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## **Call for applications for the right to study for a doctoral degree and for fixed-term doctoral candidate positions at the University of Turku, the Doctoral programme on Inequalities, Interventions and New Welfare State (DPInvest)**

### **Doctoral programme on Inequalities, Interventions and New Welfare State**

The Doctoral Programme in Inequalities, Interventions and New Welfare State is a cross-disciplinary, international PhD programme aimed at educating such specialists in social and behavioural sciences. DPInvest is located in the INVEST Research Flagship Center, the only Finnish research flagship in social and behavioural sciences, and it includes world-class top social, behavioural and medical scientists for teaching and supervising students. This makes the programme unique both in Finland as well as in Europe at large. The programme contributes directly to the strategic focus area of the University of Turku: Children, families and learning. The disciplines of the doctoral programme are child psychiatry, psychology and sociology.

For additional information, please refer to the website of the doctoral programme at: [DPInvest](#).  
Links to study guides: [Faculty of Social Sciences](#) and [Faculty of Medicine](#)

#### **1. Application period and what can be applied for**

The application consists of an electronic form and PDF files attached to it including all required material according to the instructions. **The applicant should carefully familiarize themselves with the required attachments before filling out the application (see pp. 5-7).** A link to the electronic application forms and the instructions for the PDF appendix files will be published at the website of [the Graduate School \(UTUGS\)](#).

During the application period 30<sup>th</sup> August – 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021 the doctoral programme invites applications for

***a) a right to study for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku from 1 January 2022 onwards (Faculties of Social Sciences or Faculty of Medicine)***

***b) a right to study for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku (Faculties of Social Sciences or Faculty of Medicine) and a fixed-term Doctoral Candidate position***

***c) a fixed-term Doctoral Candidate position***

DPInvest invites applications for Doctoral Candidate positions (fixed-term). Work in the positions begins on 1 January, 2022 at the earliest and is for a **maximum of four years** (up to until 31 December 2025).



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Doctoral Candidate positions are primarily intended for full-time doctoral dissertation research and doctoral studies with the aim of completing the doctoral degree in four years. The doctoral degree has to be pursued in the Faculty of Social Sciences or Faculty of Medicine. Other duties than those related to doctoral dissertation research must not compromise the full-time doctoral dissertation research. As a rule, teaching and other duties than those related to doctoral dissertation can be at most 5% (80 h) of the annual working time of the doctoral candidate.

The salary is based on the salary system of Finnish universities. It consists of a task-specific salary component and a personal performance salary component. The task-specific salary component of a Doctoral Candidate is at level 2–4 of teaching and research staff; €2,078.27- €2,591.28 per month. The component based on personal performance is 6–50% of the task-specific salary. The task-specific salary component of an entry-level Doctoral Candidate is typically on level 2. A probationary period of 6 months applies.

Those applicants who are not citizens of an EU/EEA country and who have been granted a right to study for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku in the spring 2021 application round or who are granted a right to study in the autumn 2021 application round may apply for the Finland Fellowship grant for the year 2022. The grant is applied for by checking the corresponding field on the application form. For more information, see <https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/finlandfellowship>

## **2. Who may apply**

### **2.1. The right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Social Sciences or at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Turku can be applied for by:**

Persons who meet the eligibility criteria for pursuing a doctoral degree, as stipulated in the Universities Act (558/2009, Section 37) as well as the eligibility criteria for the right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Social Sciences or at the Faculty of Medicine.

