

BERNADOTTE programmet



Announcements of scholarships within the Bernadotte programme for the year 2026.

Since 2016, the Royal Swedish Academy of Fine Arts, the Royal Swedish Academy of Music, the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities, the Swedish Academy and the Royal Gustavus Adolphus Academy for Swedish Folk Culture have offered a joint scholarship programme for the benefit of postdoctoral researchers and young practitioners in the arts, drawing in an organised form on the broad expertise of the participating Academies.

This collaborative undertaking, known as *The Bernadotte Programme*, offers opportunities for in-depth academic work at the postdoctoral level or on completion of higher education in fine arts or music or the equivalent. The work is intended to be carried out in project form over a period of a maximum of one year from the award of the scholarship.

One aim of the programme is to enable scholarship holders to expand their academic networks beyond their own fields of expertise and to give them the opportunity, through their scholarship work, to share with this extended network the knowledge they themselves have gained.

The project undertaken must be relevant to at least two of the participating Academies and reflect their areas of expertise – for example, by working at the intersection between different art forms or forms of knowledge – thereby making use of the different capacities of the Academies and contributing to the development of interdisciplinary research.

The Academies' scholarship holders under the Bernadotte Programme will form a common network for the exchange of ideas during their scholarship year. At the end of the year, the results of each project will be presented in a form agreed between the Academy concerned and its scholarship holders.

Within the framework of the Bernadotte Programme, the Royal Gustavus Adolphus Academy for Swedish Folk Culture invites applications for a maximum of two scholarships. These are intended for postdoctoral researchers working within the fields the Academy represents; Swedish folk culture in this context is to be taken in a broad sense. Each award is for SEK 125,000. In addition, there is a grant for travel, conferences, or fieldwork of SEK 25,000. The Academy aims to establish a long-term relationship with the scholarship holders, who will, among other things, be given the opportunity to apply for additional funding, for instance, to organize symposiums. The call is aimed at:

1. Postdoctoral researchers from outside Sweden who in 2026 wish to spend a minimum of four to six months at a Swedish university or a research-oriented archive, museum or library in Sweden.
2. Postdoctoral researchers from Sweden who in 2026 wish to spend a minimum of four to six months at a foreign university or research-oriented archive, museum or library.

The academy will prioritize applicants from outside of Sweden. The grant is intended to defray the additional costs (travel, increased cost of living etc.) during the stay. The applicant must have gained a PhD in the course of the last five years. Candidates for a scholarship must have their PhD degree before sending an application to the Academy.

Applications must contain (1) the applicant's CV, (2) a list of published works, and (3) a short description of the research the applicant plans to pursue. In the description, explain how the Bernadotte Programme will contribute to the implementation of the project. Also describe how the research is relevant to at least two of the collaborating Academies. Further information about the participating academies can be found below.

In addition, the institution (or equivalent) which the applicant intends to locate to must provide a statement declaring that the applicant is welcome to pursue their research at the institution (or equivalent) during 2026, at the earliest from the month of April and onwards. The application must also provide information about the bank account the scholarship is to be paid into, given in the form of an IBAN and a BIC/SWIFT code.

Applications are to be sent by email, together with the necessary attachments, to sekreteraren@gustavadolfsakademien.se, and must arrive no later than October 15, 2025.

Any questions concerning this announcement will be answered by the Secretary of the Academy, docent Fredrik Skott, sekreteraren@gustavadolfsakademien.se

In addition to the Royal Gustavus Adolphus Academy for Swedish Folk Culture—whose field of activity is Swedish folk culture in a broad sense—the following Academies are part of the Bernadotte Programme:

- The Royal Swedish Academy of Fine Arts works to promote art and architecture, giving them the dignity and support needed to enrich society at large. Read more: <https://konstakademien.se>
- The Royal Swedish Academy of Music works to promote the art of music. Read more: <https://www.musikaliskaakademien.se>
- The Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities supports research in the humanities and social sciences and in cultural heritage management. Read more: <https://www.vitterhetsakademien.se>
- The Swedish Academy works to promote Swedish language and literature. Read more: <https://www.svenskaakademien.se>

For more information, see the brochure *Ten Royal Academies*, available for download here: <https://gustavadolfsakademien.se/posts/de-kungliga-akademierna>