

Apply for AIDA technical fellowship funding

Analytic Imaging Diagnostic Arena (AIDA) is a national arena for research and innovation on analytic image-based diagnostics. AIDA is a cross-disciplinary and cross-sectoral collaboration aiming for large-scale usefulness from Artificial Intelligence (AI) in healthcare. The arena scope includes tailor-made IT systems and relevant human expertise, firmly rooted in a realistic healthcare environment. AIDA is part of the national Strategic Innovation Program Medtech4Health, a joint initiative by VINNOVA, Formas and the Swedish Energy Agency. More information can be found at medtech4health.se/aida.

A main part of the AIDA initiative is to host efforts from the entire country, aiming to contribute to development and adoption of AI methods in imaging diagnostics. We hereby announce an opportunity to participate in AIDA as a technical fellow.

Technical fellowship opportunity

AIDA welcomes proposals from industry or academia regarding individual fellowship projects for staff members that want to expand their knowledge in AI-based methods in imaging diagnostics. The individual must have a solid computer science background with at least a MSc degree or other degree of corresponding level. The individual should have software development experience but have a need for competence development in modern AI methods and/or AI methods for imaging diagnostics. That is, a candidate already at an advanced competence level in diagnostic imaging AI is **not** relevant for this opportunity.

Proposals need to include a defined project with concrete activities and a time plan. AIDA encourages that proposals connect to, and benefit from, other existing AIDA projects or parties, such as decision support development projects and/or clinical fellowships. State such connections clearly in the application.

A typical effort of a fellowship is expected to be two man-months, even though other extents are possible. Cost-wise, AIDA expects proposals with a total cost budget between 100 - 300 kSEK. The total annual budget for AIDA technical fellowships is tentatively 2,0 MSEK, thus, the corresponding budget for VINNOVA funding is about 1,0 MSEK.

Terms

The maximum level of funding from AIDA/VINNOVA is 50% of the project cost. The application must be approved and signed by the individual's line manager.

The project should start within 3 months from the call deadline and end at the latest Dec 31, 2020. The effort can be on part-time basis, any degree from 25-100% of a full-time effort is acceptable.

The proposals will be evaluated according to the following meriting criteria:

- Topic relevance for AIDA (AI and imaging diagnostics)
- Relevance of candidate profile (see above)
- Access to clinical knowledge
- Connection to AIDA core and/or AIDA projects
- Contributions to, and benefits from, the AIDA connection

A foundational part of AIDA is knowledge exchange through physical meetings, why proposals should include plans for the fellow to spend significant time at the AIDA offices at CMIV. A suggested level would be to spend 20% of the project time at CMIV; the higher level, the higher the application will score in the AIDA exchange criteria. The CMIV time is preferably centered around the recurring two-day AIDA meet-ups, organized approximately eight times per year.

It is possible to be awarded a fellowship more than once, if the additional benefit can be clearly shown. Being a first-time applicant is, however, a positive factor in the evaluation of candidate profile relevance.

In addition to the AIDA-specific rules, general VINNOVA terms apply for allowed cost types, cost levels, funding levels etc. The costs are defined according to the general VINNOVA standard, a full description is found here (in Swedish): [Guide om stödberättigade kostnader](#).

Application procedure

Proposals should be described using the template available on medtech4health.se/aida. The proposal is submitted to the Arena Director Claes Lundström at claes.lundstrom@liu.se. Incoming proposals are then refined in a dialog with the Arena Director. After the dialog, the Arena Director brings the finalized proposal to the AIDA Steering Group for decision. The proposing party is entitled to request decision from the Steering Group even if the Arena Director does not consider the proposal finalized. The AIDA Steering Group reserves the right to award a smaller amount of funding than what a proposal asks for or to make part of the funding dependent on a specific condition, such as sharing data within AIDA.

AIDA currently plans for several batches of accepting proposals 2018-2020. The deadlines for submitting proposals will be announced on medtech4health.se/aida.

Please note that if a proposal is submitted close to the deadline, there is little time for dialog regarding the proposal. Therefore, we recommend submitting a first version well in advance of the deadline. Also note that AIDA will accept high-quality proposals until the budget is reached, which means that there is no guarantee of future rounds of accepting proposals.