

Guidelines for assessing applications for Novo Nordisk Foundation undergraduate scholarships

Purpose

On behalf of the Novo Nordisk Foundation, the Danish universities award scholarships to undergraduate students. The Scholarships must give the most talented students the opportunity to work on research projects before obtaining their master's degree. It will strengthen their chances of getting the best start on a future research career.

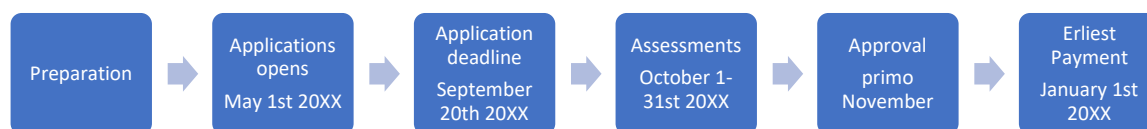
The scholarships are awarded twice a year as grants of up to 200,000 DKK for a 12-month scholarship (or 100.000 DKK for a 6-month scholarship) which can be used for salary (minimum 12.000 DKK for salary per month) and/ or running costs in connection with student research in the Health Sciences.

Time Schedule

There are two calls for applications a year, one in the spring and one in the fall, see examples below:



Application timeline Spring (examples with first possible date Spring 2026s):



Application timeline Fall (examples with first possible dates Fall 2026):

Requirements for the applicants

There are the following requirements for the applications:

- Applications must be submitted by the main supervisor
- Applications must be in English
- The main supervisor must be from a faculty of Health Sciences in Denmark
- The main supervisor and student must be from the same university (and faculty)
- The student must be enrolled in a master program at a faculty of Health Sciences in Denmark, with a thesis of a maximum 30 ECTS
- It is possible to apply for scholarships for either 6 or 12 months.
- It is not a requirement that the student takes leave of absence for the full period, but the student must work on the project full time for at least 6 months.
- It is not possible to apply retroactively.

Requirements for the assessment

The application must be assessed with a focus on the project, the applicant and the research environment:

In the assessment of the project, emphasis is placed on:

1. Whether the project contributes new knowledge
2. Whether hypothesis and/ or research questions are clearly formulated
3. Whether the project involves relevant methods/ techniques
4. Whether feasibility has been accounted for, e.g., strength calculation
5. Whether there is appropriate research level
6. Whether the scope is appropriate in relation to the time set aside for the project
7. How large a share the applicant has in the design of the project
8. Whether the role of the applicant is clearly described
9. How the applicant is part of the research group

In the assessment of the applicant, emphasis is placed on:

1. Whether the applicant already has research experience, including participation in journal clubs, congresses or the like
2. What other activities the applicant has participated in, including relevant electives, preparatory course, summer school, organizational and voluntary work
3. The grades obtained by the applicant in his/ her studies
4. How the application is motivated

In the assessment of the research environment, emphasis is placed on:

1. How the main and co-supervisors contribute to the implementation of the research project
2. How the supervision is planned
3. Whether sub-goals have been set, e.g., participation in national and international conferences
4. Whether the research environment is broadly composed and also includes other student researchers, PhD students, post docs, researchers with an international background, researchers with different scientific backgrounds

Assessment of the project is weighted 40 %, the candidate is weighted 40% and the research environment is weighted 20%

Applicants from AAU must be assessed by SDU and vice versa.

Applicants from AU must be assessed by the KU and vice versa.

Score and selection

Applications are scored on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the best. The assessors enter their assessments in a score form (attached with the e-mail with links to the applications).

Scholarships are awarded to the students who have the highest score, at each university (information about the number of scholarships pr university are in the e-mail). If there are several students with the same score, the assessors must select who will receive the scholarship. The completed score form is sent back to nnf@health.sdu.dk by the agreed deadline.

Processing of personal data

Please note that the applications contain personal information. Information collected may not be used for other purposes and may not be passed on to others. This means that you, as the assessor, must ensure that the personal information does not reach others and that the information is deleted immediately when it is no longer necessary in relation to the purpose for which it was submitted. After finishing the assessment, make sure to delete the information, both the digital copies that may be stored on your own computer, as well as any material you may have printed. If you have printed the material, it must be destroyed properly.