that these rates are applicable to fellowships awarded in Autumn 2022 and onwards

Rates of EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships in EMBC Member States (EUR)

These rates refer to the yearly grant EMBO will transfer to the host institution in each country in order for them to issue an employment contract to the fellow. Net salary of the fellow will be the result of deducting social contributions and taxes from the amounts below. For specific information please contact your host institution.

Austria	72,000	Lithuania	50,400
Belgium	84,000	Luxembourg	75,600
Croatia	50,400	Malta	50,400
Czech Rep.	50,400	Montenegro	50,400
Denmark	87,600	Netherlands	79,200
Estonia	50,400	Norway	74,400
Finland	73,200	Poland	50,400
France	73,200	Portugal	55,200
Germany	87,600	Slovak Rep.	50,400
Greece	51,600	Slovenia	50,400
Hungary	50,400	Spain	55,200
Iceland	97,200	Sweden	74,400
Ireland	68,400	Switzerland	94,800
Israel	73,200	Turkey	57,600
Italy	67,200	UK	73,200

Rates of EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships in EMBC Associated Member States, countries under a cooperation agreement and non-EMBC Member States

These rates correspond to the yearly stipend the fellows will receive in each country. If eligible, fellows can receive a yearly complement for each dependent (children under the age of 18). Fellows may be entitled to further complements (please see the EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships guidelines for further details). Note that income from the stipend may be taxable in certain countries. Please consult with the local tax authorities for further information. Rates for countries not listed below are available upon request.

	Stipend	For each dependent
US	USD 63,600	USD 9,400
Canada	CAD 64,800	CAD 9,300
Australia	AUD 80,400	AUD 11,500
Singapore	USD 63,600	USD 9,200
India	EUR 38,400	EUR 5,350
Chile	EUR 27,600	EUR 4,050

1.5 Date of call and decision 2023

Applications can be submitted until **24:00** on the last day of application period.
NB! It is not possible to complete an application after the application deadline.

Grant	Application period	Date of notice of decision
The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's Large Research Grant	2023-01-09 – 2023-01-31	June
Prince Daniel's Research Grant for Promising Young Researchers	2023-02-14 – 2023-03-14	September
The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's Large funding round: Project grants National collaboration projects Research fellowships Postdoctoral fellowships Research months Returning postdoc grants	2023-04-05 – 2023-05-10	End of November
Postdoctoral scholarship abroad (two application periods, spring and autumn)	2023-04-05 – 2023-05-10	End of June
	2023-09-12 – 2023-10-02	End of November
Travel grant/conference grant	The application must be submitted no later than during the application period preceding the conference (the first day of conference applies). 2022-12-06 – 2023-03-31 2023-04-01 – 2023-06-21 2023-06-22 – 2023-09-30 2023-10-01 – 2023-12-11	April July October December
Scientific meetings	All year round	Decisions are notified approximately one to two months after the application has been submitted.
Networking support	All year round	Decisions are notified approximately one to two months after the application has been submitted.
Norhedsstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's prevention grant	2023-10-23- 2023-11-20	April 2024

2 THE SWEDISH HEART-LUNG FOUNDATION'S VARIOUS GRANTS

2.1 The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's Large Research Grant

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's objective with this grant is create conditions for a decisive research breakthrough within an important research field through a substantial investment during a limited period of time. This also includes support for nationally coordinated intervention studies and register research.

The grant consists of SEK 5 million/year over a three-year period, SEK 15 million in total. The main applicant can only be awarded the grant once.

Applications are evaluated by a specially appointed Nordic assessment committee.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

Terms and conditions:

- The grant is aimed at well-established researchers with a high level of expertise.
- It should be clear how the project is structured to meet the objectives of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation.
- In evaluation of the research programme, particular consideration is ascribed to originality and probable clinical significance.
- The main applicant's publication list is attached, not co-applicants'.
- The grant is a framework grant, see "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

For drafting the application, see "DRAFTING THE APPLICATION", page 27.

2.2 Prince Daniel's Research Grant for Promising Young Researchers

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation wishes to foster the next generation of young researchers. One way in which it does this is by awarding grants to particularly promising young researchers.

The grant consists of SEK 2 million/year over a three-year period, SEK 6 million in total. The main applicant can only be awarded the grant once.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

Terms and conditions:

- The grant is aimed at researchers who successfully defended their doctoral thesis but who have not yet been appointed to a professorship.
- Young researchers are eligible to apply. For this purpose, the term *young researcher* refers to 40 years of age or under. However, a slightly higher age limit may be applied with regard to clinical work (approx. 45 years). The Research Council of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation always makes an individual assessment of how far the applicant has come in her/his scientific career, future development potential and time set aside for clinical training. A higher age limit may also be applicable with regard to parental leave.
- The grant is a framework grant, see "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

For drafting the application, see "DRAFTING THE APPLICATION", page 27.

