

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, MEDICINE AND CARING
SCIENCES (H MV)

Process and Timeline for Applications for Co-funding of Doctoral Projects in Caring Sciences 2027

The Faculty of Medicine at Linköping University (LiU) invites applications for co-funding of doctoral projects in caring science. The initiative aims to strengthen caring sciences and support the recruitment of doctoral students within these fields (ref. no. LiU-2024-03481 and LiU-2024-06124). H MV has been assigned responsibility for administering the call and processing applications.

This call provides co-funding amounting to SEK 425,000 per year for a maximum of four years (2+2 years). The funding is intended to support salary costs for a doctoral student recruited to the project.

Timeline

Date	Responsible party	Activity
June 2026	H MV Research Coordination	Dissemination of information about the call and application process
1 September to 25 September 2026	Applicants	Submission of application via Forms
October 2026	External reviewers	Assessment of applications
No later than 30 November 2026	Head of Department	Final decision on applications. The H MV Senior Research Coordinator informs applicants of the outcome.

Eligibility Criteria

- The proposed project must fall within the field of caring science.
- The definition of caring sciences is research that address issues relating to care and welfare in connection with people's health and ill health. The core of the field consists of occupational therapy, nursing, physiotherapy and speech and language pathology, although the boundaries of the field are not sharply defined.
- Additional funding must be available, which, together with the annual support of SEK 425,000, fulfils the requirements for establishing a doctoral student position at the relevant department.
- The intended doctoral student should spend at least three months abroad during the doctoral studies.
- The doctoral student must be recruited to a doctoral studentship with employment at HNV or BKV and with an activity level of at least 80%.
- The doctoral student must be recruited within six months from the funding decision.

Application Format

The application must include the following:

- Principal applicant (name, title, division and department)
- Supervisors and co-supervisors (name, title, division and department)
- Head of division confirmation including financing plan
- Financial officer at the division (name, telephone number and e-mail address)
- Project title
- Summary of the planned doctoral project (maximum 3 A4 pages) including background, aim/research questions/hypothesis, method, clinical relevance, dissemination and implementation, ethical considerations, other project funding, planned international stay, and requested start date
- Applicant CV including publications (accepted, published and manuscripts)

Applicants must submit the application via this [form](#) no later than September 25, 2026.

Assessment

Applications will be assessed by 3 external senior reviewers with different

professional backgrounds and experience in caring science research. The reviewers are asked to evaluate the applications based on the following criteria:

- The project is clearly and convincingly leading to results that can be published in leading journals within the field.
- The project has a clear and convincing plan for how the results will be used to improve healthcare and benefit patients in the short term.
- The project is well designed as a research educational project allowing the Ph.D student to develop both a broad and deep competence in the field and contribute scientifically to the project.
- The project is led from an excellent research environment where multiple research group leaders within complementary fields are interacting, and which have a strong track record of receiving large, excellent grants
- The project has a clear and convincing plan for its execution including a risk-mitigation analysis.
- The project has a well-developed and effective plan for open communication and dissemination of the results including for engagement of societal stakeholders and the general public.

Funding

The grant amounts to SEK 425,000 per year for a maximum of four years and constitutes co-funding of the doctoral project.

Decision

Applicants will be notified of the decision no later than 30 November 2026.

Language

Applications may be submitted in Swedish or English.

Contact

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Senior Research Coordinator, HMV
Coordinates the call and manages applications.

Lasse Jensen (lasse.jensen@liu.se), Deputy Head of Department, research, HMV
Answers questions about the call.