

## Elderly and ageing 2024

### Information about the call for proposals

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## About the call for proposals

### Background and purpose

In a statement of orientation for the area of research into the elderly and ageing, Forte has identified several major areas of issues where new knowledge is required and where the existing knowledge needs to be applied in practice.<sup>1</sup> For example, this includes the area of intersections and collaboration between different healthcare providers, which is also the subject of this call for proposals. Therefore, Forte wants to use this call for proposals to support research which can provide new knowledge, helping to develop methods and ways of working for collaboration between different providers in the area of the elderly and ageing. This is something which, in the long term, can lead to improved healthcare and care for the elderly in the Swedish welfare system.

### Focus of the call

**Clarification 17 June 2024: Please note that the call has only one focus. The cross-cutting perspectives are included in the focus “Intersections and collaboration between different healthcare and care providers: consequences for the elderly, their relatives and staff”.**

*Intersections and collaboration between different healthcare and care providers: consequences for the elderly, their relatives and staff*

Elderly people who need healthcare and care often require input from several different providers. The providers need to collaborate, so that their efforts can be coordinated and so that the needs of the elderly person are at the core. The call for proposals therefore focuses in particular on how intersections or insufficient collaboration between different providers can create problems for staff, the elderly or their relatives, as well as how these problems can be avoided or managed. The topic of intersections and collaboration also covers research on how different pieces of legislation function in relation to each other, as well as questions about methods for needs assessment and what consequences needs assessment has for the elderly, their relatives and staff.

Since the area of the elderly and ageing contains challenges which are handled in several sectors and by different professions, and also affect different groups of citizens, Forte would like to see an interdisciplinary and/or multidisciplinary approach in the applications. For the same reasons, Forte sees both a great need and good opportunities for collaboration in research between researchers and other community stakeholders to increase its relevance and opportunities for utilisation. The research must also include a sex and gender perspective, if applicable. Forte encourages proposed projects with an international connection, but the research needs to be relevant in a Swedish context. The research must consider the fact that the elderly are not a homogeneous group and that the elderly population's requirements and needs are different, as well as that different

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<sup>1</sup> [https://forte.se/app/uploads/2023/10/inriktningsfo-rklarig-fo-r-a-ldreomra-det\\_slutlig\\_ta.pdf](https://forte.se/app/uploads/2023/10/inriktningsfo-rklarig-fo-r-a-ldreomra-det_slutlig_ta.pdf)

individuals' situations and needs can be affected by challenges at societal level. Find out more in the section below.

There are also cross-cutting perspectives which may be relevant to many of the issues in the call for proposals and the area of the elderly and ageing. Healthcare and care need to take into account the heterogeneity which exists within the elderly population in Sweden and which will be reinforced in the long term. This applies to older people who were born in other countries, as well as national minorities, among others. It could also include sex/gender aspects or how unequal living conditions can affect health.

### **Grant type**

- Project grant

### **Budget**

For this call a budget of about SEK 40 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: 20 August 2024, 14.00 CEST

Decisions taken on funding: 28 November 2024

Decisions published: 29 November 2024

Project start: 1 January 2025

### **About the grant**

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

Project grants facilitate the implementation of a defined research project designed to contribute to increased knowledge about an identified issue. Project grants may be applied for by individual researchers as well as research groups.

### **Project duration**

Funding may be sought for three years.

### **Funding amounts**

You may apply for a maximum of SEK 5 million for three-year projects. Please note that the maximum amount includes so called indirect costs/overheads (OH). Applications that exceed the specified limit will be rejected.

**Staffing**

For this grant type, you as main applicant can invite participating researchers to join the application.

**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:

- The main applicant and any participating researchers included in the application have created personal accounts in the [Prisma application system](#)
- The main applicant and any participating researchers included in the application have 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 complete 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.

[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.

#### *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.
- Communication of research results  
Whether dissemination of research results is planned for all relevant target groups, as well as the soundness of planned communication (such as in academic and/or popular science articles, books, seminars, workshops, training materials).

### *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 [aldreutlysning@forte.se](mailto:aldreutlysning@forte.se).