ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESEARCH FUNDING FOR 2019

Felles forskningsutvalg (the Joint Research Committee) between St. Olavs Hospital and the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, NTNU

Deadline for submission of grant applications: 13 June 16:00

Felles forskningsutvalg (FFU), the joint research committee between St. Olavs Hospital and the Faculty of Medicine, NTNU manages research funding from the Central Norway Regional Health Authority.

The following call for proposals is announced:
- Two-year research projects of up to NOK 1 million
- Clinical academic research groups: up to 1,5 mill. NOK/year up to 2 years, extension may be considered

FFU’s main objective is to strengthen research activity and research collaboration between the two institutions. FFU wants to encourage research of high quality in all subject areas, to contribute to research-based patient care and education at the integrated university hospital. The aim is to increase activity and to improve the quality of research, to contribute to the development of research groups, and to foster a research culture.

The projects must be strategically relevant to the health sector. Relevant strategies are research and innovation strategies for the Central Norway Regional Health Authority, St. Olavs Hospital and Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. In line with these strategies, as well as policies from the Ministry of Health and Care Services, projects in global health may also apply for funds.

Who can apply?
Applications for research funding and positions can only be submitted by people employed at:
- St. Olavs Hospital - in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences*, NTNU
- Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences*, NTNU - in collaboration with St. Olavs Hospital

* Applies to employees at the Medicine and Health Sciences, NTNU in Trondheim. Employees at NTNU Ålesund and NTNU Gjøvik are not eligible for applying.

About the application categories:
Two-year research project: Applications can be submitted for a maximum of NOK 1 million for use up to two years. There is no upper or lower limit for the annual amount, but the total amount for the whole period must not exceed NOK 1 million. Expenses for the procurement of services from regional and national research infrastructures may be included in the budget.

It is possible to apply for funding for, among other things:
- Technical/administrative research personnel (scientific positions not permitted)
- Use of research infrastructure
- Completion of PhD projects for which the candidate does not have funding as an employed PhD candidate
- Research-based innovation projects
- Replacement in clinical positions
Clinical academic research groups (CARG): Establishment of a clinical academic research group is based on a clinical problem that can be solved through interdisciplinary cooperation and translational research. A CARG will strengthen the value chain of research from basic research to clinical implementation and practice through close collaboration between health trusts and academic groups. Expected results may be to enhance relevance of research, strengthen the academic competence in the clinic and ensure social wealth creation.

A CARG will provide better treatment through relevant high-quality research and contribute to the rapid implementation of the results. If the establishment of the group is based on existing research collaboration, it is necessary to account for added value when establishing a CARG. A CARG must have a clear organization with emphasis on management structure and research management. Visibility of competence development, relevance, quality and innovation should be emphasized together with a realistic plan for implementation and development of the CARG, including plans for applications for external funds and continuation after the grant period.

Up to 1.5 million NOK/year can be applied for two years, with the possibility of renewal for two new years after evaluation. The application shall describe how the grant will be used to establish and operate the cooperation required to meet the group’s long-term objectives.

For a full description of what should be included in the application for Clinical Academic Research Group, see “Template for project description”.

Formal requirements for the application:

- **Documented collaboration between St. Olavs Hospital and the Faculty of Medicine.** The research collaboration must be described in the project description. All partners must confirm their participation using the eSøknad electronic submission service. *Projects that do not involve confirmed collaboration between the institutions will not be considered.*

- **Management commitment.** The application must be approved at management level, through the head of the clinic (St. Olavs Hospital) and the head of department at Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, NTNU. Documentation of management commitment is provided through a comment to the application in eSøknad from the head of clinic, while head of department (MH) approves the application using a separate management commitment form. The form must be attached to the application. Applications involving more than one clinic/department, may be approved by management at a higher level. *Applications that do not have confirmation of management commitment within the deadlines will not be considered.*

- **User involvement.** By users, we mean the patients and their dependents. The application must describe who the users of the research project results will be, and must explain the extent of user involvement in the planning and implementation of the project. If user participation is not regarded as relevant to the project in question, reasons for this must be provided. Note that this is only applicable for 2-year research projects – applications for CARGs requires user involvement.

- **Benefits.** The project applications must describe the expected benefits for the patient and the service, and how new knowledge can be applied in the service. Assessment of benefits is on an equal footing with assessment of quality.

All applicants are requested to study the following additional documents carefully:

1. Current regulations for regional research funding from Helse Midt-Norge RHF (pdf).
2. Template for project description 2-year research project (pdf)
3. Template for project description Clinical Academic Research Group (pdf)

*Applications that do not meet the formal requirements will be rejected.*
Submission of applications and allocation of funds:
The application must be submitted via the health authorities’ electronic application system eSøknad by 13 June at 16:00. Select “Helse Midt-Norge” and “Felles Forskningsutvalg” on the front page. Instructions for completing the application are available in the application system.

eSøknad will open by 30 April. Deadline is 13 June 2018 at 4 p.m. Submission of applications is not possible after the deadline.

Samarbeidsorganet in Helse Midt-Norge RHF will decide on the allocation of funding on behalf of Felles Forskningsutvalg, at its meeting on 8 November 2018. The allocation will be published on the Felles forskningsutvalg website immediately after the meeting.

Questions about the call for proposals can be addressed to:

- The secretariat of Felles Forskningsutvalg
- Head of Research, Siv Mørkved, St. Olavs Hospital (chair of FFU): siv.morkved@stolav.no; phone: 971 46 490
- Vice Dean for Research, Pål Richard Romundstad, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, NTNU: pal.romundstad@ntnu.no

Note: In case of a conflict, the Norwegian call for proposals is the legally binding version.