UNIVERSITY OF TURKU

Call for Applications
30 October 2026

Doctoral Programme in Technology (DPT)

Call for Applications for Doctoral Researcher Positions at the University of Turku Graduate School, Doctoral Programme in Technology (DPT)

In this call for applications, you may apply for the right to pursue a doctoral degree within the University of Turku Doctoral Programme in Technology (DPT) at the Faculty of Technology or Turku School of Economics (Information Systems Science as field of research).

The Doctoral Programme in Technology (DPT) operates in the disciplines of natural sciences and technology. A Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree can be completed in following major subjects: biochemistry, food chemistry, industrial engineering and management, molecular biotechnology and diagnostics, molecular plant biology or computer science. A Doctor of Science in Technology (DSc (Tech)) degree can be completed in following major subjects: automation and electrical engineering, biotechnology, food development, sustainable biotechnological processes, biomedical engineering and health technology, information and communication technology, materials engineering, mechanical engineering, or industrial engineering and management. A degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Doctor of Science in Economics and Business Administration (DSc (Econ & Bus Admin)) can be completed in the major subject of information systems science. More detailed description of the doctoral programme can be found at www.utu.fi/dpt.

Application period and what you may apply for

During the application period **1 – 15 December 2026 at 23:59 (local time in Finland)** you may apply for the **right to pursue a doctoral degree in the University of Turku Doctoral Programme in Technology (DPT) at the Faculty of Technology or Turku School of Economics (Information Systems Science as field of research) from 1 April 2027 onwards**.

Requirements for applicants

- You are required to have completed a relevant Master's degree awarded by a university or a university of applied sciences, or a relevant study programme abroad which in the awarding country gives eligibility for the corresponding level of higher education (Universities Act 558/2009, 37§). At the **Faculty of Technology**, the degree that grants the eligibility for admission must be completed within the application period, or after the application deadline on the condition that the applicant graduates and submits a scanned degree certificate and a transcript of study records to the University of Turku email tech-doc@utu.fi by **31 March 2027**. When applying for **Information Systems Science at the Turku School of Economics**, the degree that grants the eligibility for admission must be completed at the latest on **15 December 2026**;

- You must meet the University of Turku language proficiency requirements. Link to the Graduate School's web page on language requirements;

- You must fulfil the requirements set by the Faculty of Technology, or the Turku School of Economics and the Doctoral Programme in Technology for granting the right to pursue a doctoral degree. More information is provided under "Criteria for granting the right to pursue a doctoral degree".

How to apply

Apply for the right to pursue a doctoral degree by filling the electronic Studyinfo form and submitting the required attachments (see Appendix 1). The Studyinfo form opens at the start of the application period on **1 December 2026 and closes on 15 December 2026 at 23:59 (local time in Finland)**. A link to the Graduate School web pages where the links to the application forms will be published.

In this application round, you may apply for admission to up to one doctoral programme at the University of Turku. You may only have one valid doctoral degree study right at the University of Turku at a time.

Late applications will not be considered. The chosen study programme (doctoral programme) cannot be changed and the application cannot be amended after the application period has ended.

Selection criteria and evaluation of applications

Applicant's research topic must fit the profile of the doctoral programme. The doctoral programme's steering group will evaluate applications after the deadline and may use external experts as necessary. Research plans submitted with applications may be checked with Turnitin OriginalityCheck for plagiarism in accordance with the University's quality system; the use of artificial intelligence and how it was used in preparing the research plan may also be assessed.

Criteria for granting the right to pursue a doctoral degree

Granting the right to pursue a doctoral degree requires that the applicant:

- meets the eligibility criteria determined in the Universities Act (558/2009, Section 37). More information is provided under "Requirements for applicants".
- meets the University of Turku language proficiency requirements. Link to the Graduate School's web page on language requirements;
- fulfils the requirements set by the Faculty of Technology or the Turku School of Economics and the Doctoral Programme in Technolgy (see below).

