

Overview	2
MAJOR CHEMISTRY FUNDING BODIES IN DENMARK	3
Danish Research Agency – Danish Natural Science Research Council	3
Danish National Research Foundation, DNRF	5
Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation	6
The Carlsberg Foundation.....	7

CHEMISTRY RESEARCH FUNDING SCENE IN DENMARK

OVERVIEW

In Denmark public research funds are allocated in a two-string approach. One string consists of the fixed core funding to universities and governmental research institutions. The core funding finances the on-going research and teaching activities.

The other string – the so-called ”competition string” – consists of external funds from research councils, various funds and specific programmes. These funds are allocated upon application for a fixed period of time.

The competition string forms the basis of an independent system which can support research of the highest quality, and is therefore important for the quality and continued innovative activities in the Danish knowledge system.

The aims of the overall funding policy are to:

1. promote and co-ordinate research and strengthen the quality of research, and
2. promote the relevance of research to society and exploit research results.

The research councils’ funds can be divided into the following main activities:

- The ordinary funds and strategic funds of the individual councils
- The individual council’s programme funds
- Inter-council strategy funds
- Inter-council programme funds

The distribution of the research councils’ ordinary funds meet in particular the first aim, where assessment of applications and the scientific quality of applicants are based on traditional academic criteria. In terms of activities and programmes, it is necessary to consider other criteria, also political, and to set up programmes in completely new areas a much broader assessment is often required.

The current Danish research advisory structure consists of a variety of councils and funds with varying tasks – some have a funding function, some an advisory function and some have both:

- The Danish Council for Research Policy
- The Board of Danish Research Councils
- Six research councils
- Research Training Council
- A range of public research committees set up by ministries with substantial research activities
- The Danish National Research Foundation

MAJOR CHEMISTRY FUNDING BODIES IN DENMARK

Danish Research Agency – Danish Natural Science Research Council

Artillerivej 88

2300 Copenhagen S

Denmark

Contact: Mrs Mette HOLM, Head of Section

Phone: +45 3544 6222

Fax: +45 3544 6201

Email: mho@forsk.dk

www.forsk.dk

The Danish Research Agency is an independent institution under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. The research councils and the structure of the Research Agency were recently reorganised as a new act regulating this area came into force in January 2004.

The main responsibility of the Danish Research Agency is to perform secretariat functions for a number of central authorities in the Danish research community. The Research Agency now houses the secretariats for the Danish Council for Strategic Research, the Danish Councils for Independent Research and the Danish Research Coordination Committee.

In Denmark, public research funds are allocated according to a two-stringed approach 1) a fixed core funding of ongoing research and teaching activities to universities and government research institutions and 2) external funding. The Research Councils are prime distributors of grants through the external string. The Research Councils' budgets are defined each year in the national budget. Furthermore, the agency acts as the secretariat for the Committees on Scientific Dishonesty. At the moment there are three such committees.

The total public investment in research at universities, governmental research institutions and through the Research Councils, amounts to DKK 9.45 billion in 2004. The Danish Council for Strategic Research's and the Danish Councils for Independent Research's shares of the total budget amount to 12.9 per cent. (EUR 1 = approximately DKK 7.5)

During 2004 approximately 19 million DKK (2.5 million euros) was allocated to projects within chemistry. The total funding from Danish Natural Science Research Council (SNF) was in 2004 approximately 350 million DKK (47 million euros).

Main characteristics of funding policy and procedures

SNF funds only basic research and the drive for projects is purely bottom-up. The majority of the funds from SNF are granted as individual research grants. Around 10% of the funds in 2004 were given to the SNF Centres.

Proposals for the SNF Centres have to be submitted in English as they will be reviewed on an international level. All other proposals can be submitted in either Danish or English language. Approximately 30% of the applications are in Danish and 70% in English.

Project proposals are evaluated by members of the Council whereas for the SNF Centres or in case of biased council members international referees/panel members are used. The names of the Council members are public.

