



Villum Young Investigator Programme (2021)

Application guidelines

Applications should illustrate the commitment to building up a thriving research environment and creating an impact. Successful applications will indicate how a Villum Young Investigator grant will advance these activities.

Compose applications in Times New Roman; 12 point; 1.15-line spacing; and right, left, top and bottom margins of at least 2 cm.

Include the following items in the order they are listed.

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

You should not think of your application summary as a technical paper.

The summary should instead in layman's terms describe your research field, 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 such things as your leadership potential, level of scientific independence, support of colleagues and ability to work as part of a team.

C: Scientific achievements/discoveries – 3,000 characters, including spaces

List your most important scientific achievements/discoveries and explain how they have affected, or likely will affect, the research field(s). You may refer to your most important publications, as listed in section C. (See below.)

D: Important publications

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

E: 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.)

F: Lectures, conferences and research stays – 1,500 characters, including spaces

List up to five of the most important invited oral presentations, such as lectures at international meetings, that you have delivered, if any. List up to five of the most important conferences, if any, that you have been involved in organising and your role. List research stays abroad of longer than six months, if any.

G: Supervision – 1,500 characters, including spaces



Indicate the total number of PhD and MSc students that have obtained their doctoral or master's degrees under your supervision or co-supervision. Include the names and current affiliations of selected students and indicate whether you were the individual's main supervisor.

You may also list important teaching programmes or courses you have headed or significantly contributed to; if relevant, please indicate the approximate number of ECTS-credits of your contributions.

H: Scientific honours – 1,500 characters, including spaces

List any scientific prizes/honours you have received and provide a paragraph describing the significance of each one.

I: 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.

The recipient of a Villum Young Investigator grant is expected to spend at least 80% of his/her research time on the proposed project.

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

J: Planned research – Not more than six pages, including figures and tables (a page contains about 3,400 characters, including spaces)

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 for 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 impact¹
- 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)
- Bibliography (the list of papers or other works referred to in this section is not included in the six-page limit)

K: 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?

L: Collaborations – 1,500 characters including spaces.

List up to five of your most important current collaborators, emphasizing any that are relevant to the project for which you are applying for a grant.

¹ When the word "impact" is used it refers to the scientific (and societal) effects of academic achievements (e.g. new methods, new knowledge) and capacity building (e.g. development of talents, establishment of collaborations/partnerships).