

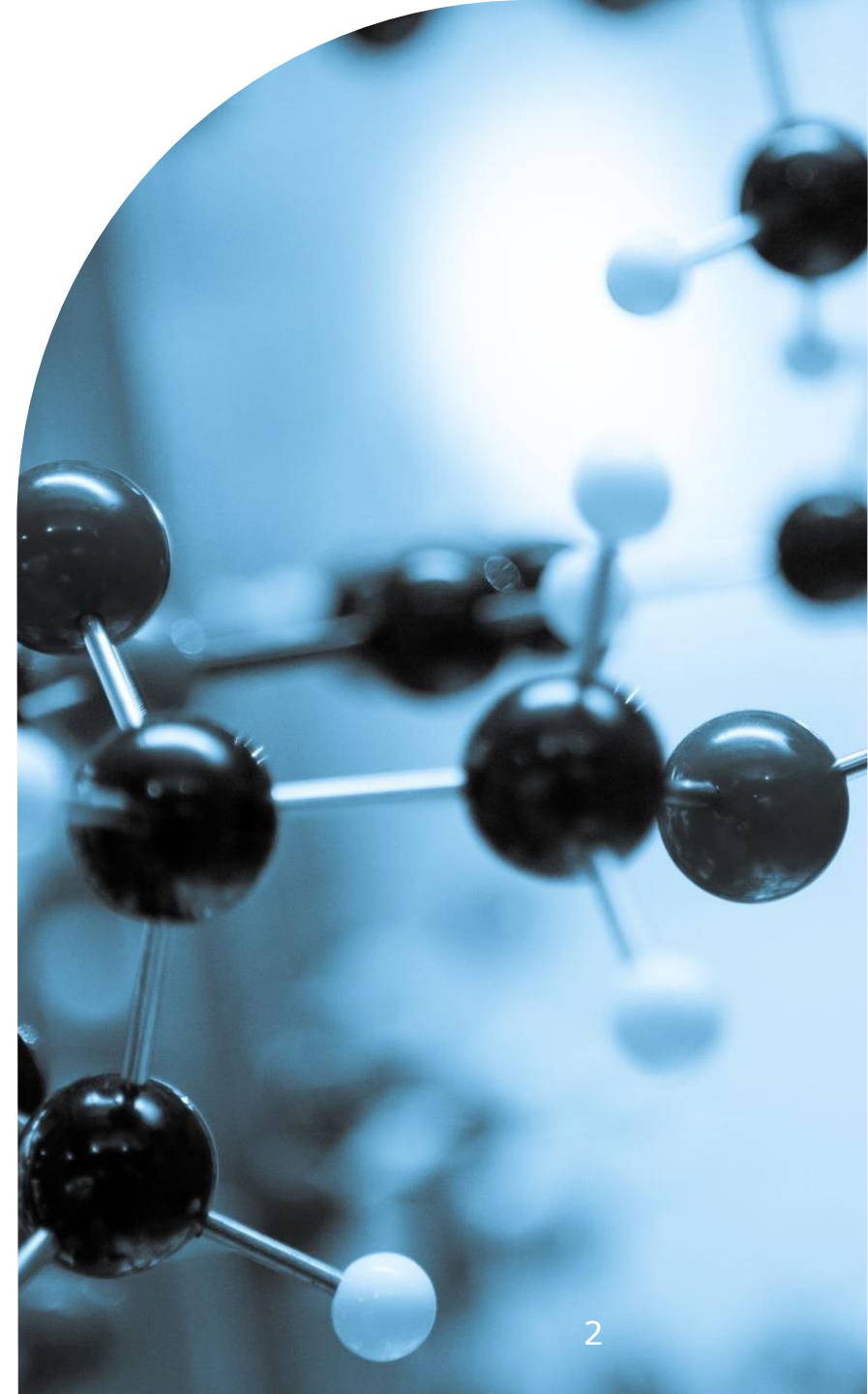
SwedNess

Call for Next Generation PhD Students

Town Hall · September 7, 2026 · 10:00–11:00 CET · Zoom
Presenter: Dr. Mikael Andersson, Project Coordinator SwedNess

SwedNess

- National graduate school in neutron and synchrotron scattering
- Funded by the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research (SSF) and the Swedish Research Council (VR)
- Operating since 2016 — close to 40 PhD students trained across six Swedish universities
- Trains PhD students to become world-class researchers and research leaders



The New Call

- **48 MSEK total funding from the Swedish Research Council**
- 16 PhD projects to be funded — 3 MSEK per project
- Open to all Swedish universities
- Expanded scope: both neutron scattering and/or synchrotron radiation (ESS + MAX IV)
- All projects **must have** an industrial partner with an industrial co-supervisor
- Industry co-financing expected: approx. 1 MSEK per project (cash and/or in-kind)

"SwedNess launches its third generation — bridging academia, industry, and the world's most advanced neutron and synchrotron facilities."

Who Can Apply

- **Main applicant:** researcher at a Swedish university, operative responsibility throughout the grant period
- **Supervision team:** at least one supervisor with documented experience of neutron and/or synchrotron science
- **Co-applicants:** up to two from Swedish or international universities or research institutes
- **Research scope:** neutron and/or synchrotron methods must play a key scientific role in the project
- **Facility access:** realistic plan for beam time at ESS, MAX IV, or comparable international facilities

Industry partner required

Every project must have an industrial partner with an industrial co-supervisor contributing approx. 1 MSEK (cash and/or in-kind).

Who Can Apply - Eligibility

Main Applicant

Researcher at a Swedish university — must hold operative responsibility throughout the full grant period

Industry Partner (Required)

Every project must have an industrial partner with a co-supervisor contributing approx. 1 MSEK (cash or in-kind)

Supervision Team

At least one supervisor must have documented knowledge and experience of neutron and/or synchrotron scattering

Research Scope

Neutron and/or synchrotron scattering methods must play a key role in the scientific results of the project

Co-applicants

Up to two additional co-applicants from Swedish or international universities or research institutes are accepted

Facility Access

A realistic plan for beam time at ESS, MAX IV, or comparable international facilities must be included

What to Include in Your Application

01

Project Description

Synchrotron/neutron methods must have key role — max 5 pages

02

CVs of All Applicants

2 pages each: scientific achievements, facility use, 10 most relevant publications to the project

03

Industry Support Letter

Partner involvement, co-financing, industrial challenge — max 2 pages

04

University Support Letter

Guarantees project finances and supervisor availability — max 1 page

05

Facility Access Plan

How beam time at ESS, MAX IV or equivalent will be obtained — max 1 page

06

Financing Plan & Budget

Industry expected to contribute ~1 MSEK; full co-financing plan — max 1 page

07

IP & Data Management

Confidentiality, publication rights, data handling — max 1 page

Submit as a single PDF to info.swedness@uu.se by October 16, 2026

How Proposals Are Evaluated

1 Scientific Quality

Originality and excellence of the project; relevance and use of neutron and/or synchrotron techniques, including complementarity of methods

2 Industrial Relevance

Connection to a real industrial challenge; quality of the academic-industry partnership; the partner's long-term commitment and co-funding contributions

3 Feasibility

Supervision team merits; infrastructure and facility access plan; budget; doctoral education environment; integration into SwedNess activities and network

Final decision by the SwedNess Board

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Questions & Discussion

Have a question? Ask it now. After today's session we'll compile all questions and answers into a FAQ, posted on the SwedNess website for everyone to access.

2026-09-07