2.3 Project grants

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation provides grants for research projects for a project period of one to three years and for the purposes specified in the application.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

Terms and conditions:

- Only one researcher may be the main applicant for a project grant during the same period, with the sole exception of national collaboration projects, see description on next page.
- The same research group/department cannot expect to receive support for two similar projects at the same time.
- Project grants may be used for scholarships, provided that the rules of the university are followed.
- The grant is a framework grant, see "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.
- A post-retirement professor may apply for a maximum of 25% of their salary.
- When applying at the same time for a project grant and research fellowship/research month for a researcher who has successfully defended their doctoral thesis, the application must apply to the same project.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

2.4 National collaboration projects

A national collaboration project is a project with a national planning group linked to a national project manager. It is a project with a clear additional value by operating as a national collaborative project and where there is close collaboration between all concerned parties.

National collaborative projects can for example be national studies with several study locations and national data collections that may benefit multiple researchers. A national collaboration projects can be applied for a project period of 1 to 3 years.

Terms and conditions:

- A researcher can only be the main applicant for one national collaboration project during the same period (although they may apply for a personal project grant).
- Exceptions from specifying co-applicants. As it is a national collaboration project, it must have co-applicants from all participating higher education institutions. The research programme shall also describe their separate areas of responsibility.

For drafting the application, see “DRAFTING THE APPLICATION”, page 27.

2.5 Research fellowships

To make the allocation of funds for research fellowships and research month grants more flexible, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation has decided that applications for research fellowships will also be considered for research month grants. Applications for these grants are submitted at the same time, using the same application form. It is therefore not possible to apply only for a research fellowship; however, it is still possible to apply only for a research month grant for someone who has successfully defended his or her doctoral thesis.

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation supports a limited number of multiannual research fellowships. These fellowships are primarily intended as career development positions for young researchers who can be expected to be appointed to leading scientific positions. This type of fellowship is not intended for anyone already a professor, adjunct professor, senior lecturer, or adjunct lecturer. Adjunct professors and senior lecturers may apply for research month grants.

For research fellowships, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation does not apply a firm definition of the term *young researcher*. The Research Council of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation makes a comprehensive assessment of how far the applicant has come in her/his scientific career, future development potential and time set aside for clinical training.

From 2022, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation accepts applications for six-year research fellowships. A report will be requested after three years to assess progress. It is also possible to apply for a three-year research fellowship.

The fellowships can be full-time or half-time (12 or 6 months per year).

For research fellowships, standard amounts are applied; see "Standard amounts for 2023", page 7.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

Terms and conditions:

- To be eligible for a research fellowship from the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation, a researcher shall have with distinct independent profile and the necessary competence for appointment as a docent.
- When applying at the same time for a project grant and research fellowship/research month for a researcher who has successfully defended their doctoral thesis, the application must apply to the same project.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

2.6 Research months

The main aim of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's research month grants is to allow a greater number of researchers to dedicate time to research.

Research months grants can be awarded for up to three years.

For research fellowships, standard amounts are applied; see "Standard amounts for 2023", page 7.

The applicant fills in the number of months he/she is applying for per year.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

There are **two types** of research month grants:

- Research month grants **for a researcher who has successfully defended their doctoral thesis**
- Research month grants **for doctoral students**

Research month grants for a researcher who has successfully defended their doctoral thesis.

Research month grants are not intended for those who have already been appointed as a professor or lecturer. Adjunct professors and adjunct senior lecturers may apply for research month grants.

Research month grants for a researcher who has successfully defended their doctoral thesis are not available to anyone with a former six-year research fellowship.

To encourage researchers (both men and women) who recently have been on parental leave to return to research, the Research Council of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation has decided to introduce grants for post-parental leave research months. These applications should be submitted during the regular application period and will be assessed together with other applications for research month grants for a researcher who has successfully defended their doctoral thesis; however, additional weight may be given to these applications when they are deemed to be of equal worth to another application. The requirements for a post-parental leave research month grant are as follows:

- The applicant must have been on parental leave for at least six months (not necessarily for a continuous period).
- They must have defended their doctoral thesis no longer than five years before the date of application, or no longer than eight years if this period includes deductible time. Time may be deducted for clinical work and/or parental leave (including the required six months). The date the thesis was successfully defended, and the deductible time must be specified in the applicant's CV.

