

## Applied welfare research 2018

**The deadline for application submission is 14:00 on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 2018.**

Within this call for proposals you may apply for project grants, postdoc grants and/or grants for practice-oriented research fellows.

### Focus

The research programme's aims include: promoting client and practice-oriented research in the field of applied social services; strengthening collaborations between research and practice; and, increasing the participation of users and those close to users. Besides satisfy stringent quality and method requirements, the research shall also promote interdisciplinarity and the use of technology in the social services.

Examples of prioritised, and partly overlapping areas, where research is judged important:

- **Person-centred social services.** Research into how social services can work in a more person-centred way in the senses of: seeing the client as a more active element in case planning and management; and, developing a more client and user-oriented approach.
- **Collaborations between various bodies.** There needs to be research into, and coordination at, the interfaces between health and welfare, the school system and social services. What are the success factors and the obstacles for cross-boundary collaborations and coordination, and also between municipalities?
- **The effects of early/preventive measures.** There is a great need for research that, on the basis of client-focused results, evaluates the effects of the measures used in social services. This particularly applies to early/preventive measures. Research into the core components and the active components of measures is also in demand.
- **Innovations.** To be able to meet the societal challenges we are facing as regards, for example, demographic changes, health inequalities, reduced participation and increased alienation, there is a great need for welfare technology that can develop methodologies, processes, organisations and services in the social services.
- **Implementation research.** Implementation research studies the implementation of new methodologies in organisations. It pays particular attention to understanding change and improvement processes. How can implementation and translation from theory to practice be organised in the field of applied social services? How can social services develop better long-term management of the methods and methodologies that are implemented?
- **User participation.** Research into methods for: creating participation; developing and evaluating methods on the basis of the users' needs; and, organising, based on a user perspective, work and methodologies within the social services are important. There needs to be further research into the effects and consequences of user participation. For example, if and how participation contributes to the development and quality of social services.

## Eligibility

If you are applying for a project grant or a practice-oriented research fellow, you must have gained a doctoral degree no later than when submitting the application. If you are applying for a postdoc grant, you must have gained a doctoral degree sometime between the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016 and the time of application submission.

The principal applicant shall lead the project in a collaboration between one or more municipalities and researchers at universities and university colleges. Collaborations between universities and municipalities shall be described in the application. Municipalities that are not registered in the Prisma application system each need to [create an organisation account](#).

People applying for a part-time (40–60 per cent) practice-oriented research fellow must have a permanent position as a social services professional.

One condition for an application to be processed by Forte is that final accounts for grants previously received from Forte are submitted no later than 21 Feb 2018 (provided that the date for final accounts has passed). Any previously granted extensions of project duration (and, thereby, final report deadlines) will be taken into account.

## Processing

The applications are to be assessed by a specially appointed review panel comprising international experts. Thus, applications should be in English. Forte does not cover translation costs for the application. If necessary, the review panels may also require opinions from external reviewers.

## Assessment criteria

### The research project's academic quality

- Purpose, issues addressed, ties to theory, relation to earlier research in the area, identified research needs and originality.
- Study design, methods and data.
- Gender and diversity perspectives in the content of the research.
- Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches.

### Research project's relevance

- The project's relevance in relation to the call's focus.
- The project's relevance for application in the social services.

### Dissemination and collaboration

- The project's plans for knowledge dissemination inside and outside the academic community.

- Collaborations with social services representatives, users/clients and other stakeholders in the research process.

## Feasibility

- The project manager's and research group's research expertise.
- Details of any previous own research in the area.
- Staffing and budget (assessed on reasonability).

For postdoctors, any connections that dissertations and other academic works have with the new project in the application will additionally be taken into consideration. Forte also wishes to promote mobility. Consequently, we are keen to see the postdoctoral period being based at a higher education institution (or similar institution) other than that where the doctoral qualification was gained. Forte also welcomes trips abroad during the postdoctoral period. Forms of collaboration between applicant municipalities and universities shall be included in applications. An application for a practice-oriented research fellow shall be accompanied by: a declaration from the municipality/employer that it will release the applicant on a half-time basis; and, a declaration from the institution/department that you are welcome to carry out your research there. See the "Prisma instructions" appendix for more information.

## Gender mainstreaming

Forte is commissioned by the Swedish Government to implement gender mainstreaming in all of our activities and processes. Among other things, we are to promote sex and gender perspectives in the research we fund (the Government's research policy bill 2016, p 79–80). We therefore request applicants to describe how gender or diversity perspectives are relevant for their research projects. Diversity is included to promote a broader equality perspective as well.

With our funding, Forte should also promote gender equality in the research community. Through a systematic assessment process, we will ensure that applicants are not favoured based on their sex or other factors. Forte also asks applicants to provide a description of the gender distribution in the project group.

[Read more about how Forte works for gender mainstreaming \(in Swedish\)](#)

## Grant amount

In this call, you can apply for a project grant of up to SEK 5 million over 3 years. The postdoc grants are an annual SEK 0.8 million for 2 years. For a grant for a practice-oriented research fellow, you can apply for an annual SEK 0.5 million for no more than 3 years.

## Guidelines on how Forte handles applications where part of the research is to be carried out abroad

Forte is positive towards international research collaborations. Forte's area of responsibility covers complex societal challenges in which international research collaborations can provide important contributions.

1. Forte's grants can be used to finance research where certain parts are carried out in other countries. However, the research shall be initiated and led from Sweden or be a clear part of the collaborative research.
2. Applications involving international collaborations are assessed against the same criteria as other research applications and by our standard review panels.
3. In assessing research applications, the reviewers in Forte's review panels shall assess if any foreign section of a project brings added value to a project or is a prerequisite for a project with, for example, a global or comparative approach.
4. It is the principal applicant's responsibility to: find out how his or her administrating organisation stands on financing research where certain parts are carried out in other countries; and, find suitable collaboration procedures in each specific case.
5. It is the grant's administrating organisation, i.e. the Swedish principal applicant's home institution in Sweden, that determines and is responsible for, if necessary, appointing foreign personnel or paying for activities or services carried out in other countries.

## Open access

In accordance with Forte's guidelines, Forte requires open access publication of research results. [Read more about Open Access.](#)

## Transfer of project information to SweCRIS

Forte transfers information of issued grants to SweCRIS, a national database on grant-funded research set up at the request of the government. [Read more about SweCRIS.](#)

## Apply via Prisma

All applications are to be submitted via the [Prisma application and review system.](#)

Conditions for you to be able to submit your application:

- You must create a personal account in Prisma.
- Each person included in the application as a participating researcher must also create a personal account in Prisma.
- All CVs and details of publications by applicants and participating researchers are to be saved in each applicant's/researcher's personal account.

- Your university, university college or municipality must, as your administrating organisation, have an organisation account in Prisma.

Please ensure that all these conditions are satisfied in good time before the application deadline.

## **Time plan**

**12 April 2018, 14:00**

Deadline for the submission of applications.

**1 October 2018**

Forte's board decides which applications are to be granted funding.