



Grants Day 2021

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(2018-2021)



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET



Myths about the evaluation process

- You have to be docent/professor to receive funding
- Established professors can get money easily
- You are more likely to receive funding if you've had a project before
- You have to be based at Uppsala, Lund, Stockholm or Gothenburg to receive funding
- Projects with only one researcher/with teams of researchers never get funding
- VR never supports X area/discipline/approach/method





Actual process

- Observer and 2 research officers
- Conflict of interests

The panel is *not allowed* to discuss or let the following matters alter their assessment:

- The title or profile of the applicant
- The discipline that the applicant works in
- Which university the applicant is based at
- The nationality/gender/ethnicity of the applicant
- Information about the candidate that is not included in the application





Common weaknesses

- Design of the project does not adequately support the research aim
- Applications that are premature/ don't yet have a strong set of research questions or ambitions
- Novelty and originality – the danger of the trend
- Proposing research that one already has done – the book-proposal application
- Writing only to an expert reader
- Inadequately motivated selection of materials





Before you start writing your application

- Do I have an idea that has the potential to generate novel, original and excellent research results?
- Read the instructions to applicants and all information from the funding body on how applications are assessed (for VR, see <https://www.vr.se/english/applying-for-funding/how-applications-are-assessed.html>)
- Check your idea against each of the criteria and use these to shape your research design





Writing the application

- Know your panel
 - Motivate every aspect of your design so that it upholds your research aims
 - Only include relevant information
 - Keep in mind that assessors will be reading your application alongside *many* others
 - Be sure to edit your application carefully before sending
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- *Språkverkstaden*
 - Unit for Professional English (Academic Writing)

