

# PHD OPPORTUNITIES IN DENMARK

**Denmark provides ideal conditions for PhD studies. Danish universities and research institutions, as well as industry, offer world-class research facilities for researchers and PhD students alike.**

This fact sheet aims to give you a general overview of the PhD opportunities available in Denmark. Applicants are welcome to contact the institutions directly for further guidance regarding possible research positions. A list of universities, faculties and research institutions is featured below.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

A Danish PhD programme usually lasts three years. The general admission requirement is a Master degree, comparable to the Danish two-year Master degree – the Candidatus degree. Some faculties also offer four-year PhD programmes for students who have yet to complete a Master degree. Admission also requires a positive assessment of your PhD project proposal from the institution at which you wish to conduct your research training.

Furthermore, necessary funding for the entire programme needs to be in place. Funding may take the form of either a scholarship or the covering of tuition fees (see below). Tuition fees generally include supervision, training, office and laboratory facilities, travel allowances and the printing of the dissertation.

## PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

The components of a PhD programme are:

- An independent research project under academic guidance (the PhD project)
- Participation in research courses and seminars corresponding to six months of full-time study (30 ECTS)
- Teaching and other kind of communicative activities corresponding to three months of full-time work (15 ECTS)
- Mobility to ensure integration in two or more active research groups and networks (mobility abroad is given high priority)
- A PhD thesis (based on the PhD project) and a public thesis defence

Students are assigned to a graduate school and a research programme that deals with the subject field of their PhD programme. Although the official language in Denmark is Danish, PhD programmes are also offered in English.

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## FUNDING

A Danish PhD programme can be funded in a variety of ways:

### Independent PhD programmes

Most universities and research institutions will let you enrol as an independent PhD student provided the quality of your PhD proposal is adequate and that its subject matter falls within the field of expertise of the available research supervisors. As an independent PhD student you are responsible for funding your own PhD studies (tuition fees, accommodation costs and living expenses). In some cases, however, universities may offer full or partial tuition fee waivers. The tuition fees vary, but usually range between 10,000 and 16.000 Euros per year.

### PhD Studentships

PhD Studentships (sometimes also called PhD Scholarships) are three-year full-time positions advertised by universities, research institutions, corporate enterprises and by public and private foundations. In addition to a workplace and free tuition, students will receive a monthly grant. In return, students on studentships usually have teaching obligations.

### PhD Fellowships

PhD fellowships are open to applicants who have a Candidatus degree (or the equivalent of a two-year Dan-

ish Master degree) as well a minimum of two years of professional experience. These scholarships advertised by universities, research institutions, business enterprises and by public and private foundations are awarded for a period of six months to two years

### Industrial PhD Fellowships

Industrial PhD fellowships are a unique, enterprise-oriented opportunity. The PhD project is implemented as an actual research project carried out by the Industrial PhD fellow in collaboration with a private enterprise and a university. Industrial PhD Fellowships usually have durations of three years.

The programme is open to newly graduated candidates as well as young professionals with an academic background. Fellows are employed and are paid a salary by the enterprise for the duration of the Industrial PhD studies and normally divide their time equally between the university and the enterprise.

### International financial support

Apart from the opportunities for financial support from Danish public and private funds, you may also be eligible for international financial support either from your home country or from international organisations such as the EU research programmes.

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## RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMIT

The Danish Immigration Service website [www.newtodenmark.dk](http://www.newtodenmark.dk) offers detailed information on how to apply for a residence permit. You should also contact the institution where you have been admitted for further information on residence and work permits. Be aware that you must apply for the residence permit from your home country.

## CAN I BRING MY FAMILY?

You do not automatically have the right to bring your family to Denmark. Your family is eligible for residence permit and allowed to work full-time only if your residence permit allows you to stay in Denmark for three years or more or if it can be extended to three years. However, your family members must be able to support themselves financially and you must live together in Denmark.

## STAY AND WORK IN DENMARK – CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Denmark has a strong economy and needs highly qualified professionals. As such, it is in the interest of the Danish society that foreigners stay in Denmark after having finished their higher education. If you complete a study programme in Denmark, your residence permit will be extended by six months to allow you to look for work in Denmark.