Most SNF funding instruments have a deadline for submission of proposals, either the 1st of April and/or the 1st of September. Electronic submission of proposals is not yet available.

The average processing time between submission and decision of a proposal is about 3 months.

Eligible costs depend on the funding instrument as follows:

- *Frame work grants:* Research expenses, smaller equipment (< 13.000 Euro), logistical, no salaries
- *Equipment:* Larger equipment (13.000-200.000 Euro) no salaries
- *Logistics:* ship time, helicopter and airplane rent, satellite time and some operational expenses.
- *SNF centre:* Salaries to PhD students, post docs research expenses and equipment.
- *Rømer:* Young outstanding scientists (professor level). Own salary for 4 years, research expenses, smaller equipment, PhD and post doc. salary.
- *Skou:* Young talented scientists (associate professor level) Own salary for 3 years, research expenses, smaller equipment.
- *Steno:* Young Scientists (assistant professor level) Own salary for 1-3 years, research expenses, smaller equipment.
- *Post doc. grant:* Part of the salary for 1-2 yr, travel expenses, residence abroad, assurances.
- *Foreign post docs to DK:* Salary or part of salary for 1-24 months.

The success rate of project proposals vary between the funding instruments. On average, approximately 43% of the proposals are funded (by number) and 23% when calculated by value.

The outcome of a project is assessed in the following way:

All researchers funded by SNF must fill out a general reporting form and a financial report 3 months subsequent to the funding period. Every year during the project, a financial report has to be submitted until 1st of April. This is the basis legal requirement for project reporting. Besides these requirements, there are additional requirements for larger projects. The general report form includes financial funding details, a description of the main results and scientific discoveries, planned and finished publications and derivative research ideas. For larger projects, e.g. the SNF Centres, a midterm report should include the status and perspectives of the ongoing research activities, results achieved in comparison to the scientific goals described in the application, publications, citations, patents etc. and educational status (number of master students, PhD students and post docs) connected to the project.

The Danish Natural Science Research Council is a member of the European Science Foundation and is actively engaged in the EURYI and EUROCORES scheme. SNF is also a member of a range of international equipment centres, e.g. CERN, NOT, ESO, NORDGRID, Nordic Datagrid Facility, IODP, MaxLab, etc. SNF is interested in future initiatives for international cooperation and transnational research funding programs.

Danish National Research Foundation, DNRF

Holbergsgade 14, 1

1057 Copenhagen

Denmark

Contact: Mr. Ole FEJERSKOV, Director

Phone: +45 33181950

Email: of@dg.dk

<http://www.dg.dk>

The Danish National Research Foundation is committed to funding unique research within the basic sciences, life sciences, technical sciences, social sciences and the humanities. The aim is to identify and support groups of scientists who based on international evaluation are able to create innovative and creative research environments of the highest international quality.

The Danish National Research Foundation receives its original capital from the State, and the trustees are appointed by the Minister of Information Technology and Research. The Foundation establishes its own framework for selection procedures and other work and makes its own decisions. The DNRF carries out its responsibilities as part of and in co-operation with the rest of the Danish research system. The Foundation works on an understanding of the total research system, and on the purpose served by the Danish research system within the Danish society. The Act that governs the Foundation stipulates that basic research is the primary area for its work. As in nearly all other European and North American countries, Denmark has a two-tier system for resource allocation to research. One tier of this system is the basic grants allocated by the different ministries according to the Danish State Budget to the institutions. The other tier comprises allocation from research councils, The Danish National Research Foundation, specific research programs, research and development funds in individual ministries.

The funds distributable by the Foundation correspond to 2% of the overall annual Danish public research budget.

DNRF does not have a “funding budget” assigned to chemistry. As of the end of 2003, 4 centers of excellence with annual budgets of 4 – 8 million DKK were funded. Furthermore a number of centers (approximately 4) with chemistry as part of their research activity (e.g. biochemistry, geochemistry etc.) were funded, with similar annual budgets. Consequently the funding for chemistry exclusively were 23 million DKK -/+ a limited amount in relation to the centers with chemistry included in their research.

