



# ARLA FOOD FOR HEALTH

## 2023 call for applications

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### 1. Introduction

Arla Food for Health (AFH) is pleased to announce the call for research applications to be funded in 2023. Applications must address the AFH research strategy: <https://arlafoodforhealth.com/strategy/>

AFH is a public-private research partnership between top ranked universities and the food industry, all of them engaged within food and health sciences: University of Copenhagen, Aarhus University, Arla Foods amba and Arla Foods Ingredients. The common vision is to **Discover health effects of dairy and dairy ingredients**.

The partnership is based on the conviction that collaboration through independent research activities, both nationally and internationally, is crucial to address global health challenges.

The ambition is to push boundaries and foster world-class dairy science that subsequently can be translated into new nutritional solutions with positive impact on global health, thereby benefiting both society and AFH partners.

The partners are committed to create impact and disseminate the scientific insights acquired through the projects. Moreover, the partnership includes a targeted and coordinated public outreach that can serve as basis for a science-based nutrition and health dialogue with external stakeholders, including authorities, NGOs, academia, and other industries.

To achieve this, AFH grants 10 mill. DKK every year to support research projects within the research strategy. AFH emphasizes the scientific quality of the proposed research projects. Typically one to two projects receive funding every year. However, there is no preferred budget size, every project is evaluated in its own right. These funds can be seed money that enable initiation of projects that aim for additional funding from public or private foundations. Thus, the content of the applications can be described as an element in a larger and more ambitious research project. It is important to highlight if funding has been obtained from other parties and whether it is planned to apply for additional funding. Finally, we urge applicants to create synergy with already ongoing AFH projects if possible and when relevant.

Previously AFH funded projects can be seen at <https://arlafoodforhealth.com/funded-research/>.



## **2. The application process and important dates**

Like previous years, the 2023 call includes an optional consultancy based on a one-page research idea. This is an opportunity for guidance and discussion of the research projects, that serves to test the research idea, seek collaborators, discuss availability of intervention products and generally improve the quality of the applications.

### **Guideline for the one-page research idea:**

The one-page research idea must be submitted via email to [abmoe@arlafoods.com](mailto:abmoe@arlafoods.com). Deadline for submission is 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2023. Maximum submission of 1 one-page research idea per principal investigator. Dialogues based on the research idea will be initiated before July 1<sup>st</sup>. **Disclaimer:**

*Submitting a one-page research idea and aligning the application according to the dialogues is not a guarantee for funding. The dialogue should be seen as a consultation and dialogue at an early stage in the application process to strengthen the further work with the project application and to get some feedback on relevance and impact for Arla.*

### **The one-page research idea must contain:**

1. Project title: As concise as possible.
2. Research area: In overall terms.
3. Project description: Conception and design of the studies, including research questions, hypotheses and methodological approach. References and preliminary results attached as appendix.
4. Information on principal investigator and additional applicant(s): Name, affiliation and field of expertise.
5. A suggested research collaboration between Aarhus University and University of Copenhagen.
6. A clear description on how the research brings new knowledge within dairy and health.

### **Submission of applications:**

The AFH call is a one-stage application process (with an optional one-page research idea consultancy, as described above). Collaboration between AFH partners is strongly encouraged to enable different aspects of food and health science at an excellent level. International partners as well as partners from non-AFH universities in Denmark can be included in the research projects to bring expertise and opportunities to the projects. However, it is a prerequisite that the principal investigator is affiliated to one of the AFH partner universities. AFH also encourage collaboration across research groups situated at hospitals and research groups situated at the universities.

### **The submission deadline for the application is the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2023 at noon CET.**

The applications must be submitted via email to Andreas Buch Møller at [abmoe@arlafoods.com](mailto:abmoe@arlafoods.com).

If you are experiencing any technical problems or your query is not answered, please contact Andreas Buch Møller by email or mobile +45 91316686.

Please read the guidelines for the application before submitting your proposal.

### **Review process**

First, the applications will be reviewed by the external independent [Scientific Advisory Board](#) and ranked according to scientific quality and relevance. Hereafter, the AFH Steering Committee conducts an internal review to assess if the application: (i) is within the scope of the call, (ii) has a strategic fit to AFH, (iii) has business relevance, (iv) includes a partnership (projects including three or more of the AFH



partners will gain priority), (v) includes a communication plan. The Steering Committee takes the final decision on projects to be funded.

