

Announcement of KI-SÖS Junior Faculty start-up collaboration grant, 2026

The Junior Faculty at the Department of Clinical Science and Education, Södersjukhuset, Karolinska Institutet (KI-SÖS) strives to support junior researchers and encourage interdisciplinary collaborations. Therefore, the Junior Faculty at KI-SÖS is announcing a Start-up grant.

Purpose

The purpose of the grant is to support junior researchers at KI-SÖS to establish an independent, interdisciplinary collaboration with a co-applicant researcher from outside the own research group, with a focus on innovation and excellence. The funding can, for example, be used to start a new project, to generate preliminary data for a grant application, to develop a new method, or to test the feasibility of clinical material for future studies.

Eligibility

The main applicant should be a junior researcher at KI-SÖS with a PhD-degree obtained less than seven years before the grant deadline (deduction can be made for parental leave, sickness leave and conscription). The main applicant must be employed at or affiliated with KI-SÖS. The co-applicant must be from another research group at KI, or outside of KI.

Sum and use of funding

Two grants of 100,000 SEK each are available and the grant period is July 1st 2026 to June 30th 2027. The funding can be used for any KI-approved costs, i.e. material, analyses, salary, traveling, including indirect costs (INDI).

Assessment and review panel

The proposed projects will be assessed on scientific quality, novelty, feasibility, interdisciplinarity, and the team's complementary expertise. The review panel will consist of internal and external researchers. The assessment criteria are (scores in brackets):

1. Scientific quality, novelty, and interdisciplinarity of the proposed research (0-3)
2. Qualifications of the applicants, and synergy between main and co-applicant (0-3)
3. Suitability and feasibility as a start-up collaboration project (0-3)
4. Quality and readability of the application layout (0-1)

Application

E-mail your application as one PDF file to junior-faculty-kisos@ki.se by **April 1st 2026**. The application should include the following headlines (maximum number of pages in brackets) with references placed separately.

1. **Research plan:** Research plan including background, aims, methods and project outline (1.5 pages)
2. **Synergistic roles of applicants:** description of the co-applicant and the synergistic roles of main applicant and co-applicant (0.5 pages)

3. **Promotion of interdisciplinary research:** description of how the project will promote interdisciplinary research (0.5 pages)
4. **Declaration of independence:** description of how the proposed project is distinguished from ongoing research within the research group of the main applicant (0.5 pages)
5. **Budget:** description of how the funding will be used, total budget of the project and if funding has been received from other funding agencies (0.5 pages)
6. **References:** combined reference list for headlines 1-5
7. **CV main applicant** and **CV co-applicant:** short CVs of both applicants (2 pages including up to 5 selected publications for each applicant). The following information should be included in the CVs: date of public PhD defense and time deducted from active research, relevant previous and present employments, current research activity and total number of peer-reviewed publications with H-index (Web of Science).

Decision and reporting

The final decision will be announced in June 2026. The recipients (main applicants) are expected to submit a report to the KI-SÖS Junior Faculty by the end of the grant period. The recipients should be willing to present their funded project at a seminar arranged by the KI-SÖS Junior Faculty. In case of publications supported by the grant, the **KI-SÖS Junior Faculty start-up collaboration grant** should be acknowledged. Funding unused by 2027-06-30 should be returned.

Contact

For questions about the call and the grant, e-mail to junior-faculty-kisos@ki.se
KI-SÖS Junior Faculty Start-up collaboration grant