At the Doctoral Programme in Technology the following criteria are used in the selection and evaluation of applicants:

- Applicant's educational background and research-related merits
- Quality of the research plan (*Please note! The research plan should be prepared using the mandatory template, more information in Appendix 1*)
  - clarity of goals/objectives, methods, novelty, impact, relevance

- feasibility of planned research (timeframe; resources, realistic funding plan)
- motivation

In addition, the admitted applicants must have a good knowledge of the English language. The research topic of the doctoral researcher must fit the profile of the doctoral programme.

New doctoral researchers have to agree on the supervision arrangements with the department in question before submitting the application (Supervision plan form). According to the Rector's decision each doctoral researcher must have **at least two supervisors**. One supervisor acts as the main supervisor.

At the Faculty of Technology, a doctoral researcher has to be appointed at least two qualified supervisors and a research director. The faculty may appoint only one supervisor for a doctoral researcher based on application and for a valid reason. A supervisor must have completed a doctoral degree, and at least one of the doctoral researcher's supervisors must be a professor (professor, associate professor or assistant professor) or an adjunct professor. In the Faculty of Technology, one of the doctoral researcher's supervisors has to be employed by the University of Turku or be docent (adjunct professor) of the University of Turku. A person eligible for research director is an employee of the Faculty whose title is Professor.

At Turku School of Economics, the following principles are followed in the selection of doctoral researcher's supervisors: 1) At least two supervisors are appointed for each doctoral researcher, both of whom must have a doctoral degree, 2) one of the supervisors must be a member of TSE's teaching and research staff; 3) the principal supervisor is at the third stage of the researcher career or is on an equivalent level in scientific merit, and is an active researcher and publisher, 4) active scientific research activities are also required from the second supervisor and other possible supervisors.

If the applicant does not submit a signed supervision plan that meets the faculty supervisor requirements as an attachment of the application, the application will be rejected.

At the Faculty of Technology, in order to be accepted as a doctoral researcher, applicants are required to have been successful in their prior studies. If the field of the Master's degree (or equivalent) differs from the field of research of postgraduate studies or there are other shortcomings in prior studies, knowledge and skills may be required to be supplemented to achieve a sufficient level. The appointed research director of a postgraduate student gives a statement in the supervision plan on the possible need for so-called bridge studies. Bridge studies cannot be included in postgraduate studies of 40 ECTS.

- If the success of the applicant in the prior studies is not sufficient, a research director must take a stand in the supervision plan if bridge studies are needed.
- If the applicant does not hold a previous degree in the field of research they are applying for, a research director must take a stand in the supervision plan on possible bridge studies.

NOTE: The selection criteria for postgraduate studies at Turku School of Economics are used in the selection for applications to the right to pursue a doctoral degree in Information Systems Science.
See the selection criteria, including requirements for the research plan from

https://www.utu.fi/en/university/turku-school-of-economics/research/doctoral-training/applying

Decision on selections

Decisions on the right to pursue a doctoral degree

The vice-dean or dean responsible for doctoral education in the faculty decides on the granting of the right to pursue a doctoral degree on the basis of the doctoral programme steering group's proposal. All **applicants will be notified of the decisions personally by 26 February 2027**.

An admitted applicant must confirm acceptance of the study place in accordance with the instructions given in the decision by 16 March 2027 at 23:59 (local time in Finland). If the admitted applicant does not give the notification by the end of the allotted time period mentioned above, the applicant forfeits the study place.

A person admitted to more than one university or polytechnic degree programme only notifies the one educational institution at which they choose to accept 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, an applicant 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's and Master's level degrees awarded by Finnish universities of applied sciences, Bachelor's and Master's 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.

Applicants who have completed their prior degree in a country other than Finland and who are granted a right to pursue a doctoral degree 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, on 24 May 2027 at the latest. If the admitted applicant does not deliver the required certificates by the deadline, they forfeit the study right. A link to the the instructions on delivering certificates and country-specific requirements.

