



SWEDISH FOUNDATION *for*
STRATEGIC RESEARCH

SSF Sabbaticals; Expanding Horizons by Strategic Research Expeditions

The Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research (SSF) announces 25 grants of up to MSEK 3 each for a strategic sabbatical leave, during 2020-2022, in total maximum 75 million SEK.

Background

The SSF was founded in 1994. Since then we have financed 1700 projects for a total of 14 billion SEK. True to its statutes, the Foundation promotes excellent research, strong research environments, interdisciplinary, mobility of researchers, and internationalization with a positive impact on the future competitiveness of Sweden.

This year, the Foundation celebrates 25 years of operations, and presents this Jubilee Call for 25 international sabbaticals.

Aim and Scope

The aim with this programme is to promote truly strategic initiatives from individuals who makes bold moves into new research fields and seeks a different setting from their present. Research expeditions of 6-18 months should be made to an organization abroad, with preference given to university, industry, hospital clinic, large research infrastructure or research institute.

The aim is to widen the applicant's competence with the renewal of research programs spanning different disciplines for leverage upon repatriation.

This programme is open to scholars employed full-time (tenured) as lecturer or professor at a Swedish higher education institute.

The grant may be used to cover the scholar's own salary, travel, accommodation, insurance, and running (operational) expenses, but not cover other salaries or investments in equipment. The grants include a personal scholarship of SEK 100 000 to each awardee, in support of their expedition.

Eligibility

- The sabbatical initiative should constitute a significant shift in discipline or sector for the applicant, with value added. Moving between similar academic settings will not be eligible.
- Applicants must hold full-time (at least 80%) tenured employment with a Swedish university or university college as full lecturer (not junior or assistant) or professor (including associate, but excluding emeritus). The sabbatical should be completed before the applicant reaches the government-decided LAS-retirement age (presently 67 years).
- Applicants will not be allowed to hold grants from other Swedish funding agencies for the same purpose. Additional support from the foreign host is welcome.
- The research expedition should be continuous, and full time, over the applied period (6-18 months).
- The sabbatical must begin during 2020.

Evaluation procedure

The proposals will be reviewed and selected by an evaluation committee, consisting of experts from academia and industry with experience in mobility, multidisciplinary, and cross-sectorial work. Selected proposals must meet the eligibility criteria, represent excellent scientific quality, meet a greater research challenge, and be of strategic relevance for Sweden.

The evaluation committee will present a suggestion to a final granting decision to the SSF Board who will make the final granting decision.

All of the Foundation's research areas are considered, which are Natural and Engineering sciences, and Medicine.

Evaluation criteria

The following criteria will be applied in the selection process:

- Degree of change in research field and/or sector in the proposed relocation.
- Scientific quality and renewal (beyond incremental or path-determined development) of the research plan, including originality and feasibility, as well as added academic value upon repatriation.
- Qualification and potential of the applicant.
- Strategic relevance and potential impact for industry and/or society.

Submission of proposals

The proposal shall be written in English and submitted via the Foundation's electronic application portal: <http://apply.strategiska.se>, by no later than **2 pm on June 11, 2019**. The proposal shall, among other information specified in the portal, include:

- Research plan
- Strategic relevance
- Curriculum vitae
- List of selected publications
- Budget, up to MSEK 3 (approximately MSEK 1 per 6 months), including all extra costs for foreign employment (utlandstjänstgöring)
- Invitation letter from the receiving organisation
- Lol from the head of the department confirming tenured employment and that the university will manage the grant during the foreign placement.

No additional material will be accepted after application deadline. Note that this also includes letters of recommendation – and the fact that these shall not be provided separately from the recommender but make up part of the application as such.

Time schedule

- February 2019 Decision of the SSF Board
Announcement
Application portal opens
- June 11 Application deadline
- September Evaluation panel review
- November Decision by the SSF Board
- January 1, 2020 Earliest project start
- December 31, 2020 Latest project start

Contact at SSF

Gergana Hamberg, gergana.hamberg@strategiska.se, +46 8 505 816 76

Joakim Amorim, joakim.amorim@strategiska.se, +46 8 505 816 65

Please note that the Foundation is subject to the Principle of Public Access to Official Records (Offentlighetsprincipen). Thus, applicants should avoid submitting material that they do not wish to be made public, e.g. information that could prevent patenting.