

Call for proposals 2020

Steno Diabetes Center Odense PhD Grants

Round	Launch of call	Application deadline	Assessment meeting
1 st round	17 January 2020	27 February 2020	15 April 2020
2 nd round	18 June 2020	26 August 2020	8 October 2020

Proposals for 1-year PhD stipends are invited. Two calls a year are expected, see above. Call and other information are available at the website for the [SDCO PhD Fund](#).

Objective

“Patient first” is the underlying principle of OUH's approach and ambition in creating value for our patients. In line with this, diabetes research at Steno Diabetes Center Odense (SDCO) must be patient-oriented and create value for all people with diabetes or people at risk of developing diabetes throughout the Region. To strengthen clinical research in diabetes related topics in the broadest sense, SDCO has set aside funding for SDCO PhD scholarships.

A maximum of 6 PhD stipends (1-year) will be granted from SDCO every year.

Requirements for applicants

All disciplines of research may apply, including clinical patient related research, research of epidemiology, experimental laboratory research and Health Services research.

The application must be submitted by the PhD student applying for a SDCO PhD stipend.

The SDCO PhD Grants can be applied a maximum of three times.

Only students who have already obtained approval of a PhD protocol at the University of Southern Denmark before the application deadline, are eligible.

The PhD-project must be a collaboration with researchers employed at SDCO, and a significant part of the PhD study must take place at OUH or a Steno Partner Hospital in the Region of Southern Denmark.

Financial support can be granted to PhD students, who have previously received a 1-year PhD-scholarship from either OUH's PhD Fund (including the RH/OUH research fund) or the Region of Southern Denmark research fund. A 1-year PhD-scholarship from only one of these research funds can also be applied after receiving a SDCO PhD grant. A SDCO PhD grant can be applied if the applicant's application for a scholarship from the Faculty of Health Sciences at The University of Southern Denmark has been rejected.

SDCO wants to stress the importance of internationalisation, and applicants should complete a research stay abroad. If a research stay has no bearing on a particular project, it should be argued why in the application.

Eligible costs

- Own salary (stipends) for one year including study fees. A maximum amount of DKK 578.000 *for one year only* is available from SDCO for each applicant given a grant. Please note that the amount may not cover all expenses depending on your level of salary.

Non eligible costs

- Salary for other researchers (SCS in English and VIP in Danish)
- Employment or co-financing of non-scientific staff (NSS in English, TAP in Danish) for research projects (e.g. biomedical laboratory technician, research nurses, etc.)
- Purchase of apparatus or other material for research projects
- Other research-promoting purposes
- Overhead, since the SDCO PhD Grants is a local fund
- Open Access publication.

For funding of operating costs, please refer to the call for the [Odense University Hospital Free Research Fund](#).

The OUH Research Support offers instructions on how to draw up a budget. If you request assistance, please contact reg.forskervservice@rsyd.dk.

Assessment criteria

Applications are being assessed according to following criteria:

- Qualifications of the applicant
- Academic setting of supervision
- Scientific quality of the project
- Strategic considerations related to diabetes research at SDCO – please read chapter 3 in the “Drejbog for etablering af Steno Diabetes Center Odense” - www.ouh.dk/dwn663756
- How internationalisation is part of the project, e.g. research stay abroad.

Clinical and translational research at SDCO and its Steno Partners are defined by a set of strategic research areas. SDCO has a special focus on type 2 diabetes:

- Pathophysiological research, specifically in Type 2 diabetes
- Research in cardiovascular complications
- Research in clinical interventions
- Research in diabetes care
- Research in pregnancy and diabetes

How to submit an application

You must submit your application via the electronic application system, <https://efond.dk/ouh/>. Please read and comply with the instructions given in *efond* and upload the following appendices in PDF format:

- Approval from both Head of Department and Head of Research at OUH stating that the project can be carried out at OUH
- Approval of PhD protocol from the PhD School at the University of Southern Denmark
- Short CV (max 2 pages) including publications for the applicant (PhD student)
- Short CV (max 2 pages) for main supervisor including
 - Number of former and current PhD students

- List of the supervisor's 10 most relevant publications in the past five years
- H-index
- Diploma from your Master's degree programme. If you have not yet finished your Master's degree programme, please upload your most recent transcript of records
- Confirmation of the research stay abroad from the foreign research institution, if any
- If many acronyms are applied in the application, please upload an overview of what they are an abbreviation of.

In the budget section in efond (step 3), please state which year a possible grant from the OUH PhD Fund is to be applied:

- Year 1 = 2020
- Year 2 = 2021
- Year 3 = 2022
- Year 4 = 2023
- Year 5 = 2024

If a possible grant is to be divided between two years, please indicate number of months for each year.

Your application must be written in English.

You will receive a confirmation by email from "efond" if your application is submitted correctly (please check your spam filter if you do not receive an email).

Assessment procedure

The received applications will be reviewed and prioritised by the SDCO PhD Stipend Committee at Odense University Hospital.

The SDCO PhD Stipend Committee will invite the applicants who have received the highest review score for an interview. *Please note that the invitation will be sent with short notice, approximately one week before the assessment meeting. See date for the meeting at the top of this document.*

If you are invited for an interview, you will be asked to present your project to the committee (7 minutes) followed by questions from the committee (7 minutes). The presentation as well as the interview will be in English. Physical presence at the committee meeting is preferred. However, you may participate via Skype if you have urgent activities elsewhere (please contact ouh.forskning@rsyd.dk)

After the meeting and on the basis of The Committee's final assessment, a recommendation will be made for the management team of SDCO.

We aim to give all applicants feedback approximately 3 weeks after the assessment meeting.

Considerations

It is important that you apply for or have already received external funding in addition to applying for funding from SDCO. Please clarify this in the application.

Patients are members of the assessment committee and will be reviewing the applications with other members of the committee. The primary focus of the patients is on the layman's description and description of patient involvement, why these parts must be understandable to a non-specialist.

It is important to describe considerations about patient and relative involvement in the application. The involvement can take place throughout the entire research process – from the planning of the project to dissemination of the results that are generated. The main purpose of health research is obtaining results that will be beneficial for patients.

Involving patients and relatives in the research process can help to ensure that the research focuses on those topics and issues that are most important from a patient perspective. Involvement by patients and relatives should be enhanced where it contributes the most value for the individual project and thus the value of the project to patients and society as a whole.

Examples of how and when patients and relatives can be involved:

- Clarification of research questions, outcome goals
- Reading the application – especially Danish sections (layman's description, descriptions to Ethical Committee of Science)
- Dissemination of research results

Please find more inspiration at [VIBIS](#) (in Danish) or at [INVOLVE](#), a British organization which for many years have had focus on public involvement in research.

Questions and contact information

Please forward questions to ouh.forskning@rsyd.dk.