



Villum Young Investigator Programme

The Selection Committee's terms of reference

The objective of the Villum Young Investigator Programme is to find the best, most inquisitive researchers within the technical and natural sciences and to give them the freedom to pursue new and original ideas which have the potential for significant scientific breakthroughs and impact.

Applicants to the Villum Young Investigator Programme are expected to be experienced postdoctoral researchers, assistant professors or associate professors of no more than two years' standing.

Applicant

Does the applicant have a documented record of original research accomplishments?

Has the applicant demonstrated leadership skills (in the form of corresponding authorships, PI on grants, conference organisations, head of committees or the like)?

Is the applicant likely to demonstrate sound management, mentorship and supervision in the training and advancement of young researchers?

Is the applicant sufficiently qualified to lead an initiative of this size?

Does the applicant have a national and international network (resulting from periods abroad, collaborative projects or the like)?

Does the proposed research have the potential to elevate the applicant to an international research leader within his/her field? Does the applicant have the potential to receive an ERC Consolidator Grant or similar following a Villum Young Investigator grant?

Research

To what extent does the proposed research present new and original ideas?

Does the research have the potential to lead to significant scientific breakthroughs and make an impact?

Research environment

Is the research environment at the host institution ideal for the proposed research and for recruiting and training Danish and foreign PhD students and postdocs?

Concluding remarks

Concluding remarks summing up on the overall assessment:

Indicate the three top qualities and the three weakest points of the application.

On a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (outstanding), rank the applicant and the research proposal compared with the other applicants and research proposals you have assessed in the past five years, considering the career stage of the applicant.

VILLUM FONDEN



Conflict of interest (short version)

To ensure that an assessment is not suspected of bias, members of the Committee are obliged to declare any possible conflict of interest, such as close family relationships or friendships with any of the individuals involved in the proposal, research, joint projects or co-authorship within the past five years, as well as any scientific rivalry or professional hostility they may have towards the principal investigator of the proposal or the like.

If a conflict of interest is established, the Committee member is not permitted to evaluate the given proposal, take part in any discussion about it or score it. He/she must leave the room or the electronic forum when the proposal is discussed.

The full memorandum describing the policy for handling applications and granted projects in the foundation is located [here](#).