Guidelines and instructions for application months

The present decision replaces a previous decision dated 22 October 2015, Reg. no STYR 2015/1047.

Background
There is a major need to free up time to develop well-prepared research applications. Researchers with ideas for new projects seldom have sufficient time to develop them into effective applications for external funding. Using parts of the direct government funding to enable this is seen as a long-term investment.

Aim
The application months are to be used to draw up research applications.

Conditions
PhD holders employed until further notice at the Faculty of Science, who do not have more than 20% of their position reserved for research, can apply. The support constitutes the cost of one to two months' full-time work. A person who has been awarded funding can re-apply for application months no earlier than two years after the previous approval decision.

Awarded funds are to be used at the latest 18 months after the decision date.

Assessment
Applications are assessed by a working group composed of at least three of the Research Council members. The decision on approved support is taken by the dean.

In order for an application to be considered, the following requirements must be met:
- The research question or problem to be studied must be clearly stated; it is not sufficient to describe an interesting research field
- The problem posed is to be linked to theory in some way
- It must be clear what type of methods the applicant assumes will be suitable for the study
The task of the assessors’ group is to prioritise the applications that, besides meeting the requirements mentioned above, also:

- are deemed suitable for drafting into a competitive research application within the available time.

Applications
Applications are to include:

- a project description, maximum three pages
- CV listing research qualifications
- a plan for when and to which research funders the application is to be submitted
- The signature of the head of department (equivalent) certifying that the reduction in other work duties is possible