

Cooperation on the Industrial PhD Programme - company considerations

- The industrial PhD project must have a significant commercial potential for the company. Furthermore, it is important that the project has been conceived from the perspective of strengthening or supporting the company's business activities
- The company must have a strong interest in entering into a close research cooperation with the university since the industrial PhD student spends all his/her working time on the Industrial PhD project and study, and shares the working time equally between the company and the university
- The Industrial PhD project should be strategically and organisationally anchored in the company to ensure interest in the project throughout the entire project period – also e.g. if the company supervisor changes job
- All relevant parties should be identified as early as possible – i.e. company supervisors, university supervisor(s) and possibly the potential industrial PhD student – to ensure that all agree on the framework of the project and content of the application
- During the application process, the best result is achieved if the company has organisational structures supporting the company supervisor with regard to clarifying questions on IPR in the project, the project's commercial potential, etc.
- Consider IPR and any company requirements concerning confidentiality as they may conflict with ministerial and/or university requirements regarding public availability and accessibility. It should therefore be discussed and agreed between the company and the university before project start. Note in particular, that the PhD thesis must be available to the public in due time before the defence, and that the PhD student must have a public PhD defence. The PhD student will only be assessed on the public part of the thesis and defence
- Note that an application must be submitted to Innovation Fund Denmark and to the PhD school (GSST), respectively. The company formally applies to Innovation Fund Denmark, and the potential Industrial PhD student formally applies to GSST. The potential industrial PhD student must have been granted a conditional approval from GSST before the company submits its application to Innovation Fund Denmark.