Lund University’s internal management rules for applications to Vinnova’s call on Competence Centre 2020. The call opens in April 2018. Application deadline is in January 2019.

Project applications to Vinnova’s call on Competence Centre will be prioritised and approved by the Vice-Chancellor of Lund University. The present management rules contain guidelines for the internal prioritisation process for Competence Centre proposals with a principal investigator from LU.

The purpose of the Competence Centre programme is to create new internationally-competitive centres conducting needs-driven top-quality research. This should be achieved through an active collaboration between academics and commercial/public sectors with the long-term aim to increase investment in R&D, strengthen research in Sweden and, thus, strengthen competitiveness and encourage companies to develop their operations in Sweden.

Guidelines
The prioritization process is divided in 3 phases. During phase 1, researchers/staff at LU willing to apply for Vinnova’s call on Competence Centre 2020 are invited to send a Letter of Intent (Appendix 1). An Evaluation Committee (EC) assesses the submitted LOIs and makes a priority list according to the criteria defined below. The first 8-10 proposals are eligible for Phase 2.

Assessment criteria
The Letter of Intent should be written in English according to the guidelines reported in Appendix 1. The LOI are sent to johanna.generosi@fsi.lu.se on 23 March at 13:00 the latest.

In Phase 1, LOIs will be evaluated according the following assessment criteria:

- Main applicant’s CV
  - Experience within the proposed competence centre (publications, patents, etc.)
  - Existing collaboration networks that can be used in the centre’s operations

- Proposal potential
  - scientific excellence
  - utilization
  - links with existing research and innovation environments at LU

- Feasibility

- Expected results and impact goals
  - Medium-term (5-10 years) and long-term (>10 years) research strategy and innovation
Timeline for selection process

Phase 1

3 Mar  
Internal Management rules are sent to researchers across LU

23 Mar  
Deadline LOIs

28 Mar  
LOIs are collected by the contact person

EC assesses LOIs, makes a priority list and selects the top 8-10 proposals

Phase 2

28 Mar  
Eligibles to Phase 2 send the Extended LOI to the contact person

25 Apr  
Vinnova information meeting in Lund

15 May  
Deadline Ext. LOIs

25 May  
EC reads Ext. LOIs

EC evaluates Ext. LOIs and selects the top 5 proposals

Phase 3

25 May  
Applicants are informed about EC's decision

Summer - Fall  
Dialogue with Vinnova

Sept  
Follow-up meeting with applicants

Jan 2019  
Vinnova deadline for application

Important dates for Phase 1:

Deadline for sending LOIs: 23 March 2018, 13:00 h.
Review of LOIs and definition of a priority list: 28 March 2018
Decision regarding applicants who will go to Phase 2: 28 March 2018

For any questions please contact Johanna Generosi, johanna.generosi@fsi.lu.se
Appendix 1

Phase 1 - Letter of Intent template for Vinnova’s call on Competence Centre 2020

In a Competence Centre, universities, research institutes, companies and public actors collaborate closely with world-class research in areas that are important for Sweden's competitiveness. The Centre's interaction between different parties will lead to new knowledge. The knowledge should be able to be used in industry or society to provide new products, processes or models. A centre will also provide new networks to enable companies to access expertise that meets their needs. The competence centres build up lasting structures and networks that attract continued interest, both nationally and internationally.

Vinnova supports ~33% of the total budget and up to 7 million SEK\(^1\). The remaining percentage is co-financed by LU and external partners with the same share. The university should therefore account for ~33% of the total budget.

Vinnova’s call for Competence Centres will open in April 2018. LoIs in Stage 1 should be in agreement with the guidelines specified in the previous call (Competence Centre 2017). Please note that Vinnova’s call on Competence Centre 2020 is not a 2-stage application process - as in 2017.

This document should be filled in all its parts in English. Only applicants using this template will be assessed and have the opportunity to pass to Stage 2 of the prioritisation process. The Appendix 1 and the CV annex should be sent to Johanna Generosi, johanna.generosi@fsi.lu.se on 23 March 2018, at 13:00 the latest.

Important points to take into account when writing the LOI:

- New competence centres should be able to demonstrate that their activities complement or reinforce previous and ongoing initiatives at LU
- Future centres should not be an isolated unit, but should interact with the surrounding research and innovation environment.
- Competence centres have long-term goals with a ten-year perspective. An approved competence centre, however, will only be granted support for five years. After an international evaluation, the highest ranked competence centres will be awarded financial support for another five years.

Name of proposed Competence Centre: ________________________________

Main applicant name: ______________________

Affiliation: ________________________________

Main applicant contact information: e-mail: ______________________

phone number: ______________________

Co-applicants (from LU or other universities) and corresponding affiliations:

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\(^1\) Information based on the previous call on Competence Centre 2017
Description of proposed Competence Centre (Times New Roman, 11p):

The summary should include a description of the proposed Competence Centre with specific focus on how the proposed centre sees itself in relation to existing activities in the field (new competence centres need to be able to demonstrate that their activities complement or reinforce previous and ongoing initiatives). Also mention the centre’s vision, overall goals and strategy for achieving them (medium-term, 5-10 years, and long-term, >10 years), with focus on how the chosen field of research contributes to increased growth.
(Description to be written inside the table cell, text in Times New Roman, size 11p)
CV

Main applicant’s CV should be attached as annex to Appendix 1. The CV should be written in English on max 2 A4, font Times New Roman, 11p. The CV should be submitted as a PDF file.

*Please make sure to include information that demonstrates the applicant’s experience within the proposed competence centre (publications, patents, etc.), and to mention existing structures of collaborations that can be used in the centre’s operations.*