Project grants for new, improved, and accessible research data 2024

Information about the call for proposals

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About the call for proposals

Background and purpose

Forte has identified a need to fund the collection and management of research data that are not covered by individual research projects but are relevant to the broader research fields it supports. This includes, but is not limited to, new data collection for existing longitudinal studies or adding registry information to existing research material.

There is also a need to support systematization, harmonization and documentation of research data in order to make data openly available according to the FAIR principles (see Swedish National Data Service). Not least to strengthen the transition of higher education institutions to open science, which, according to the government, should have taken place by 2026 at the latest. In some cases, this may include a need to develop tools or support for research that deals with complex data.

The purpose of the call is to fund projects that can generate research data and/or make it available. Such data should have the potential to form the basis for research of good scientific quality as well as high societal relevance and opportunities for utilisation.

Focus of the call

In this call, Forte is looking for projects that are limited to one or more of these focus areas:

- Data collection.
- Systematization, harmonization and documentation (metadata) of data
- Development of tools or support that improve or simplify the use of data or increase its quality

The projects must result in added value for a research environment or a research project and be relevant to one of Forte's areas: health, working life and welfare.

In this call, the following are not funded:

- Data collection for basic biomedical research or other research outside Forte's areas
- Projects that include analyses to answer specific research questions
- More general support functions for data management at higher education institutions or departments

The management of research data and metadata generated within the projects should follow good research data management, including the FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable). They should be published with immediate open access in credible repositories, following the principle ”as open as possible, as closed as necessary” (see the Swedish National Data Service and/or the support function at your organisation, sometimes referred to as DAU, data access unit).

Forte encourages close collaboration with target groups affected by the projects, who can contribute important experiences and perspectives.

Forte also encourages international collaborations as long as the research is relevant in a Swedish context. Projects should include a sex- and gender perspective where applicable.

Grant type

• Project grant

Budget

For this call a budget of about SEK 15 million is available.

Number of applications

No more than one application per main applicant is permitted within this call for proposals. As a participating researcher you may participate in more than one application.

Schedule

Call opens: 14 May 2024, 10.00 CEST

Call closes: 15 August 2024, 14.00 CEST

Decisions taken on funding: 28 November 2024

Decisions published: 29 November 2024

Project start: 10 December 2024

About the grant

One type of grant is available within this call for proposals: project grant.

Project grants facilitate the implementation of a defined project. Project grants may be applied for by individual researchers as well as research groups.

Project duration

Funding may be sought for one year with an additional availability period of one year.

Funding amounts

There is no maximum amount for this type of grant, but the requested budget must be explained and justified in the application. The project's budget is assessed in relation to the scope of the project. Given the total budget for the call, a reasonable guideline for the project budget is between SEK 0.5 and 2 million.

Eligibility requirements

Doctoral degree

To apply for a grant under this call for proposals, you must have obtained a doctoral degree no later than the closing date of the call for proposals.

Reporting for previous grants

The main applicant must have submitted the final report for any previously approved grants from Forte within the reporting deadline. 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.

Before you apply

Checklist

Before starting your application, please read this document and ensure that the following conditions are fulfilled:

- Everyone included in the application has created a personal account in the Prisma application system
- Everyone included in the application has stored their CV and details of their publications in their respective personal accounts
- The administrating organisation for the grant has an organisational account in Prisma and has been approved as an administrating organisation at Forte. Forte's criteria for administrating organisations »

International research

Applications with an international element must follow Forte's guidelines for international research. Forte views international research collaborations positively. Forte's areas of research cover complex societal challenges where international research collaboration can provide important contributions. Defence and security policy aspects must always be taken into account in international research collaboration.

Forte's grants may be used to finance research where certain parts are carried out in other countries. However, the research must be initiated, led and mainly carried out from Sweden or be a part of international collaborative research. The research must also be relevant to Sweden and Swedish conditions, and this must be explained and justified in the application.

Guidelines for international research »

Principle of public access to official records

According to Swedish law, your application is considered a public document once it has been submitted to Forte. This means that anyone can request and read your application. Information may only be kept secret if it is covered by the secrecy provisions in the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (2009:400).

If your application is granted, abstracts in Swedish and English will be published in open project databases without a confidentiality assessment.

Translations of information in the call for proposals

Call texts, application forms and instruction texts are available in English translation, but in case of ambiguity in the translation, the Swedish versions take precedence.

Application

All applications are to be submitted via the Prisma application and review system. Please bear in mind that it takes time to formulate an application. Therefore, start the application process well in advance. You can start filling in your data, then save and continue at another time. Please note that the application cannot be submitted if any of the required data is missing.

What must be included in the application?

For information about the contents of your application, please see the document "Instructions for the application form" on the website for the call for proposals.

Language

Since applications are reviewed by international experts, your application should be written in English (apart from fields where text in Swedish is specifically requested). 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.

Types of project participants

The person who creates the application in Prisma is the main applicant and is intended to be the project leader for the research. The project leader must be employed by the administrating organisation at the start of the project. The employment must at least cover the time set aside for the project (activity level).