Terms and conditions for research month grants for a researcher who has successfully defended their doctoral thesis:

- At the time of application, the applicant must have successfully defended their doctoral thesis.
- When applying at the same time for a project grant and research fellowship/research month for a researcher who has successfully defended their doctoral thesis, the application must apply to the same project.
- The work task schedule must be specified in the application.
- Research months grants can only be used to fund the applicant's own research time.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

Research month grants for doctoral students

Terms and conditions for research month grants for doctoral students:

- The grants can fund research time for doctoral students working in Sweden.
- Research month grants for doctoral students may be **applied for by the principal supervisor** (not by assistant supervisors). The supervisor is the main applicant, and **the doctoral student is a co-applicant**.
- A supervisor may only apply for a research month grant for **one** doctoral student per application round.
- The application must contain a description of the doctoral student's competence regarding the implementation of the project.
- It is important that the role of the doctoral student is clearly stated in the research programme.
- Half- time review must have been conducted at the time of application.
- A description must be provided of the progress of the student's thesis work and the date of the review halfway point assessment.
- The planned date for the defence of the thesis must be indicated.
- A work task schedule must be submitted and must relate to the doctoral student.
- The supervisor's CV is entered in the research system in accordance with the new procedure. Co-applicants attach their CVs as PDF files.
- A maximum of 12 research month grants are permitted per application (these may be distributed over 1–3 years).
- Please note! If the doctoral thesis is defended during the grant period, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation shall be informed by emailing forskning@hjärt-lungfonden.se. Research months for doctoral students may be taken up to three months after the successful defence of a doctoral thesis if the purpose is to complete the doctoral degree project.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

2.7 Postdoctoral fellowship

To provide greater flexibility when deciding on the allocation of postdoctoral fellowships and postdoctoral research months, anyone applying for a postdoctoral fellowship will also be an applicant for a postdoctoral research month. Applications for these grants are submitted at the same time, using the same application form. While it is not possible to apply for only a postdoctoral fellowship, it is still possible to apply for only research months.

From 2022, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation will support a number of postdoctoral fellowships that should be viewed as career development positions. These fellowships are intended for young researchers who wish to pursue an academic career.

There are two types of postdoctoral fellowship:

- A two-year full-time fellowship.
- A part-time fellowship of up to four years to be combined with a clinical appointment of 25–50 %. Postdoctoral funding is equivalent to a maximum of two years (24 months) full-time.

A standard sum is awarded for a postdoctoral fellowship. “Standard amounts for 2023”, page 7. For the current application period, see “Date of call and decision 2023”, page 8.

Parental leave during a postdoctoral fellowship: Fellows who take parental leave during the grant period may apply for an extension to their postdoctoral fellowship, in which case the fellowship will be extended by $0.5 \times$ the period or parental leave (i.e., six months parental leave provides entitlement to three additional months of funding).

To be eligible, parental leave shall be for a continuous period of not less than two months (which carries an entitlement of one extra month) and not more than 12 months (which carries an entitlement of six extra months). Please note that the extension only applies to a period of parental leave. If you intend to take parental leave, please contact forskning@hjärt-lungfonden.se and we will be happy to assist you.

Terms and conditions:

- Eligible applicants for a Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation postdoctoral fellowship shall take up the position within five years of successfully defending their doctoral thesis (up to one year of clinical work and parental leave may be deducted).
- At the time of their application, the applicant must have successfully defended their doctoral thesis, and have done so in Sweden. The positions are intended for younger researchers who want to continue their research careers in Sweden.
- The work task schedule shall be included in the application for a part-time position.

- The applicant shall have one or more mentors, and these shall be described in the application. The mentor(s) role is to be supportive in career development and shall not be from the group the applicant defended their thesis in.
- Some kind of change of research environment or development of research focus after disputation are prioritized and shall be described in the application
Examples of a change of research environment include national or international research collaborations, learning new methods from another higher education institution, translational projects receive a stronger clinical profile or clinical researcher learning more about basic research.
- The stipend can only be used to fund the applicant's own research time.
- A postdoctoral fellowship should lead to an independent profile; how this is to be achieved shall be described in the application.
- Research shall be clinical or translational with a clear link to the clinic.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

2.8 Postdoctoral scholarship abroad

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation awards a limited number of grants for postdoctoral research at recognised foreign institutions. These scholarships are awarded for periods of 6–12 months for a maximum of three years.

