



KAW Project 2020 – nomination process at Umeå University

The Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation announces funding for research projects of high scientific potential. This refers to research primarily ***within science, technology and medicine***, with a duration of 3-5 years and a budget of a total of SEK 15 - 50 million. The deadline for applications is February 1, 2020. According to instructions from KAW, the Vice-Chancellor must certify that project applications submitted have undergone internal prioritization. Umeå University has therefore developed a nomination process that is explained below.

Who can be nominated

A project group consists of two to five researchers who collaborate on a coherent scientific issue. Projects are prioritized where the researchers' complementary competencies make it possible to address hypotheses and issues in new research areas, especially of a cross-border nature, where Swedish researchers occupy an international position, and where each individual researcher would have difficulty in addressing the issue himself. A project must have an independent objective and not only constitute additional funding for already started operations.

Read more about the call for proposals on the foundation's website:

<https://kaw.wallenberg.org/utlysningar/forskningsprojekt-av-hog-vetenskaplig-potential>

Note that an individual researcher can participate in a maximum of two ongoing projects, but only one as the main applicant. Applications that have previously been rejected with the writing "are not in the opportunity to grant funds for the stated purpose" must not be submitted within three years from the rejection message. Note that it is the project that has been rejected, so the researcher is welcome to submit another application for another project.

New for this year is as follows:

Starting in 2020, a new criterion is introduced to ensure that women lead at least 30% of the KAW projects! Note that women will not be given priority in the international evaluation, but KAW relies on the universities to nominate more strong research groups where the main applicant is a woman.

KAW expects to fund 20 projects, of which the ambition is that at least 6 projects are led by women. If the international evaluation produces fewer than 6 projects led by women, the total number of projects granted is corrected so that the proportion of women always amounts to at least 30%.

In 2021, the goal increases to 35% and in 2023 Wallenberg's goal is that at least 40% of the applications that are awarded project grants will have female PI.

Due to Wallenberg's new rule, Umeå University will nominate projects so that a woman leads at least 30% of them. Note that Wallenberg assesses the project group's overall competence, therefore each project should consider whether there is a woman to highlight as PI.



Nomination process at Umeå University

At Umeå University, the nomination process goes as follows:

Step 1. Institutions and units nominate suitable projects to respective faculty, according to rules formulated by the faculties. Each nomination must be written in English and include:

- Name and CV for researchers in the project. Note that a very strong CV within the research area is required, but it is the project group's overall competence that is assessed.
- The project plan – the design is determined by the faculty, but it must not exceed 10 pages
- An overall budget (estimate of the total amount applied for including room costs and overhead and each partners share of the budget)
- Certificate from each institution involved that the head of department supports the application and thus accounts for the department's part of the co-financing.

Step 2. Each faculty ranks the proposals received and then has the opportunity to nominate up to 5 research projects. Note that Umeå University will nominate projects so that at least 30% of them are led by women. The faculties send their nominations, including supporting documents, to Grants Office, grants.office@umu.se no later than **2019-10-26**.

The nomination proposal from the faculties shall contain the following:

- Motivation (approx. 1 page) in English describing:
 - o The high scientific potential of the project
 - o In what way the researchers take an international position, focus on main applicants
 - o Selection of PI
 - o How the project fits into UmU's research profiles
- Certificate from each institution concerned that the head of department supports the application and thus accounts for the department's part of the co-financing.
- If an application/Researcher has previously been rejected by the Wallenberg Foundations, a clarification on how the new question differs from the previous application is needed. This applies to projects that are submitted within the waiting period of 3 years from the rejection message.

Step 3. The Vice-Chancellor decides, on the proposal of the Pro Vice-Chancellor, in consultation with the faculties, which projects will be nominated for KAW. Grants Office informs the faculties of the decision.

Step 4. Grants Office offers a personal meeting to the nominated researchers to inform about KAW's instructions, internal deadlines and the support Grants Office offers.



Step 5. The nominated researchers submit a first draft of the application that follows KAW's instructions by **8 January 2020** to Grants Office, grants.office@umu.se . Applications received after this date may be removed.

Step 6. The Grants Office offers feedback to each application based on the needs of each researcher. Grants Office also helps to arrange the Vice-Chancellors letter of support in collaboration with the university management, the faculty and the researchers. Please note that before a letter of support will be signed and the application can be sent to KAW the:

- Budget has to be approved by Grants Office
- Application has been approved by the university management

Step 7. The nominees are responsible for submitting the application to the foundation.

Contact:

For questions regarding the call, please contact: Grants Office, grants.office@umu.se

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