If the call for proposals permits this, participating researchers may also be invited to join the application. Participating researchers are other researchers who are crucial for the implementation of the project. Both the main applicant and the participating researchers must have a doctoral degree and a personal account in Prisma. It is also possible to include "other participants" in the project. These persons do not need to be researchers. This means they do not need to have a doctoral degree or their own accounts in Prisma.

Requirements for different types of participants »

Participating administrators

The main applicant may invite a participating administrator to help them complete the application form. The administrator is not part of the project but has access to the draft application. A participating administrator cannot register the final version of an application and does not have access to the application once the final version has been registered in Prisma.

Assessment process

Verification of your application

Forte checks if your application fulfils the formal requirements laid down in the call for proposals. If the application does not fulfil the requirements, it will be refused or rejected. The following formal requirements will be checked in this call for applications:

- The main applicant has been awarded a doctoral degree
- The main applicant has submitted the final report for any previously approved grants from Forte within the reporting deadline
- The content of the application does not obviously fall outside the focus of the call (verified in consultation with the chair of the review panel)
- The budget in the application is within the maximum grant amount specified in the call for proposals
- The application has been signed by the administrating organisation within 7 calendar days of the closing date of the call for proposals

Review

All applications that fulfil the formal requirements in the call for proposals are forwarded to Forte's review panels for assessment. Based on their assessment, Forte's Board makes the final decisions on which applications will be granted funding.

To be eligible for funding from Forte, applications must be of high scientific quality, be relevant to society, and feasible. Applications are assessed against the assessment criteria and general requirements described below. The assessment is an overall assessment that weighs all the criteria and requirements and relates them to the call for proposals and its objectives. Key to the assessment is how the applicant has explained and justified the various choices made in the application.

For the purposes of this call, the project the application concerns will also be assessed in relation to its scientific context. The applications are thus assessed based on how well the specific data project as well as the research to which these research data will contribute together meet the assessment criteria.

[Forte's processes for assessment and final decision »](#)

General requirements

All applications must meet the following requirements in order to receive funding. The extent to which these requirements are met forms part of the overall assessment by the review panel.

- The research must be relevant to Forte's areas and the focus of the call.
- The application must address and justify if a gender perspective is applicable or not to the research and how this is taken into account in the research.
- The research must be conducted ethically, and the application must address the ethical aspects of the research and how any ethical issues will be handled.

Assessment criteria

The various criteria are given equal weighting in the assessment. The extent to which these requirements are met forms part of the overall assessment by the review panel. The overall assessment includes both the specific data project and the research it aims to contribute.

Scientific quality

- Purpose, research questions, theoretical framework and background
  How well and coherently the purpose, research questions, theoretical framework and background of the research are described, justified and grounded in previous research.
- Study design, empirical material and methods for data collection and analysis
  How well and coherently the research design, methods and empirical material are described and justified, as well as the appropriateness of these in relation to the purpose of the research, research questions, and the potential for relevant results.
- Originality
  The originality of the research and its potential to develop new knowledge (including novel methods, theories and/or data).
- Multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary approach, where applicable
  The relevance of a multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary approach, and how this is considered and justified in the application.

Societal relevance and utilisation

- Relevance to the wider community
  The societal challenges to which the research relates, how the research intends to help address these challenges, and how well the need for the research is described and justified to the research stakeholders, the general public and/or the wider community.
- Benefit for the wider community
  How the research is expected to lead to short-term or long-term benefit for the research stakeholders, the general public and/or the wider community, and how this benefit is intended to be promoted.
- Collaboration with the wider community, where applicable
  How inclusion in the research process of those affected by the research (such as users, patients, practitioners, professions, policymakers) has been considered and justified in the application, and, where applicable, how well this has been designed.

Feasibility

- Quality of the work plan
  The clarity and reasonableness of the work plan (including the schedule) in relation to the requirements for the implementation of the research.
- Competence of the project manager and project team
  Competence and skills of the participants (based on previous experience and achievements) in relation to the requirements for the implementation of the research.

- Staffing and budgets
  Reasonableness of budgeted costs and participants' planned activity levels for the implementation of the research.

Guiding questions

Forte has formulated guiding questions, based on the requirements and assessment criteria. The purpose of these questions is to aid applicants in preparing their applications and assist Forte's reviewers in the assessment process.

Guiding questions for applicants and reviewers »

After the decision

Decision and statement

When a decision has been made in respect of your application, it will be published in your Prisma account. You will receive an email when the decision is published. Applicants will also have access to the statement written by the review panel about their application. This can be found in Prisma on the "Applications" page under the "Details" button. You will also find the statement on the "Grants" page.

Terms and conditions for grants

In order to receive a grant from Forte, both the main applicant and the administrating organisation must sign the terms and conditions laid down in the call for proposals. The signing takes place in Prisma after a decision on the grant has been made. Forte's general terms and conditions apply to this call for proposals.

Forte's general terms and conditions for grants »

Open access

By accepting grants from Forte, the main applicant also accepts Forte's guidelines for publication with open access. Forte does not cover the costs of open access publication within the research grants we award. In cases where publication costs are included in the application, such costs will be deleted from any grant awarded.

Forte's guidelines for publication with open access »

Support and help

Forte has compiled the most frequently asked questions and answers regarding the application process. Questions and answers about applying for grants »

If you have any questions about the call for proposals or how to fill in the application form, please contact:

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