The successful applicant will be remunerated for living expenses in the form of a stipend at the EMBO flat rate for the country in question, see “Standard amounts for 2023”, page 7.

The applicant will also be remunerated for travel expenses for themselves and up to two accompanying children. For accompanying children who require childcare or to attend school, remuneration is payable at SEK 7,500 per child and month. No remuneration is paid for accompanying partners.

For the current application period, see “Date of call and decision 2023”, page 8.

From 2022 a **returning postdoc grant** (research months) is linked to postdoctoral scholarships abroad. If staying abroad for 12 months, then it is possible to receive 6 months (during 1 year) and if staying abroad for more than 12 months, it is possible to receive 12 months (during 2 years). This grant is awarded after submitting a report approving the completed postdoctoral period abroad and the submission of a plan for continued research in Sweden. The report linked to the returning postdoc grant shall be submitted to the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation prior to the postdoc returning from their stay abroad and shall also include a guarantee of a position at an institution in Sweden. Instructions for applying for a returning postdoc grant will be available shortly at www3.hjart-lungfonden.se. For further information or questions regarding the application, you are welcome to contact the research administration at forskning@hjart-lungfonden.se.

Terms and conditions:

- These scholarships are intended for postgraduate researchers who will do a postdoctoral fellowship. The application may be submitted prior to the planned date of the thesis defence.
- To be eligible to apply for the scholarship, no more than five years shall have passed since the successful defence of the doctoral dissertation (up to one year of clinical work and parental leave may be deducted).
- A formal invitation from the host institution with a statement of commitment regarding its willingness and ability to accommodate the scholarship holder must be attached to the application. The invitation must include a brief description of the project and the focus area for the research.
- The summary and research programme must include a clear description of the applicant's duties during the scholarship period.
- The research programme must clearly state the importance of the stay for the researcher's continued scientific development.
- See also “General terms and conditions for applications”, page 5.

2.9 Returning postdoc grants

The purpose of the grant is to facilitate further research in Sweden after a period of postdoctoral research at a foreign higher education institution. The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation awards a limited number of grants after completing a postdoctoral period abroad. The grant constitutes a position equivalent to 50 percent full-time at a higher education institution in Sweden over two years. The remaining time must either be spent in a clinical position or be funded by the Swedish host institution. Researchers awarded a postdoctoral scholarship abroad from the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation in 2022 or later cannot apply for this grant. They are further referred to the automatic returning grant linked to the postdoctoral fellowship.

For returning postdoc grants, standard amounts are applied; see "Standard amounts for 2023", page 7.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

Terms and conditions:

- Only persons with a **current** international postdoctoral position are eligible to apply.
- The application must be submitted **before returning** from the international postdoctoral position.
- A certificate of employment as a clinical practitioner or funding commitment from the Swedish host institution must be attached with the application.
- The grant is applied for jointly by the postdoc (main applicant) and responsible researcher at the Swedish host institution (co-applicant).
- Both the main applicant's and co-applicant's CVs and publication lists shall be included in the application. The main applicant's CV is linked to from the research system, while the co-applicant's CV is attached as a PDF file.
- The application must include a brief overall research programme for the planned research in Sweden (maximum 5 A4 pages).
- A grant can be awarded no later than six years after the applicant has successfully defended their doctoral thesis. Special consideration may be given to clinical employment and parental leave.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

2.10 Travel grant/conference grant

Travel allowances/Conference allowances may be sought for:

- Participation (digitally or on-site) in well-established conferences organised by recognised organisations. Travel allowances are not usually granted for travel within Sweden, but exceptions may be made for major international conferences located in Sweden.
- Brief study visits (4–12 weeks) to obtain methodological knowledge or initiate collaboration with another research group.

A maximum of two travel grants are permitted per applicant and year. This is based on when the trip takes place and not when the application is submitted.

Maximum amount granted:

Digital conferences:	5,000	SEK
Travel within Europe:	10,000	SEK
Travel outside Europe:	20,000	SEK
Study visits:	30,000	SEK

The allowance can only be used for accommodation, travel and conference fees, not salary costs.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

Terms and conditions:

- The applicant must have a connection to a project that is currently supported by the foundation.
- The travel destination, estimated costs and a brief explanation as to the purpose of the trip must be provided in the application.
- Abstract and documentation that this contribution to the conference has been accepted must be attached to the application.
If abstract has not yet been accepted at the time of application, the acceptance decision must be sent by e-mail to the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation as soon as it has arrived; forskning@hjärt-lungfonden.se
- A maximum of one allowance is granted per accepted abstract.
- The allowance may only be used for the occasion specified in the application.
- For applications for allowances for lesser-known meetings, meeting programmes may be requested.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

2.11 Scientific meetings

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation sees a clear value in being able to provide support for the organisation of scientific meetings. The purpose of such support is to stimulate scientific development within the foundation's priority research fields and create interfaces between researchers.