## 4 STEPS TO PHD STUDIES IN DENMARK

1. Prepare a PhD project proposal.
2. Find a Danish university or other research institution with research environments that match your subject field and contact that institution for further information.
- 3.
4. Study the funding possibilities.
5. Apply for residence and work permit.

# PLAY PARTICIP

# PHD OPPORTUNITIES IN DENMARK - LINKS

## DANISH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS WITH PHD PROGRAMMES:

### University of Copenhagen

Faculties: Health Sciences, Humanities, Law, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Theology, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Life Sciences  
[www.ku.dk](http://www.ku.dk)

### Aarhus University

Faculties: Humanities, Health Sciences, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Theology, Agricultural Sciences, Environmental Research Institute, School of Business, School of Education  
[www.au.dk](http://www.au.dk)

### University of Southern Denmark

Faculties: Health Sciences, Humanities, Natural Sciences, Engineering, Social Sciences  
[www.sdu.dk](http://www.sdu.dk)

### Roskilde University

Faculties: Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences  
[www.ruc.dk](http://www.ruc.dk)

### Aalborg University

Faculties: Engineering and Natural Sciences, Humanities, Social Sciences  
[www.auc.dk](http://www.auc.dk)

### Technical University of Denmark

Engineering and Natural Sciences  
[www.dtu.dk](http://www.dtu.dk)

### Copenhagen Business School

Faculties: Business Administration, Modern Languages  
[www.cbs.dk](http://www.cbs.dk)

### The IT-University of Copenhagen

Information Technology  
[www.itu.dk](http://www.itu.dk)

**The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts,  
School of Architecture**  
[www.karch.dk](http://www.karch.dk)

**Aarhus School of Architecture**  
[www.aarch.dk](http://www.aarch.dk)

**The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts,  
School of Conservation**  
[www.kons.dk](http://www.kons.dk)

**The Royal School of Library and Information  
Science**  
[www.db.dk](http://www.db.dk)

**The Royal Danish Academy of Music**  
[www.dkdm.dk](http://www.dkdm.dk)

**The Danish Design School**  
[www.dkds.dk](http://www.dkds.dk)

**Designskolen Kolding**  
[www.designskolenkolding.dk](http://www.designskolenkolding.dk)

## OTHER USEFUL SOURCES

**The Danish Mobility Centre for Researchers**  
The mobility centre offers foreign researchers and highly skilled professional a one-stop shop with comprehensive information about working in Denmark. Visit the web portal [www.workindenmark.dk](http://www.workindenmark.dk) for information about job opportunities, work permits, health insurance, taxation, etc.

## The Danish Agency for Universities and Internationalisation

The Danish Agency for Universities and Internationalisation is an agency under the Danish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Higher Education. The agency offers services in assessing the academic qualifications of persons seeking recognition of their foreign qualifications in Denmark.  
[www.iu.dk](http://www.iu.dk)

Information about studying in Denmark:  
[www.studyindenmark.dk](http://www.studyindenmark.dk)

## The Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation

The Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation deals with research funding, research mobility and international cooperation in research. The Danish Councils for Independent Research and the Danish Industrial PhD programmes are also administered by the agency. Information on funding for research and PhD projects can be accessed at <http://en.fi.dk/>

## The National Danish Research Foundation

The Danish National Research Foundation is an independent foundation working to strengthen Danish research, mainly through the establishment and funding of centres of excellence.  
[www.dg.dk](http://www.dg.dk)

Information about the Industrial PhD Programme:  
<http://en.fi.dk/funding/funding-opportunities/industrial-phd-programme>

## The European Researcher's Mobility Portal

A web portal offering information on mobility for researchers and PhD students, including funding. You can also post your CV on the portal. [www.ec.europa.eu/eracareers](http://www.ec.europa.eu/eracareers)

## Films about PhD studies in Denmark - Janet from England (Medical Design)

- Oleg from Estonia (Genetics)
- Li from China (Biotechnology)

<http://video.studyindenmark.dk/>

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