Main characteristics of funding policy and procedures

The Danish National Research Foundation funds basic research within different disciplines and follows a bottom-up approach. The involvement of an industrial partner is not mandatory. The DNRF funds centers of excellence, typically located at universities or other research institutions. The Foundation does not support individual projects.

Substantial, adjustable grants for up to 5 years allow centres of excellence to be created and depending on the outcome of regular international evaluation, support can be given for a total of 10 years. Presently 30 such centres are supported in addition to other minor activities. The activities of the Foundation will be carried out, primarily, with grants to an independent group of scientists to

form a centre of excellence with a director of research. The centres are located at an existing research Institution, at universities or other public research Institutions and comprise a number of senior scientists and professors, post docs with temporary employment contracts, Ph.D. students and a number of international guests. Major investments in equipment are also a possibility.

Grants from the Foundation will be overall grants for an approved research activity and will therefore be based on a principle of total funding, which means that the grants cover salaries as well as equipment and operating costs. The Foundation encourages the research groups to apply for grants from other sources for the purpose of expanding the activities, in particular when participating in and establishing international co-operation.

DNRF calls for proposals are typically two-fold. In a pre-qualification round letters of interest are mostly written in English. The Board of the Foundation carries out a first selection or 'pre-qualification'. All final applications are written in English. Project evaluation is always carried out with international referees and panel members. According to Danish legislation the names of the panel members should be known to the applicant, and the applicant should have the chance to comment on the assessments. Applications have to be submitted to a specific deadline, no electronic submission is available. The time between first submission (letter of interest) and final decision is approximately 9 months.

Funding from the DNRF covers salaries (for scientific, technical and administrative staff), PhD students, equipment, travel costs, conferences and an overhead of 20% to the host institutions. In general the DNRF refuses to pay rent or large building costs.

The success rate of proposals submitted is rather low (not only within chemistry, but within all fields or research). Judging from earlier calls for proposal there is an average success rate of 5% of all proposals submitted. However, since the DNRF provides substantial grants for up to 5 years (with a maximum of 10 years) the annual funding is relatively large. The DNRF has an annual average funding of research centers of 250 million DKK.

All centers and initiatives funded by the DNRF are monitored and meetings are held at least once a year. External evaluation takes place after 3½-4 years of funding. These evaluations are carried out as peer reviews, including site-visits.

DNRF has no experience with transnational research funding but if transnational research programs reflect true centre of excellence formation the DNRF is open for negotiations.

Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation

Bredgade 43
DK-1260 Copenhagen K
Phone: +45 3392 9700
Fax +45 3332 3501
vtu@vtu.dk

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation was created in November 2001 in extension of the former Ministry of Information Technology and Research to comprise the universities (research and education), industrial research and Denmark's policy on technology and innovation.

The object of the Ministry is to promote the interaction of trade and industry, centres of research and education and to strengthen coordination in pursuance of industry and research policy.

A number of institutions and commissions are associated with the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, including the universities, Danish Research Agency, Risø National Laboratory, the National IT and Telecom Agency, the Secretariat of the Danish Rectors' Conference, the authorised technological service institutes (GTS institutes), Advanced Technology Group (the Industry Association for the GTS institutes) and the Innovation Group

In addition the Ministry provides the secretariat supporting the Danish Council for Research Policy, the Telecommunications Consumer Board and the Telecommunications Complaint Board.

The Carlsberg Foundation

H.C.Andersens Boulevard 35

1553 Copenhagen

Phone: +33 43 53 64

Email: carlsbergfondet@carlsbergfondet.dk

www.carlsbergfondet.dk

The Foundation is headed by a board of five trustees, chosen by and among the members of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters.

The goals of the Carlsberg Foundation:

- To make subsidies available to and head the management of the Carlsberg Laboratory.
- To act for the promotion and support of the natural sciences, as well as mathematics, philosophy, the humanities and social sciences.
- To maintain and develop the Museum of National History at Frederiksborg castle.