The Swedish National Graduate School for Competitive Science on Ageing and Health (SWEAH) is a research school funded by the Swedish Research Council. Its task is to develop a competitive 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 development of academic career among 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 cross-disciplinary context when addressing the challenges and possibilities related to ageing and health? Moreover, 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 involves in total 16 partners in Sweden, see http://www.sweah.lu.se. As a PhD student formally admitted to one of these partners you have the possibility to apply for affiliation to this multi- and cross-disciplinary learning environment and participate in the PhD courses in our specific curriculum.

SWEAH provides courses and other learning activities for PhD students and postdocs, within the research field of ageing and health. An important aspect is the cooperation between 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 many different disciplines, and we strive for a composition of PhD students that is characteristic of the width of the research field.

As an affiliated PhD student you, your main supervisor and the Head of your department will sign a contract for two years, specifying that you will participate in at least one multi- and cross-disciplinary course in SWEAH’s specific curriculum. One course will start in spring 2020 and another in spring 2021. PhD students affiliated with SWEAH have priority to these courses, while others may be admitted if the courses are not fully booked. These basic courses have a broad theoretical and methodological approach and will be closely linked to your PhD work. The courses are given at distance using the learning platform Moodle, but they also involve mandatory workshops organized as 2-3 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 will be English in case there are participants or teachers who do not speak any Scandinavian language.

SWEAH will cover the expenses for your participation in workshops and courses in the specific curriculum. In addition, each affiliated PhD student gets an annual sum for costs related to the learning process and the thesis project (at present SEK 20,000 per year).

In addition to the specific curriculum, the partners of SWEAH 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 our national web portal. 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.

To be eligible to apply for affiliation you must be formally admitted to education at research level for a PhD degree at one of the higher education institution (HEI) partners of SWEAH 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.
On the basis of 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 cross-disciplinary environment of SWEAH. Each application will be assessed on the basis of the following aspects:

- The quality of the thesis project (research questions, methodology, etc.) and on the other texts as annexed to the application.
- The applicant’s individual background and motivation for affiliation as expressed in the application by the PhD student (personal motivation) 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 cross-disciplinary research on ageing and health in relation to SWEAH’s goals.
- The potential of the thesis project as regards to development of new knowledge and novelty in relation to existing research on ageing and health in relation to SWEAH’s goals.

Decision on admissions will be taken by the Board of SWEAH on November 26, 2019.

If you have any questions, please contact the coordinator of SWEAH Susanne Iwarsson by e-mail: 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 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, no later than September 30, 2019. Incomplete applications will not be processed.