



Postdoctoral Transition Grants for Internationalisation

The aim of Postdoctoral Transition Grants for Internationalisation is to support promising young researchers in Sweden after a postdoc period (which included at least one year abroad) in order to maintain and further develop their international network early in their careers.

The programme targets further development of the international relations after the postdoc period. It does thus not fund traditional postdoc periods abroad. Projects may last for up to three years. The funds are to be used for mobility, stays abroad or foreign researcher's stays in Sweden. Applicants should be employed by and active at a university in Sweden and have obtained their PhD. At the planned start of the project a maximum of three years should have passed since the applicant completed a postdoc period (of at least one year) outside of Sweden. Applicants must have research funding, either from the university or externally. The same rules regarding research funding applies to the partner. The main partner must be outside the EU/EFTA.

Applicants may have on-going projects in the Initiation Grants programme, but otherwise there must not be any on-going STINT projects.

Applications will be assessed by experts, focusing on how the proposed international partnership fulfils the following three criteria: 1) contribution to the institutions' internationalisation, 2) scientific quality and novelty, and 3) planning and support. Typical questions which clarify the criteria are given below under the Review heading. Please note that scientific results from the last five years are taken into consideration for the assessment.

Budgetary requirements:

- The budget can be a maximum of SEK 600,000.
- The budget for overheads should follow STINT's rules (see Conditions).
- The budget may only include costs for internationalisation activities, such as short or longer stays abroad for those involved in the partnership and for organising workshops, conferences or similar to strengthen and further develop the partnership.
- The budget may not include salary costs. However, compensation equivalent to a salary may be granted to doctoral students and postdocs for up to six months' stay abroad.

It is important that the collaborating parties agree as to the management of any intellectual property rights in connection to the project and its results. Furthermore, the project must be well established with the applicant parties. All applicant parties must have read and approved the final version of the application.

If you have questions about Postdoctoral Transition Grants for Internationalisation, please contact Lelav Zandi at +46 8 671 19 97 or lelav.zandi@stint.se or Mattias Löwhagen at +46 8 671 19 96 or mattias.lowhagen@stint.se



Applications

Applications are submitted through STINT's electronic application system and include the following sections:

Grants manager and partners (CV, max. two pages in PDF-format is required for each key person)

- Project title, abstract (200 words), classification and keywords
- Project description, max five pages in PDF-format (minimum font size 10), describing, as a minimum:
 - Objectives in relation to research and higher education
 - Contribution to and from each project partner
 - Project plan
 - Available resources, including existing funding of the key persons in the project
- Participating persons, stays, events and budget data
- Funds requested or received from other financiers.

Review

The selection of projects is guided by the following criteria:

Criterion	Sample questions
Contribution to the institutions' internationalisation	<p>Why is the partnership necessary?</p> <p>How do the planned activities strengthen on-going research and education?</p> <p>How does the project contribute to the institutions' activities on various levels (e.g. individual, research group and institutional)?</p> <p>How will the project lead to new international partnerships whose success or failure is not dependent on a small number of dedicated people?</p> <p>How is the project linked to any internationalisation strategies on the part of the department and institution?</p> <p>How will the partnership develop after the period of STINT's funding and what are the expected long-term outcomes?</p>
Scientific quality and novelty	<p>What is the level of the project's scientific quality and potential?</p> <p>How does the project contribute to new knowledge and new solutions/innovations respectively?</p> <p>In what way does the international partnership help raise the project's scientific value?</p> <p>How do the competences and resources of the respective parties relate to each other?</p> <p>What scientific results have the project leader and other key personnel had in the last five years?</p>
Planning and support	<p>Is the project plan clear, specific, cost-efficient and realistic (availability of resources)?</p> <p>How do the foreign party/parties contribute to the project (level of co-funding, other types of commitments)?</p> <p>How will the project support the development of the applicant?</p> <p>To what extent and in what way are key people involved in the project?</p> <p>To what extent are both new and more established researchers involved?</p> <p>What experiences are there of any previous STINT projects?</p>



Conditions - checklist

- The applicant is active at and employed by a Swedish university and has a PhD.
- The applicant has had a postdoc position abroad during at least one year with a finishing date no more than three years before the starting date of the proposed project.
- The applicant has no on-going STINT-funded project with a longer duration than one year.
- The principal collaborating party is outside the EU/EFTA area.
- The application explains how the planned partnership contributes to the activity of involved educational establishments, i.e. the benefit to contributing parties in each country is described.
- The proposed project starts no later than June the year after the call closes and has a planned duration of no more than three years.
- The budget relates only to costs for internationalisation activities, such as short or longer stays abroad for those involved in the partnership and for organising workshops, conferences or similar activities to strengthen and further develop the partnership.
- The budget does not incorporate salary costs (however remuneration equivalent to a salary is permitted for doctoral students and postdocs for up to six months' stay abroad).
- The budget does not include any other overhead costs than maximum SEK 100,000 per year and full-time equivalent for doctoral students' and postdocs' stays abroad (if remunerated through the STINT grant, see previous item in the checklist). Shorter periods and part-time commitments decrease the cost accordingly.
- The applicants agree to cooperate in accordance with the principles of academic freedom and good research practice. Methods, data and results will be openly accounted for.
- The final version of the application has been read and approved by all parties involved.

Timetable

August 2015 – Application system opens

15:00, 1 October 2015 – Application deadline for projects starting spring 2016

January 2016 – Decisions from STINT (indicative month)

June 2016 – Projects should have commenced.

Reporting

Grants are normally paid twice per year (in May and November) provided that contracts/reports have been received and approved beforehand. In the figure below is a timetable for a typical project.



- Contract: three years provided approved reporting
- Delays as a result of defects in reporting affects if/w hen payments are made but does not extend the disposition time

More detailed instructions are available for the situation reports. A final report detailing results and experiences from the entire project is to be received within three months of the end of the project.

Requests for extensions will be viewed restrictively. However, parental leave or long-term sick leave on the part of key persons will constitute grounds for extending the period for which a STINT grant is made available.