

Cooperation between health and care providers – supporting ageing with equality, participation and dignity 2021

Information about the call

This call for proposals shall contribute to increasing the knowledge in the ageing research area. In total, around SEK 70 million is reserved for the period 2021-2024.

The deadline for applications is June 15th at 14:00.

Focus area

The elderly population is growing in Sweden, as in the wider world. Public health is improving and life expectancy is increasing, but this trend poses challenges for healthcare and elderly care providers as more people will live longer with various disabilities and diseases. Elderly individuals are a highly heterogeneous group with diverse needs and circumstances depending on factors such as age, socioeconomic situation or ethnic origin. The COVID-19 pandemic has placed elderly issues high on the political agenda. In its interim report, the Corona Commission suggested that there continues to be a strong need for knowledge about elderly people's living circumstances and conditions and their role and status in society. In order to address the challenges associated with an ageing population, there is a need for new knowledge, and for the existing knowledge to be put to good use.

It is a major challenge for our welfare system to offer adequate health and care services that meet elderly people's differing circumstances, preferences and needs. In light of the above, this call for applications focuses on cooperation between health and care providers, with particular emphasis on areas where the intersections between different providers, or insufficient cooperation between them, creates problems for staff, elderly individuals or their relatives.

Elderly individuals in need of health and care services often require assistance from various providers. This makes it imperative for the providers involved to collaborate, so that their efforts can be coordinated to best meet elderly individuals' needs. Elderly people with a history of health disorders or disabilities have very different needs and circumstances compared to elderly people who are in good health. Research on how different interventions are organised is vitally important, to ensure individuals' well-being as well as fulfil their right to equal care. How can the right to equal care be fulfilled despite the diverse conditions that exist in different Swedish municipalities, and how are opportunities for well-functioning cooperation affected by the involvement of a greater number of different types of health and care providers? It is also important to examine how laws and regulations function in relation to each other.

Responsibility for elderly care falls largely on relatives, and their efforts need to be recognised more. In addition, the healthcare sector needs to provide a greater degree of preventive healthcare for the relatives.

Staff's working conditions and expertise play a central role in providing safe, equal health and social care, and the heterogeneity of elderly individuals makes high demands in terms of resources and expertise. These issues also need to be addressed from a diversity perspective.

ForTE would like to see an interdisciplinary approach in the applications received, and welcomes research with a preventive and/or health-promoting focus. Moreover, the research should be based on a gender equality perspective, and should ideally take into account Sweden's human rights commitments and the implementation of Agenda 2030 and public health policy goals. We particularly encourage practice-oriented research and implementation research, and the research should be planned in collaboration with relevant target groups, such as the professionals and user organisations concerned. ForTE also encourages research applications related to the effects and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grant types

Two types of grants are available within this call. The terms and conditions, grant limits, and eligibility requirements for each type of grant can be found under the respective headings below.

Only one application per grant type and main applicant is allowed. However, applications for different grant types cannot refer to the same project.

! *Note that the maximum amounts below include indirect costs.*

Project grant

Project grants are grants for individual research projects. The grants are approved for three or four years. The application must have a clear plan for dissemination of knowledge and utilisation.

- **Grant limit for project grant:** Maximum SEK 4,5 million for three-year projects and SEK 6 million for four-year projects.
! The amount applied for must not exceed SEK 4 500 000 for three-year projects and SEK 6 000 000 for six-year projects. Applications where the amount applied for is exceeded will be rejected.
- **Eligibility requirements for project grant:** To apply for a project grant you must have completed a doctoral degree no later than the date of the call closing. Participating researchers must also have completed a doctoral degree no later than the date of the call closing.

Research reviews

Grants for research reviews are granted for one year. The research reviews grants aim to summarise the state of knowledge and the need for research in well-defined issues with

relevance to the focus of the call. The research review grant is given to literature reviews of different character, such as for example systematic reviews of the effects of different interventions, scoping or mapping reviews, or other types. The chosen approach must be justified based on the purpose of the overview. The literature review shall, regardless of the type of approach, be based on a systematic review of relevant literature. It is important that the methodology is well described in the application and that it is clear how the data has been selected and how it will be analysed. The application must have a clear plan for dissemination of knowledge and utilization.

- **Grant limit for research review grant:** Maximum SEK 1 000 000 for one-year research reviews.
- **Eligibility requirements for research review grants:** To apply for a research review grant you must have completed a doctoral degree no later than the date of the call closing. Participating researchers must also have completed a doctoral degree no later than the date of the call closing.

Applications must, among other things, include:

- Search strategy: keywords and sources
- Delimitation: what criteria will be applied to deselect and include literature
- Quality review of the literature (describe which review templates or review criteria to use)
- Principles and methods for data processing and analysis, including any statistical methods for data synthesis
- Preparation of results and conclusions
- Plan for dissemination of knowledge and utilisation

Forte may want to use the research overviews resulting from this call. In such cases, this will be done by agreement and in collaboration with the relevant project leaders/project groups.

The application process

All applications are to be submitted via the [Prisma application and review system](#). Before writing your application, make sure the following conditions are met:

- You have created a personal account in Prisma.
- All participating researchers have created personal accounts in Prisma.
- Each participating researcher has stored personal data, CV and publications on their accounts.
- Your administrating organisation has an organisational account in Prisma and has been approved as an administrating organisation at Forte. [Forte's criteria for approving administrating organisations](#) »

In order for your application to be considered, the final reporting for any previously approved projects must have been submitted. This only applies to grants where the

deadline for final reporting has passed. Any previously granted extensions of project duration, and consequently of reporting deadlines, will be taken into account.

For more information on how to fill out the application, see instructions for each grant form on the call's website.

The review process

The applications are assessed by a review panel composed of international researchers and Swedish society representatives. Funding decisions are made by Forte's board.

! *Since applications are reviewed by international experts, your application should be written in English. If the application is submitted in Swedish, the quality of the assessment may be compromised. Forte is not responsible for the quality of any translations.*

Forte's assessment criteria

Scientific quality:

- Purpose, research questions, theoretical framework, background and originality
- Study design, methods for data collection and analysis
- Interdisciplinary and/or multidisciplinary approach
- Sex and gender perspectives in the content of the research

Relevance:

- Relevance in relation to societal needs, Forte's areas of responsibility and the focus area of the call
- Engagement with end users
- Utilisation and communication of research results

Feasibility:

- Work plan quality
- Research competence of project leader and research group
- Account of any previous own research in the area
- Staffing and budget, assessed on reasonableness

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.
- 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.
- Applications involving international collaborations are assessed against the same criteria as other research applications and by the same review panels.

- 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.
- It is the main 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.
- It is the grant's administrating organisation, i.e. the main 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

Results from research funded by Forte shall be published with open access. [Forte's guidelines for publication with open access »](#)

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 »](#)

Time plan

The call closes: 15 June 2021, at 14:00 CEST

Forte's board decides on funding: 30 September 2021

Project start: 1 November 2021