The prerequisites for the right to pursue doctoral studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences can be found at: <https://www.utu.fi/en/university/faculty-of-social-sciences/doctoral-training/applying>

The prerequisites for the right to pursue doctoral studies at the Faculty of Medicine can be found at: <https://www.utu.fi/en/university/faculty-of-medicine/doctoral-training-at-the-faculty-of-medicine/how-to-apply-for-doctoral-training-at-the-faculty-of-medicine>

### **2.2. A fixed-term doctoral candidate positions can be applied for by:**

1. All doctoral candidates who have the right to pursue a doctoral degree at the Faculties of Social Sciences or at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Turku and who have not previously had a full-time funded doctoral candidate position for a total of four years.
2. Applicants, who have not yet been granted the right to pursue a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Social Sciences or at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Turku, but match the profile of the doctoral programme and meet the eligibility criteria for the right to pursue a doctoral degree (Universities Act 558/2009, Section 37). As the right to pursue a doctoral degree is a precondition for accepting a doctoral candidate position funded by the University, the person must apply for

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both a right to study for doctoral degree and a doctoral candidate position in this call for applications.

According to Section 39 of the University of Turku Rules of Procedure, a person selected for the position of a Doctoral Candidate is required to have a higher university degree and must have an accepted research plan. In addition, when acquiring his or her degree or otherwise, he or she is required to have demonstrated the ability and motivation to undertake postgraduate studies and the capacity to complete a doctoral degree in accordance with the research plan. **As a right to study for a degree is a prerequisite for receiving the position of a doctoral candidate, the applicant must also apply for the right to study for a doctoral degree in the DPinvest (unless s/he already has it) in addition to applying for the position of a doctoral candidate.**

Persons who already have a doctoral degree cannot apply for the Doctoral Candidate position.

### 3. Applying

#### 3.1. Application documents

You can apply for the study right for a doctoral degree and/or the fixed-term doctoral candidate position at the Faculty of Social Sciences or at the Faculty of Medicine:

- by filling in **the electronic application form** (in the electronic system for applying doctoral candidate positions at University of Turku) and
- by attaching **all the required application documents** to the electronic application form. The required application documents are stated in the end of this call for applications:
  - Appendix 1: Documents for Faculty of Social Sciences (psychology and sociology)
  - Appendix 2: Documents for Faculty of Medicine (child psychiatry)

A link to the application form will be made available at the UTUGS web page: [Application form](#). The form will be accessible as the application period begins on 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2021 and closes at 11:59 pm (time in Finland) on 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2021. The application documents will not be returned to the sender.

#### 3.2 Assessment of applications

The board of the doctoral programme will process the applications and may invite external experts to evaluate them. The applications are assessed according to the following criteria, where relevant:

- Quality of the research plan (general quality, feasibility, relation to doctoral programme research profile). The research plans attached to the applications may be checked with the Turnitin OriginalityCheck plagiarism detection software in accordance with the University of Turku quality assurance system
- Success in previous studies (master's thesis, or equivalent, grade and other studies)
- Academic merits and progress in studies towards a doctoral degree
- How well the research plan is link with the research themes of the programme:  
<https://invest.utu.fi/> (click: Ecosystem)

In the evaluation, the multidisciplinary nature of the doctoral programme will be taken into consideration, and therefore the aim to cover all the different disciplines in the doctoral programme may have an effect on final selection. Applicants ranked on the highest levels will be proposed to receive funded doctoral training positions for the applied or shorter periods.

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#### 4. Decision-making

The board of the doctoral programme will make proposals of doctoral student selection to the Faculty of Social Sciences or the Faculty of Medicine and the Heads of the departments of the Faculties decide on recruitment of the applicants on a Doctoral Candidate positions, based on the proposal of the board of the Doctoral programme. All applicants will be personally informed on the decisions. The names of persons selected for funded positions will also be published online at website of the doctoral programme by the end of November 2021: [DPIInvest](#).

Deans of the two faculties decide on granting the right to study for a doctoral degree, based on the proposal of the board of the doctoral programme. Decisions on the applications for the right to pursue a doctoral degree in the two faculties are made by the end of November 2021. If an applicant is dissatisfied with the result of the student selection, he/she has the right to submit an application for the rectification of the decision to the Faculty in question within 14 days of the official publishing of the results.