Further information

Doctoral Programme in Technology (DPT)

Doctoral training at the Faculty of Technology
Doctoral training at Turku School of Economics
University of Turku Graduate School (UTUGS)

Coordinator Aiste Ivanauskaite (aiste.ivanauskaite@utu.fi, +358 50 348 9413)
Head of the Programme Kati Hanhineva (kati.hanhineva@utu.fi, +358 50 472 1814)

Contact address of the faculty

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Turku School of Economics
tsedoctoralprogramme@utu.fi
Doctoral Education Specialist Jenni Gray
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Appendix 1: Attachments to the application when applying for a right to pursue a doctoral degree

Please ensure that all attachments are high-quality, easy-to-read, full-colour scans or photographs of the entire required document. Attachments must be submitted in PDF format. Attachments that do not meet these requirements may be rejected. Name each attachment so that the file name clearly indicates both your name and the document type (for example: surname-first name-CV).

All application documents are recommended to be written in English.

In addition to the electronic application form, documents 1-4 and possibly documents 6-8 must be submitted. In addition, document 5 is recommended to be submitted.

1) **Curriculum vitae *(mandatory)***

Please see the instructions of TENK for writing a CV:

http://www.tenk.fi/en/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae

2) Dissertation research plan *(mandatory)*

The dissertation research plan must be prepared using the mandatory template: **link to the DPT research plan template.** The maximum length of the research plan in is six (6) pages excluding references (Arial 11 pt; line spacing 1, side margins 2 cm) Please submit the research plan as a pdf.

The research plan must be prepared in cooperation with the supervisor(s).

The structure and content of the research plan must be the result of the applicant's own thinking. Any use of artificial intelligence in preparing the research plan should be limited to language and grammar editing.

When preparing the research plan you must follow the principles of good scientific practice (link to TENK's guidelines on good scientific practice). The research plan may be checked with the Turnitin OriginalityCheck plagiarism-detection system. Any use of artificial intelligence (AI) as an aid in preparing the research plan must be clearly declared in the application.

3) **Degree certificate and transcript of study records *(mandatory)***

Attach to the electronic application form:

- the scanned or electronic original certificate of the higher university degree (e.g. Master's degree),
- the scanned or electronic original transcript of study records of the higher university degree,
- other study certificates relevant to the selection criteria (for example, studies completed outside the degree that relate to the doctoral degree you are applying for).

If the documents are not in Finnish, Swedish or English, you must also submit an official translation into one of those languages; an official translation is accepted if issued by the degree-awarding university or produced by an authorised translator. A Diploma Supplement (DS) issued by a European higher education institution may be accepted instead of an English translation of the degree certificate and transcript, provided it contains the details of the study records.

In the Faculty of Technology, if the degree that gives eligibility for the study right for a doctoral degree is not completed by the deadline of application time, an up-to-date transcript of study records must be attached to the application.

4) **Supervision plan signed by the supervisors, the applicant, and a) a research director (Faculty of Technology) OR b) the subject's Professor in charge (Information Systems Science, Turku School of Economics) *(mandatory)***

A supervision plan is a mandatory attachment of the application. Links to the supervision plan form templates for:
Faculty of Technology applicants
Information systems science applicants

You can also find the supervision plan forms on the website:
https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/dpt/admission.

5) **List of publication (recommended if you have publications)**

Please see the instructions in English here.

6) **Certificate of language proficiency *(possibly mandatory, check below)***

The University of Turku follows the Rector's decision (8 June 2026) that defines acceptable ways of verifying language proficiency. You should read the University of Turku's guidance on language proficiency carefully: Link to the webpage on language requirements.

As an attachment to your application, you must include a scanned certificate of a language test approved by the University of Turku, unless the guidance states otherwise.

7) **Copy of valid passport *(possibly mandatory, check below)***

Attach a copy of your valid passport or official identification card with photo and information on citizenship.

If you have a Finnish personal identity code and you have entered it on the application form, you do not need to attach a copy of your passport.

8) **A statement of continuous commitment by a company/organization (outside UTU) to an employee's doctoral degree (potentially needed, check below)**

A freeform document, in which a company / organization (representative of a company / organization, e.g. superior) express of being aware of the applicant's post-graduate studies and shows support (e.g. level or type of support, possible resources) for applicant's studies while the applicant works at the same time at the company / organization. The commitment should express also the impact of the thesis work for the company / organization.