



Call for applications - Exploratory pre-seed grants

Objectives

The exploratory pre-seed program is a stimulus fund established to accelerate commercialization of biomedical research findings and development of novel technologies within the life sciences. The goal of an exploratory pre-seed grant is to stimulate entrepreneurship and to explore the potential of research findings at a very early stage (pre-seed), and to prepare the project for a full pre-seed grant at a later stage.

Areas of support

Thus, the program seeks to support application-oriented research and to test new ideas that may lead to the development of new medical treatments, disease prevention, devices and diagnostic methods as well as new industrial biotechnology in the life science area.

Selection

The evaluation of the exploratory pre-seed grant applications is performed by an independent committee and includes:

- Significance and originality of the research aimed for commercialization
- Stage of research finding(s)/idea
- Clear description of the commercial idea
- Approach to next step in the commercialization process
- Patent situation and/or patent strategy
- Achievable milestones
- Applicant's qualifications
- The proposed approach and availability of the needed resources

Eligibility

The applicants can be faculty members, researchers and students based at universities, hospitals and other knowledge institutions in the Nordic countries. Projects from incubator and greenhouse development programs are also eligible.

Grant funding

Normally grants can support activities costing from DKK 100,000 to DKK 500,000 during a grant period of 4-12 months. Exceptionally additional DKK 200.000 may be allocated for specific commercialization related activities. Projects aspiring for the additional budget should present supplementary motivation. Exploratory pre-seed grants may cover expenses related to research activities, salary, equipment, and publications, as well as commercialization-related costs. Funding cannot be used for salary for the applicant. Funding is not available for conferences, travel expenses or indirect overhead expenses.

Application procedure

Application form and guidelines can be found on www.novonordiskfonden.dk from March 9, 2015. Proposals must be submitted electronically via the Foundation's web portal.

Application deadline

Full proposals must be submitted by 16:00, April 9, 2015.

Notification

Applicants will be notified of the Exploratory pre-seed committee's decision June 2015.

Read more about the Novo Nordisk Foundation: www.novonordiskfonden.dk