

## Appendix 1: AAU Excellence 2026 - Full Timeline for the Application Process

Deadline	Content
1 <sup>st</sup> of May 2025	<p><b>Publication of Call</b> The call will be published through the website: <a href="https://www.en.aau.dk/research/aau-excellence">https://www.en.aau.dk/research/aau-excellence</a> and sent to faculty e-mail addresses and vice deans for research who are encouraged to forward the call.</p> <p>The call is also shared through the AAU Excellence LinkedIn profile.</p>
<p>No later than the 13<sup>th</sup> of June at 12 pm.</p> <p>Send your application to <a href="mailto:aau-excellence@aau.dk">aau-excellence@aau.dk</a></p>	<p><b>Application Deadline – Phase 1</b> Submission deadline for phase 1 applications.</p> <p>All submitted applications will be forwarded to the selection committee who will be shortlisting 16 applicants – four from each faculty – to phase 2.</p>
9 <sup>th</sup> of July	<p><b>Start of Phase 2 Applications</b></p> <p>All phase 1 applicants will be notified on whether they have been shortlisted for phase 2. Phase 2 applicants are asked to submit a full application. The remaining applicants will receive a short written feedback.</p>
<p>No later than the 29<sup>th</sup> of August at 12 pm.</p> <p>Send your application to <a href="mailto:aau-excellence@aau.dk">aau-excellence@aau.dk</a></p>	<p><b>Application Deadline – Phase 2</b> Submission deadline for phase 2 applications.</p> <p>All submitted applications will be forwarded to external scientific review.</p>
6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> of November	<p><b>Interviews</b> All applicants from Phase 2 will be invited to an individual interview with the scientific board for AAU Excellence.</p> <p>The scientific board makes their selection after the interviews.</p>
13 <sup>th</sup> of November	<p><b>Feedback</b> Upon the final selection all phase 2 applicants are notified directly on whether they are selected for the programme.</p> <p>The applicants who are not selected will receive a short written feedback.</p>
14 <sup>th</sup> of November	<p><b>Announcement of the Participants</b> Participants will be announced through official channels.</p>
1 <sup>st</sup> of January 2026	<p><b>Official Enrolment</b> Participants are officially enrolled in the AAU Excellence programme and receive first part of their grant.</p>
February 2026	<p><b>Start of activities</b> The first activities will start in February; hence the participants have time in January to plan and phase out other activities if necessary.</p>