

## **PAY AGREEMENT FOR BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENTISTS (THE DANISH ASSOCIATION OF BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENTISTS (DBIO))**

### **1. Persons covered**

The pay agreement covers biomedical laboratory scientists employed with Aarhus University in accordance with the circular on the trade union agreement for biomedical laboratory scientists.

### **2. Framework and purpose**

The framework for the pay agreement is Aarhus University's staff policy adopted at a Main Liaison Committee (HSU)/Main Occupational Health and Safety Committee (HAMU) meeting on 12 May 2016. The pay agreement is a tool for realising the objectives of Aarhus University's staff policy.

As set out in the staff policy, Aarhus University's goals are:

- to ensure that each employee's pay reflects his or her function, level of responsibility, efforts and relevant competencies
- to ensure that pay negotiations at Aarhus University take place in a fair and transparent manner.

### **3. Pay system**

The pay agreement is based on the base pay system outlined in the trade union agreement.

Aarhus University and the DBIO union representatives have noted the intention of the parties to the collective agreement that the base salaries be supplemented with the introduction of local supplements. Through the introduction of local supplements, the pay instrument can be used strategically to ensure that each employee's pay to a higher degree reflects his or her special qualifications, functions and results achieved in relation to the institution's objectives.

- Supplements may be awarded as supplements for qualifications or as supplements for responsibilities.
- Supplements are stated in basic amounts (31 March 2012 level) and are awarded as permanent or temporary supplements.
- Supplements are adjusted in relation to the employee's employment rate.
- One-off bonuses may be awarded for extraordinary work efforts.

Individual agreements concerning supplements for employees are concluded between the university

director, or the dean, and the DBIO union representatives at Aarhus University. The university director, or the dean, may have delegated this authority.

The right to negotiate and the right to conclude agreements on pay may not be delegated to an organisational level below the departmental (Aarhus BSS, HE and ST)/school (Arts)/administrative division level. Heads of departments/heads of schools/deputy directors may request the assistance of lower-level managers in connection with the negotiations, but the right to negotiate and the right to conclude pay agreements may not be delegated any further. However, subject to agreement between management and employee representatives, the authority to negotiate may be delegated to a lower level.

#### **4. General information on supplements and one-off bonuses**

Supplements consist of a minimum amount of DKK 10,000 per year (31 March 2012 level). Advancement to biomedical laboratory scientist with specialist or consultant responsibilities may be agreed without the simultaneous award of a minimum amount.

- Permanent and temporary supplements are pensionable.
- Supplements are adjusted in line with the general pay increases agreed through central collective bargaining or implemented in the pay adjustment scheme.
- Supplements for responsibilities are temporary, as they are paid only for as long as the relevant responsibilities are undertaken.
- One-off bonuses consist of a minimum amount of DKK 10,000 (current level) and are generally non-pensionable.

An annex to the pay agreement lists a number of examples of criteria which may form the basis of negotiations between management and the DBIO union representatives concerning the payment of supplements for qualifications, recruitment supplements, retention supplements or supplements for responsibilities. The lists are not exhaustive.

#### **5. Pay level**

Aarhus University's goal is to offer attractive terms of employment and to support a good work environment through the fair allocation of payroll funds.

Aarhus University wishes to promote employee motivation and well-being among other things by ensuring that the individual employee's pay, function, level of responsibility and effort are commensurate. Special emphasis is placed on equal treatment. As a general rule, employees with comparable functions and qualifications etc. must be able to attain the same pay level, regardless of their organisational placement and the source of the payroll funds.

Payroll funds may be used to attract and retain particularly qualified employees.

Aarhus University and DBIO agree that advancement to the pay grade of biomedical laboratory scientist with specialist or consultant responsibilities is a natural step and must be negotiated when the sum of the pay at the current pay grade and of the agreed supplements will exceed the pay for this pay group.

Any transition to employment as chief biomedical laboratory scientist is agreed separately.

In connection with advancement to biomedical laboratory scientist with specialist or consultant responsibilities or to chief biomedical laboratory scientist, the future pay structure will be based on negotiations between management and the union representative.

## **6. New employees**

When recruiting salaried staff, the local union representative for the relevant area is involved in the negotiation of pay.