An admitted applicant has to notify the University of Turku of his/her acceptance of the study place by 3:00 pm (time in Finland) on 15 December 2021 according to the instructions given in the admission notification. If the admitted applicant does not give the notification by the end of the allotted period of time mentioned above, he/she forfeits the study place. A person admitted to more than one university or polytechnic degree programme only notifies the one educational institution at which he/she accepts the study place. Notification, i.e. accepting a study place, is binding and may not be cancelled or changed later.

According to Finnish university legislation, a student may accept only one study place leading to a higher education degree in Finland during one academic term (autumn term 1 Aug – 31 Dec or spring term 1 Jan – 31 Jul). This rule applies to all higher education, i.e. Bachelor and Master level degrees awarded by Finnish universities of applied sciences, Bachelor and Master degrees awarded by Finnish universities, and Licentiate and Doctoral degrees awarded by Finnish universities. This regulation is not applied to study rights received in transfer student selections, from the Åland University of Applied Sciences, from the Police University College, and from institutions of higher education outside Finland.

The applicants who have completed their prior degree in a country other than Finland and who are granted a study right in this call, need to deliver either the original degree certificates or certified copies of the original degree certificates and their translations to the University of Turku as instructed in the admission notification. If the admitted applicant does not deliver the required certificates by the deadline set in the admission notification, he/she forfeits the study right. Instructions on delivering certificates and country-specific requirements are available here: <https://www.utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/accepted-students/original-documents>.

#### 5. Appeal for rectification

If an applicant is dissatisfied with the result of the student selection (right to study for a doctoral degree), he/she has the right to submit an application for the rectification of the decision to the Faculty of Social Sciences or to the Faculty of Medicine within 14 days of the official publishing of the results. Contact address: [socpostgraduate@utu.fi](mailto:socpostgraduate@utu.fi)

#### 6. Further information:

University lecturer Patricia McMullin: [patricia.mcmullin@utu.fi](mailto:patricia.mcmullin@utu.fi), +358 46 922 1882  
Coordinator: Vesa Rautio, [vesa.rautio@utu.fi](mailto:vesa.rautio@utu.fi), +358 50 416 8345

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## **Appendix 1. Description of the application documents (Faculty of Social Sciences: psychology and sociology)**

### **a) Application for a right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Social Sciences AND**

### **b) Application for a fixed-term doctoral candidate position and at the same time application for a right to study for a doctoral degree at the Social Sciences**

*In addition to the electronic form, the following documents must be submitted:*

1. Research plan, max 6 pages (see [instructions](#)).  
By attaching the research plan to the application form, the applicant gives permission to check the research plan with Turnitin OriginalityCheck software (a system for electronic plagiarism detection).
  2. Curriculum vitae, max 3 pages. A CV includes a list of publications.  
Please see the instructions of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity for writing a CV <https://www.tenk.fi/en/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae>
  3. Motivation letter  
Motivation letter is a max two-page-long freeform document, which includes the reasons for applying to doctoral studies in DPInvest in the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Turku.
  4. Commitment by a supervisor (file or copy of email message by a professor or a researcher with a doctoral degree working at the University of Turku to confirm that she/he is willing to supervise applicant's dissertation project. List of supervisors: <https://invest.utu.fi/research-groups/>
- Note:** At least one of the named supervisors need to represent applicant's discipline (i.e. sociology or psychology).
5. Copies of the degree certificates and transcript of study records
    - A. If the applicant has completed the former degree(s) which make him/her eligible for doctoral studies at a university in Finland, the degree certificates, the transcripts of study records and other educational documents which may be of relevance in the student selection must be attached to the electronic application form.
    - B. If the applicant has completed the former degree(s) which make him/her eligible for doctoral studies at a university abroad (i.e. outside Finland), s/he must attach the following items to the electronic application form:
      - scanned original degree certificates (in the same language as the degree was completed in)
      - scanned original transcripts of study records (in the same language as the degree was completed in)
      - scanned other original educational documents which may be of relevance in the student selection
      - If the original degree certificates and other educational documents are not written in English, Finnish or Swedish, official translations to one of these languages must also be submitted. **An official translation here refers to a translation of the educational documents issued by the awarding institution or a translation made by an authorized translator.** A transcript in English can be replaced by a Diploma Supplement awarded by a European educational institution if it contains the information about completed courses and other study attainments.