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation primarily supports national public/open meetings aimed at stimulating contact and collaboration between various research groups within Sweden. It is particularly important to give young researchers the opportunity to interact with colleagues from other universities and hospitals.

Decisions on support for scientific meetings are taken by the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's Consultation Group, which consists of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Research Council together with representatives from the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

Terms and conditions:

- The application must be submitted prior to the planned activity.
- Support is only provided for scientific meetings of which the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation itself is either the sole sponsor or the clear main sponsor.
- The application must include a budget and a justification for the sought support. Contributions to lecturer fees cannot be included in the budget.
- A preliminary programme must be attached.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

2.12 Networking support

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation sees obvious value in supporting the creation of networks for researchers, especially younger researchers. The aim is to contribute to the career development of young researchers by stimulating exchanges of experience and creating points of contact between researchers.

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation primarily supports networks aimed at stimulating contact and collaboration between researchers who stand to benefit greatly from being part of a network. It is particularly important to give young researchers the opportunity to meet colleagues from other research institutes, higher education institutions and hospitals. It is even more beneficial if the networks in question have mixed constellations; i.e., both women and men, younger and more established researchers, and preferably both cardiovascular and pulmonary researchers.

Networks may be regional or national and may have a specific focus, such as a single area of disease.

Decisions on the award of networking grants are made by the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's Consultation Group, which consists of the chair and deputy chair of the Research Council and representatives of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation.

Grants totalling SEK 200,000 may be awarded.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

Terms and conditions:

- Applications must be submitted before the planned launch.
- Support is only available for networks for which the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation is the sole sponsor or clearly the main sponsor.
- Applications shall include a budget, justification for the award of a grant and a description of what the network is expected to achieve.
- Grants may cover up to two years of networking, after which a new application must be submitted for a possible extension.
- See also "General terms and conditions for applications", page 5.

2.13 Norhedsstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation

Through support for the Norhed Foundation, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation has been provided with the opportunity to make an additional investment in lifestyle-related interventions in the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease. This is an important research area, as a large proportion of cardiovascular diseases, like many other common diseases in society, are lifestyle-related. To the extent that there is a link between these lifestyle factors and chronic pulmonary disease, studies relating to these patient groups may also be included in the project.

The grant, which focuses primarily on diet and physical activity, applies to both primary and secondary prevention but also focuses on lifestyle-oriented measures as part of the treatment of cardiovascular disease.

Applications are welcomed for projects with a broad perspective and that highlight the importance of lifestyle issues. This support should preferably be applied for by research networks consisting of at least two research groups, and in the form of a project grant.

Two projects will be granted funding:

- **The main grant from the Norhed Foundation** is for SEK 2 million per year for a three-year period, totalling SEK 6 million. A premium will be placed on projects that are expected to produce results or be completed within the project period.
- In addition to the main grant from the Norhed Foundation, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation will fund an additional project within the framework of this grant. This project will receive SEK 1 million per year for a three-year period, in total SEK 3 million.

The main applicant can only be awarded the grant once (regardless of whether the award was for a total of SEK 6 million or SEK 3 million).

The applications are assessed by a specially appointed Nordic Assessment Group of five people, all of whom are experts in the field of prevention. All applications will first be reviewed to ensure that they meet the requirements of the call. Applications that do not meet the requirements will not be assessed by the Nordic Assessment Group and will therefore not be commented on.

For the current application period, see "Date of call and decision 2023", page 8.

Terms and conditions:

- Applications are to be written in English and the research programme shall not exceed five A4 pages (excluding references).
- The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation permits researchers who have already received project grants from the foundation to apply for this grant.
- The grant is a framework grant, see “General terms and conditions for applications”, page 5.
- Applications for regular project grants and research months/research fellowships in the field of prevention research are processed as usual in the regular funding round and are not affected by this special initiative.
- See also “General terms and conditions for applications”, page 5.

For drafting the application, see “DRAFTING THE APPLICATION”, page 27.

