

BEVICA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME 2027-2028

Call for participation

How can we create an inclusive society for all?

THE CALL

Bevica Fonden invites students and lecturers at Danish universities, university colleges and architecture -and design schools to take part in the Bevica Scholarship Programme.

The programme supports innovative and bold thinkers to investigate how their profession can develop universal design as a lever for the pledge to Leave No One Behind in securing an equitable and inclusive society.

This is your chance to join the journey towards a more inclusive and sustainable society for all – regardless of ability.

Our society needs to be more equitably inclusive in many areas. All aspects of our society, products, environments, programmes, and services are designed for idealised average persons and use – supporting some and leaving others behind. However, living with different and changing abilities, permanent or temporary, is a human condition we all share. And to embrace and accommodate for our shared differences – in all aspects of our society – we call for multidisciplinary action.

The Bevica Scholarship Programme calls upon passionate and talented students and lecturers from all disciplines – from social service professions and humanities to political sciences, law, IT, design and beyond – to investigate the potentials of universal design as a tool within their own discipline, in a joint quest towards diversity, equity and inclusion.

THE CHALLENGE

Universal design is defined by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as: 'the design of products, environments, programmes, and services to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design'.

Developing universal designs is a multidisciplinary task and challenge – for both students and lecturers – from a wide range of disciplines addressing key aspects of our daily lives.

The Bevica Scholarship Programme challenges participants to answer the questions below:

Students

The question asked:

How can universal design contribute to creating a more inclusive society in Denmark – embracing everyone, regardless of ability? And what new knowledge is needed to do so?

The Bevica Scholarship Programme challenges participating students to develop a problem statement relevant to investigate the question above through your own discipline. The process of developing your problem statement will be supported by workshops, online self-study and sparring with experts, and peers.

Participating students are to:

- Define a problem statement to investigate within their own discipline by means of universal design.
- Ideate how and where they will carry out their investigation. Meaning identify a relevant international knowledge environment to visit and carry out their investigations.
- Present the expected new universal design knowledge their investigation will result in and the expected impact in the Danish context of their findings.

Proposed projects are to:

- Develop knowledge on universal design within key aspects of our daily lives: products, environments, programmes, and services.
- Consequently, to the above primary goal, promote an understanding of human beings that includes everyone across different and changing abilities and showcase universal design as a lever for the pledge to Leave No One Behind.

By addressing these objectives, participating students develop and pitch their individual projects for evaluation by an international and interdisciplinary jury.

Bevica Scholarships are ultimately granted to students that excel in their ambition to innovate and demonstrate how universal design can be applied within their own discipline to generate a more equitable and inclusive society for all in Denmark.

Lecturers

How can universal design contribute to a more inclusive society? How can teaching at Danish research-based universities, university colleges, or architecture- and design schools support this quest? And what new knowledge is needed to take action?

The Bevica Scholarship Programme challenges participating lecturers to develop a problem statement relevant to investigate the questions above through your own discipline. The process of developing your problem statement will be supported by workshops, online self-study and sparring with experts, and peers.

Participating lecturers are to:

- Define a key problem statement they wish to investigate within their own discipline by means of universal design.
- Identify one or more key aspects of universal design they wish to gain knowledge about to inform their own teaching practice, policies, and/or subjects.
- Ideate how and where they will carry out their investigation. Meaning identify a relevant international academic knowledge environment to visit and carry out their investigations.
- Present the expected impact of their investigation on their teaching activities and curriculum development in universal design.

Proposed projects should stimulate and strengthen teaching that:

- Develop knowledge on universal design within key aspects of our daily lives: products, environments, programmes, and services.
- Consequently, to the above primary goal, promote an understanding of human beings that includes everyone across different and changing abilities and increases knowledge about universal design as a lever to Leave No One Behind.

By addressing these objectives, participating lecturers develop and pitch their individual project for evaluation by an international and interdisciplinary jury.

Bevica Fellowships are ultimately granted to lecturers that excel in their ambition to innovate and demonstrate how universal design may stimulate and strengthen their teaching activities and curricula development to generate a more equitable and inclusive society for all in Denmark.

THE PROCESS

Students and lecturers are invited to sign up for the Bevica Scholarship Programme by 1st of December 2026.

The programme is structured in three phases for all participants:

1. **The Ideation phase** where you attain new knowledge from a mix of two one-day workshops, online self-study modules and hands-on sparring with experts and peers, in order to develop a problem statement, you wish to further investigate.
2. **The Creation phase** where a selected shortlist works on refining their project, makes initial agreement with the host environment of their investigations, and develops their potential pitch for the award ceremony.
3. **The Investigation phase** where the Scholarship recipients travel abroad to carry out their project investigations and bring new universal design knowledge back to Denmark.

