Planning grants in mental health 2024

Information about the call for proposals

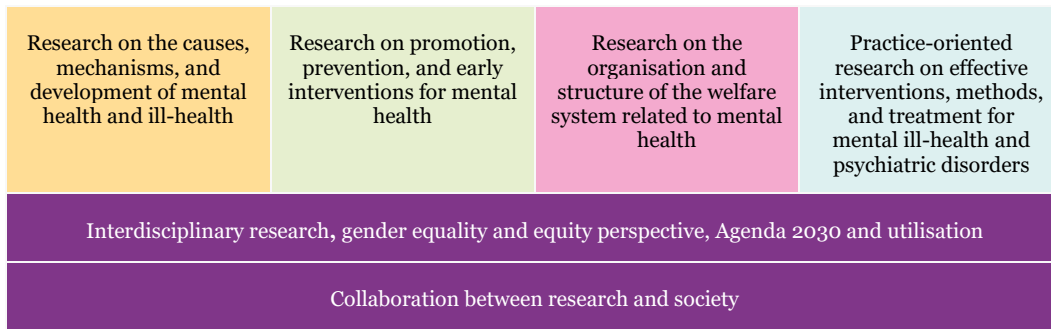## Contents

About the call for proposals

Background and purpose

On behalf of the government, Forte runs a national research programme on mental health. The programme's work is based on a [strategic research agenda](#) which indicates a number of priority areas, principles and perspectives (see graphic 1).

Graphic 1. Priority areas, principles, and perspectives

Research on the causes, mechanisms, and development of mental health and ill-health	Research on promotion, prevention, and early interventions for mental health	Research on the organisation and structure of the welfare system related to mental health	Practice-oriented research on effective interventions, methods, and treatment for mental ill-health and psychiatric disorders
Interdisciplinary research, gender equality and equity perspective, Agenda 2030 and utilisation			
Collaboration between research and society			

To achieve the desired advancement in knowledge necessary for effective preventive and health-promoting initiatives, as well as efficient care and treatment, research is required to develop, test and evaluate measures and efforts at both societal and individual levels. For this research to be successful, planning and different types of preparations are often required. Not least, fostering collaboration between academia the public sector and civil society is often crucial in research processes. The intention of this call for proposals is therefore, among other things, to create beneficial conditions for such collaboration.

The purpose is to enable researchers to, in cooperation with organisations working with mental health and engaging with individuals in their operations, develop collaboration and improve the conditions for an upcoming call for project proposals in 2026. The collaboration between practice and research should primarily have a problem-solving approach.

Focus of the call

In this call for proposals, you can apply for a planning grant. The planning grant can be used for various activities for the purpose of enabling a future application for project grants. For example, this could involve testing an idea in a pilot study or developing a collaboration/co-creation with relevant partners and target groups outside of academia. This means that the activities funded by the planning grant do not strictly have to involve research. However, the research prepared using the planning grant must align with the priority areas outlined in graphic 1.

The call for proposals requests applications that aim to facilitate research on methods, work practices, and conditions in the field of mental health, spanning from mental well-being to psychological problems and psychiatric conditions, at both societal and individual levels. There are no restrictions in terms of which age groups the projects plan to include. Forte also welcomes projects which include support for relatives.

- All age groups are included in the work.
- The focus can be on promoting efforts for people's mental well-being, preventive work for mental health problems and psychiatric conditions.
- A focus on civil society's methods, ways of working and conditions in working with mental health.

Grant type
Planning Grant

Budget
For this call a budget of about SEK 11 million is available.

Number of applications
No more than one application per main applicant is permitted within this call for proposals.

Schedule
Call opens: 16 May 2024, 10.00 CET

Call closes: 21 August 2024, 14.00 CET

Decisions taken on funding: 12 December 2024

Decisions published: 12 December 2024

Project start: 1 January 2025

About the grant

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

Planning grants provide the opportunity to prepare for a larger research project, establish collaborations with researchers from different research disciplines, practice and users, as well as the opportunity to test the feasibility in a pilot study.

Project duration
Funding may be sought for one year.

Funding amounts
You may apply for a maximum 700 000 SEK for one year planning grant. Please note that the maximum amount includes so called indirect costs/overheads (OH). Applications that exceed the specified limit will be rejected.

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

Applications under this call for proposals may be written in Swedish or English.

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.

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.

Enabling of future research

The significance of the planning grant in creating conditions for and enabling future research.

Scientific quality

Clarity and coherence in the description and justification of the research in all relevant parts.

Societal relevance and utilisation

The societal relevance of the research and the potential for dissemination and utilisation of the research.

Feasibility

Clarity and reasonableness of the work plan, budgeted costs, and competence of the participants for 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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