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## 6. Verification of language proficiency

The University of Turku follows the Rector's decision (15 Aug 2019) on the means of verifying one's language proficiency. See the language requirements on the webpage of the university's graduate school: <https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/how-to-apply/language>

• **If the applicant is required to prove their language proficiency with a language test, a scanned certificate of a completed language test must be attached to the application**

### **c) Application for a fixed-term doctoral candidate position**

*In addition to the electronic form, the following documents must be submitted:*

1. Research plan, max 6 pages (see [instructions](#)).  
By attaching the research plan to the application form, the applicant gives permission to check the research plan with Turnitin OriginalityCheck software (a system for electronic plagiarism detection).
2. Curriculum vitae, max 3 pages. A CV includes a list of publications.  
Please see the instructions of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity for writing a CV <https://www.tenk.fi/en/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae>
3. Copies of the transcript of study records

Those applicants who have been granted a right to study and who have completed their prior degree abroad have to submit either the original degree certificates or certified copies of the degree certificates and other educational documents and the official translations of the documents to the University of Turku as instructed in the admission notification. If the admitted applicant does not deliver the required certificates by the deadline set in the admission notification, he/she forfeits the study right. Instructions on delivering certificates and country-specific requirements are available here: <https://www.utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/accepted-students/original-documents>.

The applicant must deliver all required attachments by the end of the application period. Late applications will not be processed.

## **Appendix 2. Description of the application documents (Faculty of Medicine: child psychiatry)**

### **a) Application for a right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Medicine AND**

### **b) Application for a fixed-term doctoral candidate position and at the same time application for a right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Medicine**

*The application consists of an electronic form and attached documents in pdf format (list below). For the application the applicant has to prepare:*

- a summary of the research plan (max 1000 characters) and
- enclosures in pdf format:



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- a) Research plan, max 6 pages (See [instructions](#)). By attaching the research plan to the application form the applicant gives permission for checking the research plan with Turnitin Originality Check (system for electrical plagiarism detection).
- b) Curriculum vitae, max 3 pages. A CV includes a list of publications. Please see the instructions of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity (TENK) for writing a CV: <https://www.tenk.fi/en/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae>
- c) Motivation letter  
Motivation letter is a max two-page-long freeform document, which includes the reasons for applying to doctoral studies in DPInvest in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Turku.
- d) Postgraduate study plan. See instructions: [DPInvest doctoral programme's instructions on applying](#), section 'Research plan and study plan'.
- e) [Signed supervision plan](#) [(Fill in electronically, print, sign together with the supervisor/-s and the head of subject (Child Psychiatry) and scan as an attachment)].

***Conditional enclosures (please check the instructions carefully):***

- f) A copy of the degree certificates and the transcript of study records (if needed): See [Faculty of Medicine instructions on applying](#), section 'Degree giving the eligibility'.  
NB! Please keep your original degree certificates and other relevant educational documents at hand during the application process.
- g) Certificates indicating the language skills (if needed): See [Faculty of Medicine instructions on applying](#), section 'Language proficiency'.

**c) Application for a fixed-term doctoral candidate position**

- a) Research plan, max 6 pages (See [instructions](#)). By attaching the research plan to the application form the applicant gives permission for checking the research plan with Turnitin Originality Check (system for electrical plagiarism detection).
- b) Curriculum vitae, max 3 pages. A CV includes a list of publications. Please see the instructions of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity (TENK) for writing a CV: <https://www.tenk.fi/en/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae>
- c) A copy of the transcript of study records

The applicant must deliver all required attachments by the end of the application period. Late applications will not be processed.