The negotiation of pay level and any supplements in connection with recruitment takes place between the relevant local union representative and the head of department/head of school/deputy director assisted by HR.

Prior to the negotiations, the union representative and the manager, assisted by HR, assess the employee's competencies, pay level and recruitment situation.

Once management has approved a recommendation regarding an appointment and has offered the position to the recommended candidate, management – via HR – contacts the local union representative to arrange the negotiation of the candidate's pay in due course.

The local union representative contacts the applicant about the pay negotiations.

The pay negotiations are based on the pay level for the relevant job category.

Any agreement concerning supplement(s) must be documented and forms the basis of the final contract of employment with Aarhus University. As far as possible, the terms of pay applying to the employment should be agreed prior to the commencement of the employment.

## **7. Negotiation procedure**

The annual pay negotiations for employees under the new pay systems are organised and carried out as a

single process in the first six months of the year. Supplements are agreed with effect from 1 April of the pay negotiation year. Supplements for responsibilities may, however, be agreed from another effective date, but no earlier than from the commencement of the function. As far as possible, the annual pay negotiations should be concluded by the end of June.

With the assistance of HR, the local negotiating parties are responsible for organising the pay negotiations within this time frame and in a way that ensures a constructive negotiation culture with focus on the discussion of pay, performance and competencies.

The managers agree with the union representatives and the local liaison committees (LSU) how the conclusion of the pay negotiations and the overall results of the negotiations should be communicated to the individual employees having applied for a pay increase as well as to the entire unit.

Information about the results of the negotiations is provided immediately after the conclusion of the pay negotiations.

In addition, proposals for extraordinary payments or increased supplements for employees may be made at any time by both management and the union representative. The aim is for the consideration of such proposals to take no longer than one month.

Reference is made to Guidelines for the pay negotiation process at Aarhus University.

## **8. Contracting parties**

The pay agreement enters into force on 1 February 2017 and replaces all previous pay agreements at Aarhus University for DBIO.

The pay agreement may be terminated subject to three months' notice; however, by 31 March 2018 at the earliest. Any amendments are subject to agreement by the parties.

Aarhus, 12.12.2016

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## 9. Rules

- Circular on the trade union agreement for biomedical laboratory scientists (Cirkulære om organisationsaftale for bioanalytikere); the Agency for the Modernisation of Public Administration's circular no. 035-16

## EXAMPLES OF CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD OF SUPPLEMENTS TO BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENTISTS

### Supplements for qualifications:

The following criteria are examples of criteria which may form the basis of the award of supplements for qualifications. The list is not exhaustive.

- High health professional quality on the basis of experience gained of relevance to the performance of the work, including expert knowledge on procedures and routines.
- Incorporation of theoretical health professional knowledge and relevant further and continuing education in the practical laboratory work.
- Special competencies within quality assurance, the field of documentation, IT and languages.
- Competencies within communication and teaching on the basis of expert knowledge and routines in techniques/analyses.
- Competencies in connection with patient examinations, including sole responsibility and liaising between patients and research teams.
- Competencies that ensure the inclusion of ethical aspects and assessments prior to and during the performance of the work.

### Supplements for responsibilities:

The following criteria are examples of criteria which may form the basis of the award of supplements for responsibilities. The list is not exhaustive.

- Specialist responsibilities in relation to commissioning and optimisation of special equipment
- Work assignments/projects requiring flexibility in relation to working hours
- Responsibility for maintaining/developing tissue banks and databases
- Responsibility for documentation and communication tasks
- Responsibility for equipment, purchasing, maintenance and administration
- Tasks of a managerial/teaching-related nature, e.g.

- HR management
- Instruction of researchers and visiting researchers, training/teaching of students (students writing their thesis, Master's degree students and PhD students).
- Responsibility for daily planning, including prioritisation and coordination across sections

**One-off bonuses:**

The following criteria are examples of criteria which may form the basis of the award of one-off bonuses.

The list is not exhaustive:

- Extraordinary work efforts in connection with:
  - Project start-up/completion
  - Restructuring
  - Temporary extra work assignments, areas of responsibility

**Social values:**

- Good communication skills in relation to new employees and external partners
- Openness and a talent for cross-disciplinary collaboration
- Contribution to a positive and inclusive atmosphere at the workplace