



New pools with a framework of DKK 83 million for 2015

Background

This year the foundation will launch a series of new pools with a framework of DKK 83 million for 2015. Application procedures and guidelines will be announced on auff.dk before the summer break. The new 2015 pools are:

- AUFF NOVA (DKK 15 million)
- Starting grants for assistant lecturers (DKK 28 million)
- Starting grants for senior lecturers (DKK 30 million)
- Mobility grants (DKK 5 million)
- Summer camps at Sandbjerg Estate (DKK 1 million)
- Supplementary pool (DKK 4 million)

AUFF NOVA

The Aarhus University Research Foundation and Aarhus University have decided to launch AUFF NOVA. The aim of this initiative is to stimulate bold, innovative research projects of a high quality, which may have difficulties obtaining funds from other quarters. The project will show new paths and may potentially lead to scientific breakthroughs. The hypothesis or thesis may involve breaking with existing assumptions and/or a call for new methods. A grant can e.g. be motivated by a large degree of professional competency in the project or applicant or by a promising multidisciplinary cross field, where the synergy of the participating researchers is a main driving force. The application should clarify the impact and benefits of the project. The scientific potential and originality of the project are central, not just the CV of the applicant. The assessment will take into account the project's chances of obtaining funds from other quarters.

Projects will last two or three years within a framework of up to DKK 1.5 million a year for two years or DKK 1 million a year for three years – a total of no more than DKK 3 million per project. Applicants must be permanently employed at Aarhus University during the project period. Applications are normally made by one main applicant, who is the designated project manager, but will usually involve a group of researchers. Applications are received for expenses in connection with the completion of projects, including wages for researchers (usually PhD or postdoctoral fellows). The research must be conducted at Aarhus University.



Assessment criteria

Project: 60%

- Originality (incl. high risk/high gain and level of ambition)
- Transparency (connection between thesis and method – and theory)
- Chances of completion

Impact: 20%

- Job creation, large challenges, creative communication
- Planned deliverables
- Large-scale applications

Main application and the group of researchers: 20%

- CV and the international scope and impact of publications

AUFF Starting Grants

With the AUFF Starting Grants the foundation wishes to give excellent researchers good career opportunities at Aarhus University and to propel especially promising international-level research within the four main areas of the university. These spearhead areas may be located within core subject areas or in the cross field between several disciplines. The research must have a scientific impact and can with advantage have a potential social impact. There is a framework of DKK 28 million in 2015 for Assistant Lecturer Starting Grants and DKK 30 million for Senior Lecturer Starting Grants.

Assistant Lecturers:

The AUFF offers a number of Assistant Lecturer Starting Grants with a view to attracting or consolidating highly talented and well-merited young researchers within the four main areas of Aarhus University.

Assistant Lecturer Starting Grants can i.a. be used to cover the expenses connected with the launch of new research groups, including PhD scholarships, scientific assistance, research equipment, operating and travelling expenses. Different subject areas may have different needs; a maximum of DKK 2.4 million may in special cases be granted over a period of 3 years. The size of the individual Assistant Lecturer Starting Grant will be based on the needs of the individual project.

Senior Lecturers:



The AUFF offers a number of Senior Lecturer Starting Grants with a view to attracting or maintaining internationally highly qualified researchers in senior lecturer positions and consolidating their research within the four main areas of Aarhus University. Senior Lecturer Starting Grants can i.a. be used to cover expenses connected with the creation, retention and renewal of research groups, including PhD scholarships, wages for Postdocs and scientific assistance, research equipment, operating and travelling expenses. Furthermore, grants may be used to cover relocation expenses and scientific assistance in connection with the launch of the research activity at Aarhus University for a period of time before taking up the position as senior lecturer. Different subject areas may have different needs; a maximum of DKK 5 million may in special cases be granted over a period of 3 years. The size of the individual Senior Lecturer Starting Grant will be based on the needs of the individual project.

Following the summer break the foundation expects to process applications quickly and regularly within one to two weeks.

Mobility grants

The objective of this pool is to give established researchers at Aarhus University the opportunity to visit foreign top institutions, possibly in the form of *sabbaticals*. This will help to increase the number of career paths and give researchers an opportunity to develop and complete research projects based on their professional areas of interest at foreign research institutions. The AUFF mobility grants can be used to co-finance travelling expenses, accommodation and, in special cases, wages. The total framework of the AUFF mobility grants is DKK 5 million, and they are awarded to the main areas as adjustable grants based on the number of permanently employed VIPs. The deans may thus contribute to creating incentives for visits to foreign institutions of a period of three to nine months. Applicants must be established researchers at no less than senior lecturer level.

Workshops and summer camps at Sandbjerg Estate

These grants should be seen as an expansion of the current support programme for seminars held at Sandbjerg Estate and may be used to cover expenses for accommodation and wages for researchers participating in summer camps at Sandbjerg Estate, where e.g. researchers teach other researchers. There is a framework of DKK 1 million for 2015; thus the total framework for PhD courses, research group meetings, workshops and summer camps at Sandbjerg Estate is DKK 2.5 million.

This pool has been added under the existing Sandbjerg Estate pool

<http://auff.au.dk/bevillinger/stoette-til-afholdelse-af-phd-kurser-forskergruppemoeder->



workshops-og-summer-camps-paa-sandbjerg-gods/. The foundation receives applications through efond on an ongoing basis.

The 'supplementary pool'

The objective of the AUFF supplementary pool is to cover expenses for smaller, but important and somewhat unpredictable needs such as research networks, analysis, fieldwork, first testing of a new idea etc. The pool may also be used to improve the opportunities of researchers at Aarhus University for collaborating with companies, including SMEs. The total framework of the AUFF supplementary pool in 2015 is DKK 4 million, and the expected size of individual grants is DKK 50,000-200,000.