Call
Strategic Board for Research (FoN)
Faculty of Medicine

FS 2.1.6-1813-22

Datum: 2022-10-19

Sid 1 (6)

UMEÅ UNIVERSITET

Call for funding from the Faculty of Medicine for Research Infrastructure 2023[1]

The Faculty of Medicine at Umeå University hereby announces 1-year funding support for:
a) costs related to the purchase, establishment, or further development of research infrastructure at the Faculty,
b) budget support for already established research infrastructure that is of considerable importance for the researchers at the Faculty.

Previous calls have usually resulted in grants in the range of 200-1 500 KSEK. **For 2023, 5 000 000 SEK is hereby announced for support for research infrastructure.** *The application deadline is 31 January, 2023.*

Eligibility criteria and other terms
The funds are intended to help establish and maintain research infrastructure, namely a facility (namely equipment, installation, database, knowledge banks, or other resource with associated staff), that is in demand and necessary to conduct high-quality research. The research infrastructure must be openly accessible for use by the Faculty's researchers, and made visible on UmU-webpages in accordance with the UmU Guidelines (FS 1.1-259-17).
It is possible to apply for and receive grants within both category **a** and **b**. Though it requires a separate application in each category.

The call is targeted towards the Faculty's researchers (individual and groups). And can be applied for:

a) **new purchase, such as upgrading/supplementing existing equipment/infrastructure, or establishment costs at the Faculty** which will benefit several research groups at the Faculty of Medicine and Umeå University. The application should represent both breadth and competence and should demonstrate that the funding is expected to produce synergy effects regarding quality and activity for faculty's research. All or part of the costs of the infrastructure can be applied for and any co-financing must be specified. Equipment is expected to have a depreciation period (*avskrivningstid*) of three to eight (3-8) years and is to be managed at the department.
Note that these funds cannot be used for operating costs or accessibility of the infrastructure (for example salaries for operation, regular service agreements etc.).
The future costs of the specified infrastructure must, as far as possible, be financed through user fees and external grants.

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[1] This document has been translated from Swedish to English. In case of divergence of meaning between the versions, the Swedish wording shall prevail.

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b) **budget support for established research infrastructure.** Funds can be applied for costs, such as service agreements, operating costs and/or personnel, that cannot otherwise currently be covered via user-fees. These funds cannot be used for upgrading existing infrastructure. The need for funding support must be clearly motivated, and the future needs as well as an action plan should be described. The application should demonstrate accessibility, usage, output, and benefit of the research infrastructure as well as demonstrate that the funding invested by the Faculty is expected to deliver synergies in quality and activity of the research at the Faculty. It is vital that the application includes description of the infrastructure activities, a comprehensive budget, and a financing plan. If the infrastructure has previously received grants from earlier calls from the Faculty, for category a), or b), then a clear accounting must be presented, of how the funds have been utilized.

Note that the national research infrastructures that are co-funded by the University and the Faculty to cover the salaries and running costs for the national parts of the facilities are not eligible to apply for budget support for these costs in category b. Should the application concern local participation of a national research infrastructure then it should be clarified.

Application procedure

The application is made in the Faculty of Medicine's application portal ResearchWeb – https://researchweb.org/is/umu – latest by **31 January 2023**.

Note that the instructions for application differ for categories a) och b).

Applications ought to be in English, as reviewers are likely to be English-speaking, and follow the application instruction. The main applicant can submit only one application per each category. The number of co-applicants per application is limited to five (5). The applications that are not complete or do not adhere to instructions will be disqualified.

Review process

Applications received will be assessed and prioritized by a review panel appointed by the Strategic Board for Research (FoN). The Review panel evaluates the applications per the following criteria (scoring scale in parenthesis).

- Potential and Quality (1-7) Is the infrastructure unique? State-of-the-art? Useful for scientific output? Will it increase quality and impact of research at the faculty? Can similar data be obtained by other, already present, infrastructure at UmU?
- Feasibility (1-7) Is it realistic that new users will have access and be able to use the infrastructure? Do the applicants have the competence and experience to establish and run the infrastructure? Is the organization realistic in order to make the infrastructure sustainable and accessible? Is the financial plan solid?
- Breadth (1-3) Will the research infrastructure benefit a large number of research projects? Do several research areas at the faculty depend on the infrastructure?

A decision will be made within 3 months of the application deadline.

Contact

Contact for any questions regarding the call via, research.med@umu.se.

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Instructions

The application must contain the following content and attachments, and be submitted via the faculty's application portal ResearchWeb (see further instructions in the application portal)

Incomplete applications or applications that do not follow instructions will not be considered.

Application for CATEGORY A) funding for establishment of Research Infrastructure 2023

Brief CV of main applicant
Ensure that the CV and the personal profile is updated in ResearchWeb.

Publication list from main applicant and co-applicant(s)
Publication list will be generated automatically from the applicants' personal profile in ResearchWeb. This requires that each applicant has updated the publication list in their personal profile i.e., synchronized with SwePub.

Appendix 1
Selection of publications.
Total of **10 selected publications from applicant(s), with relevance to the application**. This should include **complete list of authors, title, journal impact factor** and **number of citations**.