The director of AFH communicates the funding decision to the principal investigators, including any requirement for amendments to the successful applicants before end of 2023. In case the selected, fully funded project applications do not require all available funding, the AFH Steering Committee may ask other selected applicants to revise their applications to fit the remaining funding.

### **Timeline for the Arla Food for Health 2023 application process:**

- April 3<sup>rd</sup> Announcement of 2023 call for applications.
- April 14<sup>th</sup> Online Q&A session at 2PM ([join here](#))
- May 15<sup>th</sup> Deadline optional one-page research idea.
- July 1<sup>st</sup> (at latest) Dialogue initiated based on one-page research idea.
- October 16<sup>th</sup> Application deadline.
- December Decision on funding communicated.
- Q1 2024 Finish research project agreement.

### **3. Guidelines for applications**

The application should be written in English and not exceed 5 A4 pages, excluding figures and references. The application must include the following elements (in this order):

- 1) Project title - As concise as possible, including project acronym.
- 2) The project's main objective (max 3 lines).
- 3) Short project summary (max 15 lines).
- 4) Project duration - Expected start and end dates.
- 5) An estimate of the project's total budget and the amount AFH is applied for: attach a budget (budget template available on website). Considering that AFH funding is seen as seed money, please indicate other funding opportunities from public or private foundations that will be, or already are, applied for to fully finance the project. It is not a prerequisite that funds are equally split between Aarhus University and University of Copenhagen.
- 6) Information on principal investigator and co-applicant(s):
  - i) Details of the principal investigator and co-applicants (name, title, email, phone, address).
  - ii) If the project has been discussed with Arla scientists, you are welcome to state their names. However, they are not regarded as co-applicants.
- 7) Bank details and accounting contact:
  - i) Bank - name and registration and account number.
  - ii) Accounting contact (name, address, phone, e-mail).
- 8) Project description:
  - i) The hypotheses of the project.
  - ii) Project content - description of the experimental design, work packages, methodology, research facilities, and milestones etc.
- 9) Foreseen project outcome, including:
  - i) Why is it relevant for the dairy industry?
  - ii) Short description of the innovation aspects, innovation potential, scientific and commercial perspectives. What new knowledge will the proposed research provide?
  - iii) What difference can the project make to people's health?



- 10) Assessment of the risk of project failure and mitigating procedures.
- 11) Contribution to education - short description of the project's educational elements.
- 12) Publication plan.
- 13) Communication plan. Short description of potential messages, target audiences, relevant platforms and channels to be used. Furthermore, where appropriate, describe communication and interaction with wider policy and health authorities to facilitate that new research findings are included in decision-making processes and practices. Up to 40,000 DDK can be allocated for communication in the budget. Please contact your local communication expert for help and guidance\*.
- 14) Include main CVs in appendix (not included in the 5 pages). Please specify role in project and man months committed during the lifetime of the project:
  - i. A 2-page CV of the principal investigator (incl. project management experience)
  - ii. A 1-page CV from co-applicant(s)
  - iii. A maximum of 5 CVs should be provided

\* If AFH decides to fund the proposed project, the communication plan will be further developed. In this process the principal investigator should seek further guidance and support from the local communication experts of Aarhus University and University of Copenhagen:

Jesper Emborg  
DCA – Danish Centre for Food and Agriculture  
Aarhus University  
Email: [je@dca.au.dk](mailto:je@dca.au.dk)

Kristian Levring Madsen  
Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports  
University of Copenhagen  
Email: [kma@nexs.ku.dk](mailto:kma@nexs.ku.dk)

#### **4. Further Information**

Interested applicants are welcome to consult AFH director Peter Wejse regarding application topics, test products, and business relevance on mail [pewej@arlafoods.com](mailto:pewej@arlafoods.com) or mobile +45 72177819. Already established contacts to Arla can also be used for this purpose.

#### **5. Online Q&A session**

Please join the online Q&A session April 14 at 2PM if you would like to know more or have questions for the Arla Food for Health Call 2023. The session can be accessed here: [Link to online Q&A session](#).



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