

Application guidelines – Villum Ascending Investigator Programm

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

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

Please note that you must use a font no smaller than Times New 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 provided below will not be considered by the selection committee. Hyperlinks should not be included in the text.

A: Summary of application (B - H) – max. 2500 characters incl. spaces.

Use language understandable to a non-specialist. The summary will be used to identify potential peer reviewers, if the application proceeds to the second stage. Do include key-words and necessary technical terms.

B. Research vision and achievements/discoveries – max. 2 pages

State your research vision in a way that in lay terms briefly summarizes what it is you want to do and puts it into perspective relative to the state of the field. List your top 3-5 most important achievements/scientific discoveries from the last 10 years (excluding any career breaks) and explain their impact. References to relevant publications can be included under achievements. Personal contributions to multi-actor achievements or discoveries should be specified.

C: Planned research – max. 6 pages, including figures and tables. References should be included in item "I" below and is not included in the six pages of planned research.

Describe an ambitious research plan for the next 5 years and how it will build on your work thus far and current research. The following elements should also be addressed as part of the research description:

- *Where will you carry out the project?*
- *What kind of new insights and/or new tools or methods relative to the state-of-the-art may your research result in?*
- *How will your activities impact or redefine the field of research you're focusing on and contribute to international recognition of the Danish research environment at the global front?*
- *What is your competitive edge compared to other recognized research activities in the field, what is the strategic value, and how will this grant affect your profile as a researcher and help you advance in your future career?*
- *Address the number of postdocs, PhDs and other staff members the project will involve, explain their role in relation to planned activities. You are expected to consolidate your role as a capable group leader and everything that entails.*

D: Leadership and Research Environment – max. 2500 characters incl. spaces.

Describe your experience as a research leader and the current research environment in your group and at the host institution. Elaborate on your views on a good research environment and how you will support the next generation of researchers in your group and institution. Describe

three (1-3) areas within your leadership capacity that you think are necessary to improve. Briefly explain why and how you plan to evolve.

E: Mentoring – max. 1500 characters incl. spaces.

Provide the total number of postdocs and PhD and MSc students that have obtained their degrees under your supervision during the last 8 years. List the names and current affiliations of selected individuals and describe your contributions to the development of their careers.

F: Other important aspects – max. 1500 characters incl. spaces.

If relevant provide information on other aspects you believe are important in assessing your past achievements and future potential.

G: Collaborations and recruitment – max. 1500 characters incl. spaces.

Provide information on planned collaborations and how you plan to attract junior and senior researchers to your group. Is the host institution research environment ideal for the proposed research and for recruiting and training PhD students and postdocs?

H: Research Funding – max. 1500 characters incl. spaces

Describe how the present application differs from or complements any of your ongoing grants.

I: Reference list – Max. 1 page.

J: Budget Specifications

The budget must be submitted in the provided budget template.

Individual grant sizes can be DKK 18 million. International recruits, who have been employed outside of Denmark for 3 of the past 4 years, can apply for up to DKK 22 million.

The grant period is 5 years.

The projects are subject to the [joint agreement on research project supplements](#).

K: Files to upload

The application must contain the following documents (in pdf format as separate files):

- Application
- Letter of support from the host department
- CV in the provided template, followed by a publication list from the last 8 years, and a list of current research funding.
- Budget in the provided template
- (Optional) Request for exclusion of specific peer reviewers