3 APPLICATION AND DECISION

3.1 Application

The application is submitted via the research website of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation: www3.hjart-lungfonden.se

3.2 Signature/signing

The following applications must be approved by the applicant's head of department:

- The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's Large Research Grant
- Prince Daniel's Research Grant for Promising Young Researchers
- Project grants
- National collaboration projects
- Research fellowships
- Postdoctoral fellowships
- Research months
- Norhedstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's prevention grant

The signing is done via Bank ID/Mobilt Bank ID/form. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that the application is signed. **Unsigned applications will not be processed.**

The applicant fills in the name and e-mail address of the head of department. After the application deadline, the head of department receives an e-mail to sign the application. The application must be signed as soon as possible after the application deadline, **but no later than six days after the application deadline.**

3.3 Decision

A notice of decision is published in the applicant's account on the research website. Once a decision has been made, an e-mail is sent to applicants urging them to log in to their account to view the decision. The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation has also introduced digital award letters/contracts as well as requisition forms for a number of grants, which can be found in your account on the research website.

3.4 Justification of the decision

For most grants, a so-called "triage procedure" is applied. The two thirds of applications that are highest ranked receive a justification, while the others do not receive a justification.

4 DRAFTING THE APPLICATION

(Mainly for the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's Large Research Grant and project grants, but also applicable to other applications that include the following headings.)

4.1 Language of application

Applications for large research grants and Norhedsstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's prevention grant **shall** be written in English. Applications for project grants and other applications may be submitted in English or Swedish.

4.2 Popular science summary of the research programme

The popular science summary must **always** be written in Swedish and is aimed at laypeople who are not medical experts.

The popular science summary is used by the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation to disseminate information about the research in question to donors, the media, decision-makers and other interested parties in society.

4.3 Scientific summary of the research programme

Briefly describe the project, using the following headings: Background, Objective, Work Plan and Significance. The "Objective" section must include a clearly formulated hypothesis.

4.4 Clinical basis

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation prioritises projects with a clinical basis. Therefore, clearly describe how the project is clinically based.

Describe what is new and original and how the research can lead to direct improvements in the healthcare field. Make a realistic assessment of how healthcare may be affected and incorporate a time perspective.

4.5 Research environment

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation wishes to work to stimulate collaboration within larger research environments as well as between various areas of knowledge and different disciplines.

Clearly and briefly describe the research environment. This means an account of access to resources, premises, clinical material, patient material and other things that are necessary for the project to be implemented.

Describe the composition of the research group and the responsibilities of each researcher in the research project.

For senior researchers, it is especially important to describe the research environment and how their experience and competence will be passed on to younger researchers. Senior researchers shall unambiguously describe their own role in the

project and how it will be performed throughout the funding period. Established group leaders must explain how they coach younger colleagues. Also present the plan for the career development of younger researchers. This description will be taken into account in the assessment of the application.

No co-applicants are to be stated in applications for project grants (the sole exception is projects classed as national collaboration projects). Partners shall be described in the research environment and shall also be included in the research programme under the heading "Partners and research network".

4.6 Research programme

The research programme must be attached as a PDF file. Write briefly, succinctly and clearly. The research programme must be written in a minimum 12-point font size, (Times New Roman), with single line spacing. The research programme may not exceed 10 A4 pages (including references). **Applications that do not meet this requirement will not be assessed.**

Please note! In applications for Norhedsstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's prevention grant, research month grants for doctoral students and returning postdoc grants, the research programme shall not exceed five A4 pages (excluding references).

The research programme should cover the following points in the following structure:

1. Explanation of abbreviations used in the research programme
2. Background
3. Results related to previously awarded grants
4. Objective/hypothesis
5. Work plan
6. Preliminary results
7. Partners and research network
8. References

1. Explanation of abbreviations used in the research programme

List the abbreviations and explain their meaning.

2. Background

Start with a brief description of the clinical problem. This is of the utmost importance, because it allows the assessors to understand why the research is important.

- If appropriate, indicate past or preliminary results. Only include results that are connected to the main research question.
- Describe previous results relevant to the application.
- Point out missing information that justifies the current study.

3. Results related to previously awarded grants

For main applicants who have previously received funding from the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation, please briefly describe (maximum 1/3 A4 page) the progress of the previous project. If more appropriate, this information may also be provided under the heading *Background*. This applies regardless of whether it is a new application or an extension application.

4. Objective/ hypothesis

The objective must be clearly worded, straightforward and concise. Is there a clear link between the research question and the background provided? Is there a clear link between the research question and both the methodology that will be applied and the planned studies? From an assessment point of view, it is usually an advantage to test a clear hypothesis rather than having a solely descriptive focus.

5. Work plan

Provide a summary of how the project will be implemented.

