

Increased knowledge on elderly care 2020

Information about the call

This call shall contribute to increased knowledge within elderly care. In total, around SEK 6 million is reserved for 2020.

The deadline for applications is 1 October 2020 at 14:00.

Focus area

Sustainable health and welfare systems are central to societal preparedness and the capability to properly deal with challenges, as the ongoing COVID19 pandemic has clearly shown. One area that has been particularly in focus is social care for the elderly population. The problems within elderly care are likely to be found at the system, organisational and practical training level, plus will also vary between municipalities. In order to adequately deal with this, there is both a need for new knowledge and that the knowledge currently available will be put to good use. Forte is therefore announcing a call for research that can respond to the challenges within social care for the elderly population.

The call for proposals is focused on illuminating current issues concerning care for the elderly population both in their own home and in special housing. Examples of important issues to illuminate concern not only organisation, staffing, working conditions for staff and the effects of various initiatives and interventions, but also housing forms and support from the perspective and experiences of the elderly, as well as the role of relatives and support for relatives. Since the situation, opportunities and needs differ for different groups of elderly, as well as for different individuals, more perspectives in the research can contribute to increasing the knowledge about care for the aged population. Illuminating the various different situations the municipalities face, and the solutions they have responded with, can also provide a heightened awareness and understanding of the development possibilities of elderly care. There is also a need for a broader perspective concerning the health and well-being of older people, both in terms of analysing challenges as well as proposing new measures.

The focus of the call for proposals is to contribute to new knowledge concerning the situation, funding, organisation and activities in practice of elderly care, as well as to an increased beneficial utilisation of this knowledge. Knowledge is sought here concerning how the results of the research will be able to be implemented into practice, with the aim of further developing elderly care, improving the client's life situation and opportunities, as well as contributing to increased societal preparedness to respond to future crises. The research must be practical and client-oriented, meaning that it must be based on issues that are relevant from the perspective of the needs of the social services and the clients, plus be able to lead to benefit and practical usefulness for clients, the social services activities and the society-at-large. The research must be planned and conducted in

collaboration with relevant target groups, such as the affected activities, professions and clients.

Forte desires to see a link in the proposed research to the effects and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The call for proposals is made within the framework of the 10-year National Programme on Applied Welfare Research. The Programme's focus is described in the Strategic Research Agenda and information is provided there concerning identified needs for knowledge developed in cooperation with social service managers and client and interest organisations.

[Strategic Research Agenda for the National Programme on Applied Welfare Research »](#)

[Priorities for Research on Social Services – Perspectives from clients, policies and practices »](#)

Examples of key knowledge needs that the National Programme wants to contribute to addressing can also be found in the SBU's report [On the State of Knowledge and initiatives in the field of elderly care \(in Swedish\)](#).

Grant types

Two types of grants are available within this call.

Please note that it is only permitted to submit a maximum of one application per grant type, regardless of whether the applicant is the main applicant or co-applicant. This means that you can submit one application for project grants, either as main or co-applicant, and one application for systematic reviews, either as main or co-applicant. Applications for different grant types cannot refer to the same project.

The terms and conditions, grant limits, and eligibility requirements for each type of grant can be found under the respective headings below.

! *Note that the maximum amounts below include indirect costs. Applications exceeding the specified maximum amount will not be considered.*

Project grant

Project grants are grants for individual research projects. They are granted for one year. Project grants are given for new research or for the development of previous/ongoing research. The project can, for example, focus on utilization/implementation of research results, either in practice or policy and governance.

Research projects must be based on the issues and needs of the profession and users/clients. The research projects must therefore be conducted in collaboration with social services, e.g. through regional support and collaboration structures, local R&D units, managers and staff.

Conditions for project grants

- **Grant limit:** Maximum SEK 1 million for one-year projects.

- **Project time:** Project start 1 December 2020. Twelve months project time. The funds are available for use for a period of six months after the stipulated project time has expired.
- **Eligibility requirements for project grant:** In order to apply for a project grant you must have completed a doctoral degree no later than the date of the call closing.

Systematic reviews

Grants for systematic reviews are granted for one year. The systematic 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 systematic review grant is given to literature reviews of different character, such as 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.

Applications must 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

Conditions for grants for systematic reviews

- **Grant limit:** SEK 1 million over 1 year.
- **Eligibility requirements:** To apply for a project grant you must have completed a doctoral degree no later than the date of the call closing.
- **Grant-specific requirements:** The systematic review should adhere to an established method for systematic reviews. A clear account of the choice of method and approach should be included in the application. Proposed methods are SBU's method handbook or Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA).

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.

Since applications are reviewed by international experts, your application should be written in English (except for fields where Swedish is specifically requested). If the application is written 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
- Gender and diversity 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. [Read more about 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

Deadline for applications	1 October 2020
Forte decides on funding	November 2020
Project start	1 December 2020