The selection committee and reviewers’ terms of reference

The objective of the Villum Synergy Programme is to strengthen interdisciplinary research in Denmark by supporting collaborations between experts in computer science and domain experts from the natural and technical sciences, as well as the humanities and social sciences.

Initiation and full project proposals are evaluated by the foundation’s research committee on technical and natural sciences supplemented with additional members from computer science and humanities/social sciences. Additionally, peer review and interview are used in the evaluation of full project proposals.

Assessment criteria for the committee and for external reviewers

- To what extent does the proposed research present new and original ideas?
- Does the research have the potential for reaching significant scientific breakthroughs and making an impact?
- Is the proposal clearly a product of genuine collaborative work?
- Is it evident that the applicants have formed a workable grouping of disciplines and people?
- Is the track record of the applicants within their respective disciplines characterised by ground-breaking research and have their achievements typically gone beyond state of the art?
- Concluding remarks: Please add some concluding remarks summing up on the overall assessment. Please point out the three top qualities and the three weakest points of the application.
- Please rank (1 poor, 2 fair, 3 good, 4 very good and 5 excellent) the applicant and the research compared to the applicants and research proposals you have assessed the last five years.
Conflict of interest
In order to ensure that an assessment is not suspected of bias, a reviewer must not have a conflict of interest (such as close family relationships or friendships with any of the persons involved in the proposed research, joint projects or co-authorship within the past 5 years, etc.). Applicants will receive an anonymised copy of the reviews and will be asked to comment on them before the foundation makes its final decision.