

Talented Student Track - Call for applications

The Danish Center for Welfare Studies (DaWS) has successfully implemented its *Research excellence initiative*. The overall goal is to generate virtuous circles of excellence where research, funding, research training and teaching are integrated elements.

A component of this initiative is the *Talented Student Track*. The *Talented Student Track* is a competitive grant program to fund MA-level student projects which bring a contribution to the study of the welfare state and welfare societies. Motivated and talented students enrolled in the MSc of Comparative Public Policy and Welfare Studies or MSc Political Science at SDU get the opportunity to strengthen their competences and acquire additional skills. We strongly encourage students to develop strategic plans, in which they combine internships, conferences, additional courses and their Master thesis to further their academic and professional skills.

Students can apply for funds supporting research related to their Master thesis, in particular funding needed for field work, purchase of data, summer courses and/or participation at student conferences. Students can also apply also for funding for internships which fit in a strategic development plan.

The maximum scholarship paid out is 20,000 DKK.

The application must include:

- Maximum 3 standard SDU pages project description, which includes the goals and the planned activities. The project description should be explicit about how the extra funding will be used and the expected outcomes. If the application made includes plans for field-work in relation to the Master thesis, the application must contain information about the research design, methods and data.
- Letter of motivation
- CV
- Preliminary budget
- Grades - MA (transcript of grades) and BA studies
- Applications for internships and events must include a description of the internship/event.

The deadlines for applications for 2019 is **01.12.2018, 12.00 am**. Applications should be sent by email to Melike Wulfgramm at wulfgramm@sam.sdu.dk.

Please note the following conditions:

- Conference participation is funded **only if** the applicant is presenting a paper related to the topic of the specified project.
- Participation in other student events is funded **only if** it contributes to the development of academic or professional skills, i.e. if students are involved in activities with a visible outcome, for example learn a new research method, or write a policy document.
- There will be deadlines in spring and fall. A student can apply for one grant in spring and one in fall, but the total amount applied for cannot surpass 20,000 DKK, and a **continuity between the plans in the subsequent applications is expected**.
- Each grantee will be assigned a supervisor, who will monitor the implementation of the planned activities.
- The grant covers only activities planned while the grantee is a student at SDU. An exception to this rule are conferences presenting papers related to the master thesis that take place shortly after graduation.
- The grant cannot be used to cover expenses incurred before the attribution of the grant.

- It is possible to apply for the grant as a team of two, if the Master thesis is written together. The grant cannot be combined with other SDU travel grants.
- Since the grant is intended to support progression and development of skills, it will fund only activities which are connected into a coherent plan. **Isolated activities are not funded.** For such purposes, the University supports internship and/or thesis fieldwork – see the Guidelines with information about the third semester options and the opportunities offered by the International Office.

We look forward to your excellent ideas!

Melike Wulfgramm

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