

Denmark's Industrial PhD Programme — Five Decades of Company-Embedded Doctoral Research

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Denmark

Quality score: 76/100

Evidence strength: Quasi-experimental

Summary

Since 1971, Denmark has embedded PhD students inside private companies for three-year, university-supervised research projects. A 2012 government register study of 676 graduates found 95-99% employment and a 25% income rise between 2004 and 2010.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	3/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	1/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[Innovation Fund Denmark \(Innovationsfonden\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[Innovation Fund Denmark — Industrial PhD](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[ITIF — What the U.S. Can Learn From Denmark's Industrial PhD Program](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[Oxford Research \(2012\) — The Effect of the Industrial PhD Programme on Employment and Income](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

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