Appendix 2
Description of the research infrastructure and its usefulness for research (max 4 A4, Times new roman font 12, single row spacing)
Here, the research infrastructure, its potential and its area of application are described, as well as the benefit for research in various areas.
The description should clarify how the funds applied for will strengthen research at the Faculty of Medicine.

Appendix 3
Organization and accessibility (max 2 A4, Times new roman font 12)
In this Annex, the following should be stated:

- Is the research infrastructure applied for already available in Umeå? Is it available to researchers at the Faculty of Medicine through other national research infrastructure?
- How is this research infrastructure coordinated with any similar, already existing, infrastructure?
- Is the research infrastructure an integral part of one or more research groups, or is it meant to function as a separate service unit?
- Briefly describe the research infrastructure organization, for example by specifying:
  - o Management/*ledning* (incl. name and function of persons)
  - o Control/*styrning* (including name and function of persons)
  - o Responsible/*ansvariga* (including name and function of persons)

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- o   Expected number of users of the research infrastructure
- o   How to create accessibility (e.g., systems for booking, prioritization,
- o   waiting times and infrastructure utilization)
- o   How to educate users of the research infrastructure
- o   How the service is managed by the research infrastructure
- o   Where and how data is available to the user
- o   Follow-up of activities

Appendix 4
Description and motivation of financing plan (max one A4, Times New Roman font 12). Motivate and describe budget items.
The financial conditions for co-financing of purchases and future financing of operations should be detailed. In particular, it should be specified how operating costs and personnel necessary for the use of the infrastructure will be financed.

Brief description of the researchers or facilities supporting the application and in which way the applied research infrastructure is expected to strengthen their research. Also clarify what funds the supporting researchers/facilities have at their disposal and to what extent they will co-finance the research infrastructure.

Appendix 5
Financing plan. Here, the total financial plan (for years 2023-2027) for the purchase/buildup as well as operation of the infrastructure, should be specified (max 1 A4, Times new roman font 12)

Please describe the expected cost and the funds (approved grants, funds applied for, other funds from department, faculty or university and user fees) that will be used to cover the costs according to the following headings:

- **Depreciation costs** per year for purchase/build-up of infrastructure
- **Salary costs**, including *LKP* and OH (Salary costs for personnel staff, manager, director etc.)
- **Operating costs** including *LKP* and OH (Travel costs, conferences, IT service/support, reagents, consumables)
- **Rent and upkeep**

Appendix 6
Attestation. Applicant's Head of Department's attestation supporting the application.

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Application for CATEGORY B) Budget support for established research infrastructure for 2023

Brief CV of main applicant
Ensure that the CV and the personal profile is updated in ResearchWeb.

Publication list from main applicant and co-applicant(s)
Publication list will be generated automatically from each applicants' personal profile in ResearchWeb. This requires that each applicant has updated their publication list in their personal profile i.e., synchronized with SwePub.

Appendix 1
Description of the research infrastructure and its activities and availability
(max 4 A4, Times new roman font 12)

The following should be included:

- A brief general description of the infrastructure and main activities. Also describe here if the research infrastructure functions as an integral part of one or more research projects or if it is meant to function as a separate service unit.
- Describe if similar research infrastructures are available at Umeå University or at other universities, and if it is available to researchers at the Faculty of Medicine. If so, how are these infrastructures coordinated?
- A description of the current infrastructure organization, steering and management.
- A description of equipment within the infrastructure and/or non-equipment material that is accessible by or through the infrastructure (e.g., blood samples, tissues, collected data, computer programs, processes, etc.)
- A list and description of personnel working within the infrastructure.
- A description of the services that are offered.
- A description of the availability of the infrastructure and how booking of services is organized.
- Describe if there are any restrictions on availability for different types of users or if availability depends on prioritization and if so, how the prioritization is done.
- A description of planned future developments.

Appendix 2
Description of the usefulness of the infrastructure for research at the Faculty of Medicine (max 2 A4, Times new roman font 12)

The following should be included:

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- A description of users and relevant projects during 2019-2021 specified by university (UmU, SLU or external), faculty, department, Region Västerbotten and Principal Investigator.
- A list of publications where the platform is mentioned in Acknowledgements during the last 5 years (2018-2022).
- A list of publications where personnel employed on the platform are included as co-authors during the last 5 years (2018-2022).
- If necessary, a list of other relevant publications during the last 5 years (2018-2022).
- Other activities, such as courses, arrangement of conferences, teaching activities during the last 3 years (2020-2022).

Appendix 3
Motivation of financial plan, and the budget support applied for (max one A4, Times New Roman font 12).

The following should be included:

- Brief description and motivation of the financing plan.
- A specification and motivation of the requested budget support from the Faculty of Medicine for 2023 with indication of what costs the support should cover and why this cannot be covered by other means.
- If funds within category a) and/or b) have been previously approved by the faculty, describe how these funds have been utilized.

Appendix 4
The following should be included as one document.
Balance sheet (*Bokslut/Resultat*) for 2022, for the infrastructure.

Appendix 5
Financing plan. Financing plan for 2023-2027 is obligatory and should be submitted according to template provided in the ResearchWeb portal. Here, the total budget of the infrastructure should be specified. Please note that there are four sections – *Finansieringsplan, Personalkostnader, Utrustningskostnad, Sökta Anslag*.

Questions regarding the call can be addressed to research.med@umu.se.