



LUND UNIVERSITY  
Faculty of Medicine

# SWEAH

SWEDISH NATIONAL GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR  
COMPETITIVE SCIENCE ON AGEING AND HEALTH

Department of Health Sciences

*The mission of the Swedish National Graduate School for Competitive Science on Ageing and Health (SWEAH) is to develop a strong national learning environment with international splendor, contribute to the production of knowledge about ageing and health, develop the next generation of researchers and support the academic career development of postdocs who are interested in research on ageing and health.*

## The Swedish National Graduate School for Competitive Science on Ageing and Health (SWEAH)

**Are you a PhD student in the beginning of your education and interested in developing perspectives on one of the big issues of our time in the society – ageing and health – within your thesis project? Are you admitted at a university that is a SWEAH partner, and willing to work in a multi- and interdisciplinary context when addressing the challenges and possibilities related to ageing and health? Do you want to get to know other PhD students within the field in Sweden and from abroad? Then you are the right person to apply for affiliation to the Swedish National Graduate School for Competitive Science on Ageing and Health (SWEAH)!**

The Swedish National Graduate School for Competitive Science on Ageing and Health (SWEAH) is a graduate school coordinated by Lund University and will from Jan 1, 2022 involve 12 partners across Sweden.

### SWEAH PARTNERS 2022

[Blekinge Institute of Technology](#), [Dalarna University](#), [Jönköping University](#),  
[Karolinska Institutet](#), [Kristianstad University](#), [Linköping University](#),  
[Linnaeus University](#), [Luleå University of Technology](#), [Lund University](#), [Umeå  
University](#), [University of Gothenburg](#), [Örebro University](#)

As a PhD student **formally admitted** to one of these partner universities you have the possibility to apply for affiliation to SWEAH's multi- and interdisciplinary learning environment and participate in the PhD courses in SWEAH Core Curriculum.

SWEAH provides courses, other learning and network activities for PhD students and postdocs, within the research field of ageing and health. An important aspect is the cooperation among researchers with different disciplinary backgrounds: medicine and health sciences, social sciences, behavioral sciences, economy, humanities, law, demography, technology, architecture, etc. We therefore welcome PhD students from any relevant discipline, and we strive for a composition of PhD students that is characteristic of the width of the research field.

*SWEAH has been operating since 2014, with approximately 90 affiliated PhD students until today, of which a good half have successfully defended their theses and acquired their PhD degrees.*

*From 2022 the graduate school will be launched in a renewed format, with 12 partner universities contributing with co-funding and engagement in the ongoing development of the learning environment. PhD students affiliated from January 2022 and their supervisors will sign a contract for affiliation with SWEAH.*

SWEAH Core Curriculum has a set of courses with a broad theoretical and methodological approach and will be closely linked to your PhD work. The courses are based on a distance-learning format with most of the work conducted online, involving mandatory workshops organized as 1-3 days residential. The locations will vary but typically be in close proximity to or hosted by one of the partner universities. Each completed course gives 3 ECTS on research level according to syllabus. The teaching language is English.

PhD students affiliated with SWEAH have priority to these courses, while others may be admitted if a course is not fully booked. SWEAH organizes one PhD student day per semester, located to SWEAH partner universities; affiliated PhD students are expected to participate. In addition, PhD students are encouraged to take the initiative of additional joint activities.

SWEAH partners offer a number of national and international courses in the field of ageing and health. These openly advertised courses may focus on a specific theme, method or question with connection to ageing and health and are presented on the SWEAH website. These courses will allow your network to develop and deepen further as they will be open for all PhD students that are interested in ageing and health, nationally and internationally.

The affiliation with SWEAH is formalized by a contract signed by the PhD student, the main supervisor and the Head of the department where he/she is formally admitted/employed. The contract specifies your rights and obligations, including that you will participate in SWEAH Core Curriculum courses as well as other student activities during the affiliation period.

### ***Eligibility and assessment criteria***

To be eligible to apply for affiliation you must be formally admitted to education on research level for a PhD degree at one of the SWEAH partner universities (listed above) and currently pursuing active studies in accordance with your individual study plan. Further, you must not have come further than half-time of your PhD studies.

Based on this eligibility, your application will be considered with regard to how your thesis project and how you as an individual researcher may contribute to the diversity of the multi- and interdisciplinary environment of SWEAH. Each application will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- The scientific quality of the thesis project (research questions, methodology, etc.).
- The applicant's merits and track record.
- The applicant's individual background and motivation for affiliation as expressed by the PhD student (personal motivation statement) and the main supervisor (certificate of motivation for affiliation).
- The relevance and potential of the thesis project as regards to the development of multi- and interdisciplinary research on ageing and health in relation to SWEAH's mission and goals.
- The potential of the thesis project as regards to novelty and development of new knowledge in relation to existing research on ageing and health as stated in SWEAH's mission and goals, nationally and internationally.

Decision on affiliations will be made by the Board of SWEAH in November, 2021. The final statutes for SWEAH from January 2022 will be set during autumn 2021, and each affiliated PhD student and his/her supervisor/s will be presented with the full terms before signing a contract.

If you have any questions, please contact the coordinator of SWEAH, professor Susanne Iwarsson by e-mail: [susanne.iwarsson@med.lu.se](mailto:susanne.iwarsson@med.lu.se) or by telephone: +46 46 222 19 40. For administrative matters, please contact research administrator Stina Elfverson at [stina.elfverson@med.lu.se](mailto:stina.elfverson@med.lu.se) or +46 46 222 19 42.

### **WELCOME TO APPLY!**

Please send your complete application with attachments (see last page in the attached application form), signed by yourself, your main supervisor and the head(s) of the department(s) where you are admitted/employed, by e-mail to [stina.elfverson@med.lu.se](mailto:stina.elfverson@med.lu.se), no later than **September 30, 2021**. Incomplete applications will not be processed.