

## FAQ Industrial PhD program/projects

1. Can the SSF-grant be used for supervisor salary?  
*SSF: No, the university/industry has to cover this.*
2. Can an ongoing PhD-project apply, e.g. an ongoing licentiate?  
*SSF: No see call page 1: "The program is aimed at persons who have not yet been admitted to a doctoral studies program."*
3. Can research institutes apply.  
*SSF: No, but a research institute can join the project on its own resources.*
4. In the call it is stated "The company must be well commercially established (economic and sustainable) and possess sufficient competence to both contribute to and benefit from the knowledge gained in short and long term." What does this mean?  
*SSF: The company must give evidence in the application that it can fulfil all obligations to the PhD-student during and after the education period and furthermore explain the benefit to gain this long-term competence capacity.*
5. Does the new PhD-student need to be employed at the company when applying?  
*SSF: No. However, the company must employ the PhD person before project start – see call page 2.*
6. When does the PhD-student need to begin his/hers doctoral studies after the SSF decision?  
*SSF: At the latest 6 months after the project start stipulated in the contract between SSF and the university (grant administrative organisation). Any need of recruitment must be well planned by the parties and absolutely finished within the timeline.*
7. The university is the grant administrative organisation. How will this turn out when the PhD-student is 80 percent employed by the company?  
*SSF: Normally, the university pay the company for the PhD-salary. This should be regulated in the agreement between university and company.*
8. Is the time to reach examination to PhD maximum 5 years? Is it possible to make a PhD on part time?  
*SSF: No, the maximum time is 5 years with 4 years full student time. There are exceptions like parental leave.*
9. Indirect costs (overheads) are only permitted for that portion of SSF's grant that is spent at the HEI, equivalent to a surcharge of 35 percent on the direct costs. What does this mean in practice?  
*SSF: The part of the total grant from SSF that is consumed at the higher education institution (ie the part of SEK 2.5 million), indirect costs may be deducted corresponding to 35% surcharge. The company may not withdraw OH.*

**10.** Does the grant cover cost for equipment?

*SSF: See document "Generella villkor för bidrag från Stiftelsen för Strategisk Forskning" chapter 4.6, at SSF www under "Om utlysningar".*

**11.** What happens if the company goes bankrupt?

*SSF: The project is cancelled, and unused funds are taken back by the SSF.*

**12.** What language should the application be written in?

*SSF: English.*

**13.** How will the application be assessed concerning dependency between people in the project.

*SSF: SSF strictly uses its conflict of interest policy. It is important that applicants describe all types of dependency transparently in the application.*

FAQ may be updated during the time of calls for proposals on SSF's website.