- Briefly describe the principles of methods that are not widely known.
- Where justified, specify statistics, methodology, and power calculation.
- Describe methods, patient materials and animal models.
- Describe what is unique about the implementation of the project.
- Answer your own questions; this demonstrates whether you can see how these can lead to answers.
- Use only a few generally accepted abbreviations. The extensive use of abbreviations makes the application difficult to read and is often to the detriment of the assessment.

6. Partners and research network

For project grants, that only includes a main applicant, it is by importance to describe the researchers with whom the main applicant collaborates, as well as their roles in the project. In the case of non-clinical researchers, it is vital to describe their collaboration with clinicians and access to clinical material in the project. You should also describe the research network, Swedish and international associated with the project. This description is valuable when assessing the feasibility of the project.

7. Preliminary results

Briefly describe the preliminary results. It may be useful to provide this description together with the background or under the heading *Results related to previously received grants*. The existence and presentation of preliminary results is particularly important when assessing new projects.

6. References

List references – your own and those of others – which support the theories and background of the research programme. Limit your references; cite a maximum of 20 references. As regards the formulation of the list of references, see below under “List of publications”.

The following headings are included in the application form:

Financial plan

A summary of the research programme's budget must be presented here, with a clear indication of each item in the budget relates to the grant to which the application relates. The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation attaches great importance to the accuracy of the information included in the financial plan and favours budgets that are deemed realistic in relation to the grant to which the application relates.

Specify all grants received from another source (associated with the current project), personnel costs, operating costs, equipment costs and indirect costs. Indirect costs may not exceed 18% of the grant. Indirect costs include rent for premises such as offices and laboratories.

Example: Amount granted: SEK 500,000. Of this amount, a maximum of SEK 90,000 may go towards indirect costs.

Comments on the financial plan

Describe the total costs and existing resources for the project in the form of staff, equipment and premises. Justify the need for support from the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation in relation to other support that has been received.

CV

The CV is now entered into the system rather than being attached as a PDF file. If the grant requires that co-applicants submit a CV, these CVs should be attached to the application as a PDF file at the specified step in the application procedure.

List of publications

The list of publications must be attached as a PDF file. Enter only published and accepted works for **the most recent five-year period (1 January 2018– application date)**. Do not cite work that is still under review or in manuscript form. Number and list the publications in chronological order. If there are more than 20 co-authors, specify the first two authors, the last two authors and your own position in the list of authors.

The list of publications must be numbered and sorted chronologically under two headings:

1. *Original works* in journals with referee systems.
2. *Other works*, leaders, review articles, chapters in textbooks, case descriptions, etc.

Abstracts should not be included in this list.

Literature references are to be cited in accordance with the **Vancouver System**, with an indication of **all author names**.

Scientific report

The scientific report section is always completed when applying for an extension.

If the application concerns a project for which the main applicant has previously received a grant, the report must describe the progress of this work. Pertinent publications submitted articles and manuscripts may be cited here.

The report must also be filled out if the applicant changes focus compared to the previously awarded project grant. In such a case, the report must describe how the new focus relates to the previous project and the results of the funding received.

5 GUIDELINES, PAYMENT AND ACCOUNTING, ETC.

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation reserves the right to reconsider and amend the foundation's decision on research support and to withdraw the funds granted in the event of material or repeated violations of these instructions or other terms and conditions that apply to the research support.

In cases of the inclusion of incorrect, misleading or manifestly deficient information in the application, scientific misconduct, violation of the established ethical principles of the research area, financial irregularities, violations of the law, ordinances, regulations or ethical conditions, or any other conduct or circumstance that the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation considers to cause the applicant or project to no longer conform to the focus of the foundation, or which renders the applicant unfit as a recipient of funds, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation may reconsider and amend the foundation's decision on research support and immediately suspend the payment of the granted funds.

In case of suspected research misconduct, the department with which the applicant is affiliated must inform the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation.

5.1 Appeals

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation is a private organisation. For this reason, decisions taken by the foundation's Board of Directors cannot be appealed.

5.2 Indirect costs

Indirect costs may not exceed 18% of the granted amount.

Example: Amount granted: SEK 500,000. Of this amount, a maximum of SEK 90,000 may go towards indirect costs.

5.3 Requisition and the payment of granted funds

The granted funds are to be administered by the higher education institution or the hospital to which the applicant is affiliated, with the exception of scholarships for research abroad and travel allowances/conference allowances, which are paid directly to the applicant following the submission of a requisition form.