Ideation

February – April 2027

Creation

May – October 2027

Investigation

2028–2029

January – December 2028

Student recipients of a Bevica Scholarship prize and grant carry out their investigations abroad

January 2028– December 2029

Lecturer recipients of a Bevica Scholarship prize and grant award carry out their investigations abroad

Specified timeline of the Bevica Scholarship Programme:

Sign-up September 2026 – December 2026	
1 st of September 2026	Sign-up for the Bevica Scholarship Programme opens
Sept. – Nov. 2026	Information meetings at Danish universities, university colleges and architecture- and design schools across Denmark.
1 st of December 2026	Sign-up closes
Ideation February – April 2027	
6 th of February 2027 (Saturday)	Full-day physical workshop with expert presentations, mentor sparring and interdisciplinary group work (physical attendance required)
6 th of March 2027 (Saturday)	Full-day physical workshop with expert presentations, mentor sparring and interdisciplinary group work (physical attendance required)
30 th of March 2027	Deadline for first submission of project proposal
April 2027	Jury assessment
Creation May – October 2027	
1 st of May 2027	Shortlist announced
4-5 th of June 2027	Workshop for shortlist with mentors and professional experts (physical attendance required)
16 th of August 2027	Deadline for final submission from shortlisted participants
August-September 2027	Jury assessment
20 th of September 2027	Finalists selected for pitch at Award Show announced
7 th of October 2027	Award Show with pitches from selected finalists (physical attendance required)
28 th of October 2027	Information meeting for all Scholarship recipients
Investigation 2028-2029	
January – December 2028	Student recipients of a Bevica Scholarship prize and grant award carry out their investigations abroad
January 2028 – December 2029	Lecturer recipients of a Bevica Scholarship prize and grant award carry out their investigations abroad
2028-2029	Knowledge and experiences are disseminated to Universal Design Hub during the journey

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

Students

To sign up for the Bevica Scholarship Programme, students must be enrolled at a Danish research-based university, university college, or architecture- and design school. Moreover, students must have completed at least the 3rd semester of their education at the start of Ideation (February 2027). Students from all disciplines can participate.

Selected participants receive a Bevica Scholarship of DKK 200,000 in the Bachelor Student category and the Master Student category or a Bevica Scholarship travel grant of DKK 30,000. The Bevica Scholarships are to be used for visiting an international knowledge environment. The international knowledge environment may be either an academic, a civic/NGO or private sector environment, depending on the scope of the project.

The Investigation phase is planned in dialogue with Bevica Fonden and should be completed no later than the end of 2028. All recipients of a Bevica Scholarship award are obliged to disseminate knowledge and experiences to Universal Design Hub, Bevica Fonden during their investigations.

Lecturers

To sign up for the Bevica Scholarship Programme, lecturers must be employed at a Danish research-based university, university college, or architecture- and design school. Furthermore, lecturers must be able to document active teaching activities within the past two years at the beginning of Ideation (February 2027). Lecturers from all disciplines can participate.

Selected participants receive a Bevica Fellowship of DKK 130,000 or a Bevica Fellowship travel grant of DKK 30,000. Bevica Fellowships and travel grants are to be used to visit an international research-based university, university college, or architecture- and design school, to stimulate and strengthen teaching and curricula development within universal design in a Danish context.

The Investigation phase is planned in dialogue with Bevica Fonden and should be completed no later than the end of 2029. All recipients of a Bevica Fellowship award are obliged to disseminate knowledge and experiences to Universal Design Hub, Bevica Fonden during their investigations.

WHAT DO YOU GET OUT OF JOINING THE BEVICA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

- Students: The chance to win a Bevica Scholarship of DKK 200,000 or a Bevica Scholarship travel grant of DKK 30,000.
- Lecturers: The chance to win a Bevica Fellowship of DKK 130,000 or a Bevica Fellowship travel grant of DKK 30,000.
- An opportunity to investigate new and extensive knowledge about universal design as a means to secure equity, diversity, inclusion, and the Leave No One Behind agenda in an interdisciplinary context.
- Access to an extensive network of peers and experts – including support to identify, make contact and gain access to your potential host institution.
- You become a *Bevica Ideator*, an opportunity to become a *Bevica Creator*, and potentially a *Bevica Scholar/Bevica Fellow*.
- Membership of the Bevica Scholarship Alumni Network.
- Support and profiling through the Bevica Scholarship communication channels and networks.
- An opportunity to join a network of like-minded innovators on a journey to a more equitable and inclusive society for all.