



Wallenberg Scholars 2023 – nomination process and internal routines at Umeå University, update

The Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation (KAW) invites applications for the 2023 Wallenberg Scholars grant, which aims to support and inspire some of the most prominent researchers at Swedish universities. While nominees may hail from any field of research, most Scholars will be working in the fields KAW prioritises: natural sciences, technology and medicine.

Umeå University may nominate researchers whose research and potential put them at the top of their league and who are expected to strengthen Umeå University's reputation in their particular field. The grant – SEK 3.6 million per year over a period of five years – may be used as the Scholar sees fit. The idea is to enable researchers to aim high, so their research may have an even greater international impact, and to give them the opportunity to invest in bold, long-term projects.

Last day for applications is 12 May 2023.

[2023: Nominations for Wallenberg Scholars | Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation](#)

Umeå University may nominate nine (9) researchers, of which at least four (4) need to be of the gender that is underrepresented among the nominations. Pro-Vice-Chancellor Katrine Riklund has, in consultation with Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dieter Müller, established the following nomination process.

Nomination process at Umeå University

Step 1. The University Management invites all faculties to submit nominations for the 2023 Wallenberg Scholars grant. Because KAW prioritises the fields of natural science, technology and medicine, the number of nominations each faculty may submit has been limited accordingly (see table below). Note that the University aims for an equal gender distribution.

Faculties	No. of nominations
Faculty of Arts and Humanities	3
Faculty of Medicine	8
Faculty of Social Sciences	4
Faculty of Science and Technology	8

Nominations should be ranked and be based on the Wallenberg Foundations' selection criteria (Appendix 1). Each faculty should describe its nomination process, that is: the reasoning, assessments and processes behind its decision on whom to nominate and how it ranked its nominations.



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Please include the following for all nominees:

- Research qualifications, i.e. CV and biography
- List of publications
- Project description (max. ten A4 pages or shorter)
- Reason why the researcher's work is considered important to Umeå University's research profile
- The University's current support to the researcher, in the form of facilities, basic support, type of employment, etc. Note that KAW will assume the University will continue providing their Wallenberg Scholar with this support throughout the grant period if the researcher is appointed Wallenberg Scholar.
- Current support from other, external sources of funding. Please format this information using Appendix 2 as a template.

All nominations and supporting documentation must be written in English and submitted to the Research Support and Collaboration Office (RSO), rso@umu.se, no later than Friday **10 March 2023**.

Step 2. Pro-Vice-Chancellor Katrine Riklund and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dieter Müller will consult the faculties and then send a shortlist of nominees to the Vice-Chancellor.

Step 3. Once the final nominations have been decided upon, the RSO will coordinate the process of compiling all supporting documentation, in cooperation with the University Management, the faculties and the researchers in question.

Step 4. The nominated researchers must submit an updated version of their application by Tuesday **18 April 2023**, containing the following:

- Research qualifications, i.e. CV and biography
- List of publications
- Project description (max. ten A4 pages)
- Supporting letter (max. two A4 pages)
- Umeå University's current support to the researcher's work

All documentation should meet the Wallenberg Foundations' criteria (Appendix 1) and be sent to the RSO, rso@umu.se. The RSO will provide feedback on each application.

Step 5. The Vice-Chancellor will sign each nominee's supporting letter once the final version of their application has been approved by Pro-Vice-Chancellor Katrine Riklund.

Step 6. The principal investigator of each nominated project is responsible for submitting the application to KAW.

Contact:

If you have any questions about the process, please contact: Agneta Plamboeck, the Research Support and Collaboration Office, agneta.plamboeck@umu.se, tel: +46 90-786 56 61, +46 73-211 10 00.

Internal routines
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30 November 2022
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Katrine Riklund
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
Umeå University



Appendix 1: Selection criteria (Wallenberg Foundations)

The nomination selection criteria are listed below. All nominations must be accompanied by supporting documentation addressing these criteria:

1. The individual's research qualifications, i.e. their CV with formal positions, awards, doctoral students (as principal supervisor, including year of defence of doctoral thesis) and postdoctoral fellows (max. three A4 pages). Brief biography (max. one A4 page), focusing on the researcher's scientific endeavours.
2. List of all publications in peer-reviewed journals, clearly highlighting the ten most significant publications. If applicable to the nominee's field of research, cite the nominee's h-index (referring to Web of Science), including the number of publications and citations the index is based on. Nominations from the arts, humanities or social sciences need only be accompanied by a list of the nominee's publications.
3. Project description (max. ten A4 pages).
4. A brief motivation statement (supporting letter), signed by the Vice-Chancellor, in which the University explains why it considers the nominee's work important to the University's research profile. This statement must also describe the University's nomination process, i.e. the reasoning, assessments and processes behind its decision on whom to nominate (max. two A4 pages).
5. Umeå University's current support to the researcher's work in the form of facilities, basic support, etc. Also mention support from other, external sources of funding (grants awarded) that the researcher will have access to in 2023, as main applicant or co-applicant. KAW will assume the University will continue providing their Wallenberg Scholar with this support throughout the grant period if the researcher is appointed Wallenberg Scholar.

Current Scholars (see appendix) may apply without a nomination by their university. The University needs to attest it is prepared to co-finance any difference in indirect costs and rent, if the difference exceeds 20%. Should the University fail to attest this, the applicant themselves need to be prepared (and inform KAW of this in writing) to cover the difference using funding from other sources.

Researchers should have a permanent post at a Swedish university and spend 70% of their working hours in Sweden to be eligible for a Wallenberg Scholars grant.

Individuals who were awarded a Distinguished professor grant by the Swedish Research Council in 2014 may apply for an extension. Individuals awarded such a grant in 2016 or 2018 may apply for an extension but will, if their application is successful, only receive a partial grant. Individuals awarded a Distinguished professor grant in 2020 or 2022 may not apply for an extension.

Clinical Scholars extensions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Universities may, however, nominate a Clinical Scholar for the 2023 Wallenberg Scholars grant. Should a Clinical Scholar receive a new grant, the remainder of their Clinical Scholar grant will be deducted from that new grant.

Maximum 20% of the grant may be used to cover indirect costs and rent.



Appendix 2: Formatting guidelines for external sources of funding

Current support from external sources of funding (grants awarded) in 2022 for which the researcher is main applicant or co-applicant.

Current external funding

	Period	Funding per year
As Principal Investigator (PI)		
Swedish Research Council	2022–2024	SEK 700,000
Forte	2020–2025	SEK 1,000,000
XXX
...
As Co-Investigator (Co-PI)		
Forte (PI: FirstName Surname)	2021–2023	SEK 1,100,000
Xxx (PI: xxx xxx)