Funds are requisitioned by returning the requisition form. In most cases, the requisition must be signed both by the applicant and the head of department or clinic. If the applicant is the head of department or clinic, the requisition shall be signed by someone with an equivalent role or a superior. Requisition forms are also available on the research website of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation. It is also possible to submit an invoice for the granted amount, but in such instance a signed requisition form must be attached.

For grants awarded on a multiannual basis, requisitions are made for only one year at a time. A new requisition form must therefore be submitted every year. For most

grants, this is done after an annual report has been submitted and approved, see “Annual report”, page 35.

Where applicable, the research project must be approved by an ethical review board or ethical committee for animal experiments before funds can be requisitioned.

No requisitions will be paid out in the month of July.

5.4 Disposition period

The funds granted must be disposed of by the main applicant specified in the application during the year for which the funds have been granted and in the following year. Funds that have not been requisitioned within the disposition period will be returned to the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation without prior notice.

Once a project has been completed, unused funds must be reported no later than the end of the disposition period and refunded to the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation.

If the main applicant moves to another location or is unable to exercise her/his authority in the project for any other reason, the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation must be informed. Decisions on the disposition of funds are taken on a case-by-case basis.

5.5 Reporting of granted funds

The main applicant is responsible for the use of the granted funds and for the scientific and financial reporting. The rules for this vary between the different forms of support; see the “Guidelines for the scientific and financial reporting of grants” table below.

5.6 Guidelines for the scientific and financial reporting of grants

Type of grant	Scientific and financial reporting
Large research grant	Annual report for year 2 and year 3, as well as a final report
Prince Daniel's Research Grant for Promising Young Researchers	Annual report for year 2 and year 3, as well as a final report
National collaboration projects	Annual report for year 2 and year 3, as well as a final report
Project grants	Annual report for year 2 and year 3 for multi-year project grants and final report for all grants (including single-year grants)
Research fellowships	Three-year research fellowship: Annual report for year 2 and year 3, as well as a final report. Six-year research fellowship: Annual reports for years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, as well as a final report. A half-time report shall also be submitted after half of the grant period.
Postdoctoral fellowships	Final report
Research months	In the event of a renewed application for research months, and upon request by the foundation
Postdoctoral scholarship abroad	Final report

Type of grant	Scientific and financial reporting
Returning postdoc grants	A report is expected in the subsequent project application from the researcher or their research group, and upon request by the foundation
Travel grant/conference grant	Upon request by the foundation
Scientific meetings	Upon request by the foundation
Networking support	Upon request by the foundation
Additional grant 19 for COVID-19-related research	Final report
Norhedsstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's prevention grant	Annual report for year 2 and year 3, as well as a final report

5.7 Annual report

Applicants awarded multi-year grants must submit an annual report on the progress of the project before the start of each financial year. This applies to multi-year project grants, research fellowships, large research grants, national collaboration projects, Prince Daniel's Research Grant for Promising Young Researchers, and Norhedsstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's prevention grant. The report is submitted via the applicant's account on the research website of the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation.

The form is available from 15 November of the year before the report is due. The annual report must be completed no later than 20 January of the new financial year.

Failure to submit the report or neglecting to do so within the deadline will result in the forfeiture of the grant.

The heading "Publications" refers to **this year's** publications that are relevant to the ongoing project. For each publication, state all authors, the title of the work, the title of the journal, the volume and the page numbers.

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Research Council review the annual report and decide whether or not to approve it. The main applicant will be notified of their decision by e-mail in mid-February. A new requisition can then be sent to the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation.

5.8 Final report

The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation has introduced requirements for final reporting for the following grants: large research grants, national collaboration projects, Prince Daniel's Research Grant for Promising Young Researchers, project grants, Norhedsstiftelsen's (the "Norhed Foundation's") prevention grant via the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation's prevention grant, research fellowships and postdoctoral fellowships. Applicants granted a scholarship to conduct research abroad and additional funding for COVID-19 research were already required to submit a final

report. The report is submitted via the applicant's account on the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation research website.

The form is available between 1 and 31 March of the year after the grant period.

The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Research Council review the final report and decide whether to approve it. The main applicant will be notified of their decision by e-mail in mid-April.

5.9 Indication of financial support from the Heart-Lung Foundation

When publishing or otherwise presenting research results, it must be stated that funding has been received from the Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation. The name of the foundation shall be stated as Hjert-Lungfonden (The Swedish Heart-Lung Foundation). The same rules apply to grants from the King Oscar II Jubilee Foundation (Konung Oscar II:s Jubileumsfond).