



Guidelines for the *Danish Chiropractic Research Stipend*

Objective

To fund research by foreign chiropractors when conducted in collaboration with senior Danish researchers with a chiropractic background.

Background

Since 1991, the Foundation for Chiropractic Research and Post Graduate Education (*Kiropraktorfondens*) has funded research performed by Danish chiropractors. This has taken place through funding by the Nordic Institute of Chiropractic and Clinical Biomechanics (NIKKB), and through the funding of scientific positions, PhD projects and individual initiatives for research development and quality development. This has led to a situation where chiropractors in Denmark have achieved a leading academic position in international chiropractic, which has strongly contributed to ensuring that chiropractors in Denmark are highly integrated into the Danish healthcare system. However, this success has also made it more difficult to recruit a sufficient number of researchers to conduct the by now comprehensive research projects, and the gap between chiropractic medicine in Denmark and other countries has widened in terms of both the level of knowledge and integration.

To increase the critical mass of chiropractors with international research insight and to strengthen the bonds between Danish and foreign research environments, including to support foreign researchers' contribution to building up and further developing a knowledge environment in Denmark, the Foundation for Chiropractic Research and Post Graduate Education has decided to set up an international research stipend.

The Danish model for research funding and interdisciplinary chiropractic collaboration is considered well suited for boosting the level of knowledge and the integration of chiropractors internationally. By introducing this stipend, we in Denmark thus wish to receive assistance in conducting ongoing research tasks. This will increase the access of Danish researchers to knowledge, networking and inspiration, while at the same time providing an opportunity for the unique chiropractic conditions in Denmark (in terms of research, education and organisation) to be disseminated to a greater extent for the benefit of foreign chiropractic environments.

Who may apply?

Chiropractors residing outside Denmark and who wish to conduct research as a PhD student or at a post-doctorate level. In special instances, this may also include professional groups whose projects meet the objectives of the Foundation for Chiropractic Research and Post Graduate Education.

Which requirements should be fulfilled by the project?

The research project should be conducted together with one or more senior Danish researchers and the foreign researcher in question must be affiliated with NIKKB and possibly another relevant Danish research institution.

For PhD projects, at least one Danish researcher must be included as a study supervisor in the project. The application must include a project description and a budget, which must be approved by the board of the Foundation for Chiropractic Research and Post Graduate Education. Before the disbursement of a possible grant, the applicant must provide documentation of enrolment as a PhD student at a university in Denmark or abroad.

For post-doctorate projects, at least one Danish researcher must be included as a partner in the project. The application must include a project description and a budget, which must be approved by the board of the Foundation for Chiropractic Research and Post Graduate Education. Furthermore, there must be a written

declaration stating that the researcher in question is affiliated with an academic institution in Denmark or the home country of the researcher in question.

It applies to both PhD and post-doctorate projects that the projects must comply with the current research strategies of the relevant Danish research institution at the time in question.

The maximum project duration is five years.

The Danish partner

The Danish researcher must be employed at a Danish research institution. He/she must be a senior researcher with documented experience as a study supervisor.

How much funding may applicants apply for?

The grant framework is DKK 2 million per year and the maximum funding that may be applied for is equivalent to DKK 1 million per project. The grants are given to either one large project or to a number of small projects. The stipend must primarily cover wage expenses, but may also to a limited extent cover devices, project costs and instruction and course fees. The stipend may be combined with other sources of funding, and each project must have an element of funding from the home country of the researcher in question.

When is it possible to apply?

There are two application deadlines each year. The stipends are announced in June and October with respective application deadlines of 15 January and 15 August. Replies are issued in April and November, so that it is possible to organise enrolment at the university in question with studies to begin in the next semester.

The stipends are announced in Denmark via *Kiropraktoren*, a newsletter for members of the Danish Chiropractors' Association, and internationally via the European Chiropractors Union (ECU), the World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) and other relevant research venues.

Who assesses the projects?

The projects are assessed and prioritised by a committee made up of representatives from the following institutions:

- 2 members, appointed by the Foundation for Chiropractic Research and Post Graduate Education, including a designated chairman,
- 1 member appointed by the University of Southern Denmark,
- 1 member appointed by NIKKB,
- 1 member appointed by the Back Research Centre (RFC).

The members appointed by SDU, NIKKB and RFC must have substantial research expertise and general insight. If the incoming applications exceed the fixed economic framework, the selection committee will prioritise the submitted projects. The recommendations of the selection committee will be presented to the board of the Foundation for Chiropractic Research and Post Graduate Education, which will subsequently make the final grant decision. Secretariat services are provided to the selection committee by the joint secretariat of the Foundation for Chiropractic Research and Post Graduate Education.

Contacts

Professor Jan Hartvigsen, SDU, Professor Charlotte Leboeuf Yde, SDU, and Henrik Wulff Christensen, Director of NIKKB, may be contacted for further details.

Contact info:

Jan Hartvigsen: [jhartvigsen@health.sdu.dk](mailto:hartvigsen@health.sdu.dk)

Henrik Wulff Christensen: h.wulff@nikkb.dk

Charlotte Leboeuf Yde: clyde@health.sdu.dk