# 700 000 SEK are awaiting your idea!

## APPLY FOR THE COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT AWARD 2027

**To maintain and develop its competitiveness the Swedish pulp and paper industry needs continued development. The Gunnar Sundblad Research Foundation allocates 700 000 Swedish crowns (SEK) to a "Competence development award". The award is meant to contribute to insights about process and product opportunities that can help the industry forward.**

Suggestions that aims to bridge the gap between research fields, create new knowledge, new competence or develop new networks within the sector are eligible for the award. Initiatives involving research in new environments inside or outside of Sweden are welcome. The award is aimed at researchers who have progressed further in their research. The laureate can be a research manager, or a researcher and must be affiliated to a university or research institute in Sweden. The award is administered by the laureate's employer.

**A two-step application:**

• As a **first step**, send in an expression of interest latest **November 20, 2026**. Describe how the award is intended to be used, who you are, which organization you belong to, your background and your research interest. Briefly describe the proposal and how it is expected to contribute to renewal of the use of fibers and chemicals from wood. State if you are seeking funds from several actors for your project. Use the **application template** that you can find at sundbladsfonden.se. The expression of interest need not be extensive (maximum 2 pages).

• In the beginning of December 2026, the board of the foundation will select a smaller number of proposals which are invited to submit, in a **second step**, a final proposal. To assist preparation of this, the proposer will receive an instruction. The final proposal shall be received no later than **January 31, 2027.**

The awards ceremony takes place at the event "Framtidsmötet" in the spring of 2027.

Further inquiries can be made to Linda Larsson, to whom you shall also send **the initial expression of interest**, e-mail: linda.larsson@skogsindustrierna.se, phone: +46 (0)76-800 94 97.

For further information about the award please visit www.sundbladsfonden.se.