

Application guidelines: Villum Young Investigator Programme

The application should reflect the applicant's commitment to building up a thriving research environment and creating an impact. It must be clear how a Villum Young Investigator grant can advance these activities.

Please note that you must use the font Times Roman 12 pt, 1.15 line spacing, with a page margin of at least 2 cm (top, bottom and sides) throughout the application. Text exceeding the limits given below will not be considered by the selection committee.

The application must include the items below and in the following order:

A: Your previous application (if any) – 1,200 characters, including spaces

If you have applied once before, please state the:

Year you applied and title of the application

Shortly indicate what has changed since you applied the last time e.g., regarding the proposal, your CV and the feedback you received (if any) following the rejection of your previous application.

B: Summary of the application – 2,500 characters, including spaces

The summary should describe your research field in layman's terms, state of the art and what you consider your most original scientific key insight the project is based on. The aim is to get across the importance of what you are doing, how you are doing it, how it contributes to extending the state of the art and the expertise you have that qualifies you for success.

You are also asked to include personal reflections about e.g. your leadership potential, level of scientific independence and ability to work as part of a team.

C: Important publications

List and provide a [link](#) to up to three of your publications and explain in detail why you consider the publications significant to you personally ("breakthrough" publication, a first publication as first/last author etc.)

D: Research funding – 1,500 characters, including spaces

List the most prestigious research funding you have received as a main PI or significant co-PI.

Provide a paragraph describing the scientific significance of each research grant as well as any financial share above DKK 250,000 exclusively received by you. (Not more than five grants.)

E: Other important issues – 1,500 characters, including spaces

Indicate your projected commitment to the current project, as a percentage of your total research obligations during the grant period.

Indicate any issues you believe are important for assessing your past research achievements.

F: Planned research – Not more than six pages, including figures and tables (a page contains about 3,400 characters, including spaces). *The list of references is not included in the six pages of planned research.*

Descriptions of planned research should provide a clear statement of work and outline the overall plan, including activities to be undertaken and, where appropriate, a description of experimental methods and procedures.

The following elements are to be included:

- Objectives of the proposed work and expected significance
- A description, in generic terms, of the relation of the proposed work to the present state of knowledge in the field (state of the art) and what you consider your most original scientific key insight the project is based on.
- The relationship, in generic terms, of the proposed work to the work already in progress in your research group/department and elsewhere
- A statement, in layman's terms, of what your competitive edge is
- Expected results of the proposed work and a discussion of their general impact
- A description of how the proposed research could affect your profile as a researcher and lay the foundation for your future career
- The number of postdocs, PhDs and other staff members involved in the project and an explanation and justification of their number in terms of your leadership, teamwork capability and project activities. You are expected to form a research group consisting of at least two researchers in addition to the grant holder/PI (for example one PhD student and one postdoc)

G: Leadership – 1,500 characters, including spaces

Describe three (1-3) areas within your leadership capacity that you think are necessary to improve. Explain why and how you plan to develop them.

H: Institutional affiliation and recruitment – 1,500 characters, including spaces

Where will you carry out the project? Is the research environment at the host institution ideal for the proposed research and for recruiting and training PhD students and postdocs? How do you envisage attracting junior researchers to your research group?