**Appendix 2: AAU Excellence 2026 - Application form: Phase 1 Expression of interest**

*Please read the instructions on the last page.*

**APPLICATION FORM: AAU EXCELLENCE 2026 - PHASE 1 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**FORMALITIES:**

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| --- |
| APPLICANT  |
| Name of applicant: |  |
| E-mail address: |  |
| Phone number: |  |
| AAU Faculty |  |
| AAU Department: |  |
| AAU Research group: |  |
|  |  |
| EXTERNAL REVIEWERS |
| Please provide the names of five possible external reviewers from within your own field of research. Three of the five must be employed at universities outside of Denmark. Your suggestions will be part of a selection of two external reviewers. Please be aware of any conflict of interest in the suggested reviewers. **Please note:** The suggested external reviewers will only be contacted if you are chosen to proceed to phase 2. The final selection of reviewers will be anonymous. Please list 5 names: |
| **Name:** | **Position:** | **University:** | **E-mail:** |
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| --- |
| 1. SCIENTIFIC VISION (max 500 words) |
|  |
| 2. CAREER POTENTIAL (max 300 words) |
|  |
| 3. HOST ENVIRONMENT (max 200 words) |
|  |

**INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING APPLICATION FORM: AAU EXCELLENCE - PHASE 1 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Phase 1 applications for the AAU Excellence 2026 must be completed in the template above. The application itself must comprise max 1000 words excluding formalities and appendices. Please delete this instructions page before submitting your final phase 1 application.

The application must be submitted through the email address: aau-excellence@aau.dk no later than the 13th of June at 12 PM.

Applications must address the following criteria (500 words with scientific vision and 300 words with career potential and 200 words with host environment).

Scientific vision

Scientific vision is assessed based on the applicant’s ability to formulate their research ambitions for the next five to ten years. This includes the originality of the proposed research vision, its potential impact, the scientific approach, and its feasibility.

Career potential

Career potential is assessed on the applicant’s research skills, scientific achievements, level of independence as a researcher, communication skills, collaborations, international network, and research stays abroad. The applicants are asked to describe how they envision to enhance research skills to become competitive for a tenure position at an international research institution. The applicants are asked to specify their motivation for applying to the programme and how they see themselves benefit from participating. These considerations will be taken into account in the assessment.

Host environment

The applicant’s host environment and research environment are assessed on the potential for support and guidance from more established scientists, suitability for the applicant’s career development, commitment and scientific competences and facilities.

**Please note:**

* Applications must be written in English.
* Please use 11 point Calibri font and single spacing.
* References in the application text will be included in the word count.
* Bibliography at the end of the application will not be included in the word count.
* Neither application nor CV may contain a profile picture.
* The application should be written in a language that can be understood by non-experts within the field without being over-simplified.

Appendices to be included in the application:

* CV and short publication list

CV and publication combined must be max. 2 pages. Highlight up to the three most important research publications.