Guidelines for research grant applications in 2026

Deadline: February 28, 2026!

1. Background

Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden has, according to it's statutes, the primary purpose to support clinical cancer research:

- that is patient-oriented
- which can provide better diagnostics
- which can provide more effective treatments or
- can give patients a more decent life during and after a cancer treatment

at Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Sahlgrenska Academy, as well as other hospitals and other health care facilities in Western Sweden. Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden can also allocate funds for the purchase of equipment for research or cancer treatment at the said facilities.

According to the Fund's statutes, the funds raised during one fiscal year, will be awarded to cancer research projects no later than during the next financial year.

Since the start in 2010, the Fund has allocated totaling SEK 22,422,400 to 115 research projects. Details of the projects that have received funding are available on our website www.lionscancerfond.se/forskning.

During the financial year July 1st 2024 to June 30th 2025, the Fund has raised the total sum of SEK 1,220,494. From these funds, and not yet allocated funds, the Board has decided to allocate a minimum of SEK 1,200,000 for research grants in this call.

The Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden now invites researchers at medical facilities in Western Sweden to apply for grants.

2. Eligible applicants

Everyone who is associated with a medical care or medical research institution in West Sweden and who has initiated his/her doctoral studies, or already has a PhD, can apply for grants from the Fund. An application shall be accompanied by a certificate (on a special form) signed by the responsible department manager or head of department and the applicant.

3. Applications in 2026

All applications which coincide with the Fund's statutes as stated above are welcome. We specially encourage applications from researchers at health care units outside the University of Gothenburg and the University Hospital.

4. Assessment

Submitted project applications are assessed by a Research Council connected to the Fund. The council consists of 6 members, 3 of which represent Lions clubs in Western Sweden. Information about the members of the Research Council members is available on our website www.lionscancerfond.se/forskning/forskningsradet.

The applications received are reviewed by the members of the Research Council, who make an assessment of the relevance of the proposed research project. The scientific quality is assessed with respect to:

1. Aim (purpose, theory and uniqueness)

2. Methodology and implementation process (the scientific method, but also the project plan, time plan and budget)

3. The applicant's competence (the applicant's, co-applicant's and the supervisor's documented experience and scientific skills). In cases where it is regarded necessary, the Research Council will seek advice from external experts.

4. In cases where the partial financing of a project is requested/granted, a condition for the disbursement of funds is that the remaining financing of the project has been secured or that the scope of the project has been adapted to the available resources.

A selection between applicants and projects takes place along the above criteria and with respect to the research focus in relation to the goals of the Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden. As mentioned above, we want to prioritize clinical research within the cancer area, such as patient-related research, and patient involvement or involvement from family and/or healthcare professionals. The projects can be carried through at all levels of the health care chain.

A short and clear summary of the problem (the purpose, analysis, theory and uniqueness), current state of the research field with references, method and

implementation, expected outcomes, budget and a realistic time plan are essential for the assessment of the application.

Grants for study visits or presentations at scientific conferences can be awarded to persons who conduct research in the cancer field. Itinerary and expense specification shall be attached to the application.

Decisions on which projects that will receive grants, are taken during the month of April by the Board of the Fund based on recommendations from the Research Council. All applicants will be informed immediately after the Board's decision. The Fund reserves the right not to justify an unsuccessful application. Decisions taken by the Fund cannot be appealed.

The applicants that have been selected by the Board will tentatively receive their grants at a ceremony in mid-May. The time and venue will be announced to the applicants in connection with information about the Board's decision.

5. Applications

Applications must be submitted on fillable and traceable PDF forms that can be downloaded from the Fund's website
http://lionscancerfond.se/forskningsanslag
or can be ordered by e-mail to
forskningsanslag@lionscancerfond.se.

The completed application should be saved with the applicant's name in the document title. The applicant's CV and list of scientific publications shall be submitted in separate (PDF) documents.

Applications should be sent as an attachment to an e-mail to
forskningsanslag@lionscancerfond.se.

Applications with attachments can also be sent by ordinary mail to the Fund at the address:
Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden
c/o Dr. Lars-Göran Larsson
Lunnagatan 11
443 50 Lerum

NOTE: Even if the application is sent as an attachment to an e-mail, the form *"Intyg av klinikchef/prefekt och underskrift av sökande/Certificate of the head of clinic/department head and signature by the applicant"* must be sent on paper to the above address with the signatures of BOTH the head of clinic/department AND the applicant.

The deadline for applications in this call is February 28, 2026 (for applications and the certificate sent by ordinary mail, the postmark date is valid).

6. Funding allocations

will on the applicant's behalf be submitted to the department or institution, which will be responsible for administrating the funds and disbursement of funds against invoices, travel expenses or other supporting documents. Payment of our grant is made when the applicant has informed the Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden that the project is fully funded.

With its application, the applicant approves that information about the authorized appropriations or the results obtained may be published on the Fund's website or otherwise used in connection with the marketing of the Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden. It should be stated in the application if reasons for limited publicity are present,

If the time plan stated in the application cannot be kept, the Fund must immediately be informed thereof. A change of the time plan must be approved by the Fund's Board.

As long as the main focus of the research project is maintained, the principal researcher can decide on a reallocation of the funds. If, however, the researcher or research team wants to use the funds in a way which means that the main research focus is changed, a notification must be made to the Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden. Only after a positive response from the Board, such a deviation from the main purpose of the grant may be executed.

7. Statement of accounts

For all research projects that have received funding, a progress report must be sent to
forskningsanslag@lionscancerfond.se
not later than June 30 each year.

When the project awarded funding from Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden is completed, the results of the research/trip must be reported on at least one A4 page The report must be accompanied by a financial report on how the allocated funds have been used. If granted funds are used in violation of these guidelines, or if the grant is not used within the prescribed time or if the accounting of the grant is not done at the right time, the Fund board may decide to recover paid grants.

The report should, where possible, be accompanied by copies of scientific publications, where results from research funded by the Fund have been published. In cases where the publications based on the results of scientific work funded by the Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden are published after the grant has been finally reported, copies of these publications also should be sent to the Fund.

In connection with the publication of research results, which fully or partially have been funded by grants from the Fund, it should be acknowledged that the research has been funded by the Lions Cancer Fund of Western Sweden.

Research equipment that has been purchased for funds awarded by Lions Cancer Research Fund of Western Sweden, will be donated to the respective department or institution and shall be marked with a special label provided by the Fund.

Any questions regarding the applications or these guidelines can be put to representatives of the research council via e-mail (in Swedish or English) to: forskningsanslag@lionscancerfond.se