

International Postdoc 2021

Information about the call

This is the second call for applications within Forte's new international postdoc programme. In total, around SEK 35 million is reserved for this call.

The deadline for applications is 28 January 2021 at 14:00.

Focus area

Forte's international postdoc programme aims to increase international researcher mobility and cross-border research collaboration. The programme also provides an opportunity for junior researchers to further develop their competence and research careers.

The grants of this call are intended to enable researchers in Sweden to spend their postdoc period at a research institute abroad, and to enable researchers in other countries to do their postdoc at a research institute in Sweden.

The call is open to applications within Forte's overall areas of responsibility: [health](#), [working life and welfare](#).

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 applicant is allowed.

Please note that the maximum amounts specified below include indirect costs. Applications exceeding the specified maximum amount will not be considered.

International Postdoc – Incoming

Incoming postdoc grants are intended for researchers abroad who wants to spend their postdoc period in Sweden. For this grant, you apply alone and cannot invite participating researchers. The grant covers two years. At least two thirds of the project time must be spent in Sweden.

Please consider the environment! Minimise planned travels, consider attending meetings via digital options and, if possible, use means of transportation other than flying. Also, be sure to follow the authorities' recommendations and guidelines for reducing the spread of covid-19.

Eligibility for international postdoc – Incoming

To apply for an incoming postdoc grant, you must have obtained a doctoral degree between 28 January 2019 and 28 January 2021. If you obtained your doctoral degree before 28 January 2019, you can deduct time for e.g. parental leave or illness. Instructions regarding this can be found below in this document.

You are not eligible for this grant if you have carried out a majority of your main occupation (work, studies, etc) in Sweden for more than a total of 12 months during the last three-year period. Shorter periods, such as holidays, do not count.

Grant amount for international postdoc – Incoming

The grant has a fixed amount of SEK 2 300 000 (1 150 000/year). In addition, you may apply for a grant for any accompanying family members of SEK 50 000 per person and year. Eligible accompanying family members are partners and minor children.

International Postdoc – Outgoing

Outgoing postdoc grants are meant for researchers in Sweden who wish to spend their postdoc period abroad. The grant is administered by a Swedish administrating organisation. For this grant, you apply alone and cannot invite participating researchers. The grant covers two years. At least two thirds of the project time must be spent in the country chosen for the postdoc period.

Please consider the environment! Minimise planned travels, consider attending meetings via digital options and, if possible, use means of transportation other than flying. Also, be sure to follow the authorities' recommendations and guidelines for reducing the spread of covid-19.

Eligibility for international postdoc – Outgoing

To apply for an outgoing postdoc grant, you must have obtained a doctoral degree between 28 January 2019 and 28 January 2021. If you obtained your doctoral degree before 28 January 2019, you can deduct time for e.g. parental leave or illness. Instructions regarding this can be found below in this document.

Grant amount for international postdoc – Outgoing

The grant has a fixed amount of SEK 2 300 000 (1 150 000/year). In addition, you may apply for a grant for any accompanying family members of SEK 50 000 per person and year. Eligible accompanying family members are partners and minor children.

Repatriation grant

Outgoing postdocs will have the option of applying for a repatriation grant (returning grant). The purpose of this grant is to provide researchers who return to Sweden with time and an organisational setting to apply for future research funding in Sweden, apply for jobs outside of academia or the possibility of following up on ideas, results or networks from the postdoc project. The repatriation grant can be applied for when approximately one year of the postdoc period has passed. More information regarding this will be posted in September 2021 at the earliest.

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
- You have stored personal data, CV and publications on your personal account
- Your administrating organisation has an organisational account in Prisma and has been approved as an administrating organisation at Forte

In order for your application to be considered, the final reporting for your 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 respective 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 (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.

Assessment criteria for incoming and outgoing postdocs

Scientific quality:

- Purpose, research questions, theoretical framework, background and originality
- Study design, methods for data collection and analysis
- Gender and diversity perspectives in the content of the research

Relevance:

- Relevance in relation to societal needs and Forte's areas of responsibility
- Collaboration with parties using the research within the research process
- Utilisation and communication of research results

Feasibility:

- Work plan quality
- Research competence of the project leader
- Account of any previous own research in the area

Call-specific assessment criteria

- Choice of host department: Is the host department renowned within the applicant's research area? For example, areas of expertise, strong environments, access to infrastructure, valuable collaboration partners etc.
- The potential of the postdoc period to contribute to the applicant's competence development regarding research or other activities within Forte's areas of responsibility
- Expected benefits of the postdoc period for the development of the research area and/or the host department

Deductible time

When you are applying for a grant type with special career length requirements, you may apply for an exemption due to deductible time. The deductible time should have occurred after the doctoral degree was completed.

Acceptable reasons for deductible time are parental leave, work as labour union or student union representative, military service or illness (personal illness or care for an ill relative). Note that we do not accept other employment, unemployment, or vacation as deductible time.

Confirm your deductible time by sending a certificate to forte@forte.se no later than

February 5, 2021. Your e-mail should specify the reference number of your application (available in Prisma after the application deadline, meaning that your application should have a reference number on the morning of 29 January 2021). For parental leave, a certificate from Försäkringskassan must be submitted. In special cases where this is not possible, a certificate from the employer can be submitted instead. It is important that you check the box for deductible time in the application form, indicating that you are submitting certificates separately.

Project delays

Forte is aware that the ongoing pandemic can lead to changes in the work plan that was submitted with the application. Forte will have a continuous dialogue with all projects granted funding through the call. If a project is delayed by circumstances related to the corona pandemic, it is possible to apply for an extension of the project duration.

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 grantfunded research set up at the request of the government. [Read more about SweCRIS.](#)

Time plan

The call closes

28 January 2021 at 14:00

Forte's board decides on funding

May 2021

Project start

1 September 2021