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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DOCTORAL RESEARCHER POSITIONS AND STUDY RIGHTS AT THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME OF TURKU SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

The Doctoral Programme of Turku School of Economics (TSE) invites applications for fixed-term Doctoral Researcher positions starting from 1 January 2023

AND

applications for the right to study for a Doctor of Science in Economics and Business Administration, Doctor of Social Sciences or Doctor of Philosophy degree at Turku School of Economics.

1. The Doctoral Programme of Turku School of Economics

[The Doctoral Programme of Turku School of Economics](#) is a part of [the University of Turku Graduate School \(UTUGS\)](#). The programme aims at training of experts for the needs of business, society, and the academic community. It offers scientific researcher training to solve relevant, current and anticipated problems related to business, economy and society. The programme is responsible for doctoral training in the fields of Business Administration, Economics and Futures Studies at the University of Turku.

In its research and teaching portfolio, the programme covers a multitude of disciplines related to business and the economy. Instruction is offered in the following subject areas:

- Accounting and Finance
- Business Law
- Economic Geography
- Economics
- Entrepreneurship
- Futures Studies
- Information Systems Science
- International Business
- Management and Organization
- Marketing
- Operations & Supply Chain Management
- Quantitative Methods in Management
- Health Economics (apply through [the Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research](#))

The doctoral researchers will follow a four-year doctoral programme, conducting research in an international, multidisciplinary and widely networked environment. Turku School of Economics is known for four distinctive profile areas in research: entrepreneurship, management control, networks in business, and economic policy and markets. A strong emphasis is on the themes of foresight and responsibility.

For additional information on the profile areas in research at Turku School of Economics, please visit the web pages of each [subject and unit at TSE](#), and for information on doctoral training at Turku School of Economics visit the website of the [Doctoral Programme of TSE](#).

The Doctor of Science in Economics and Business Administration, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees can be completed in all majors. In addition, the Doctor of Social Sciences degree can be taken in the major subject of Economics. Research is conducted and doctoral education is given also at the Pori Unit of TSE and at the Finland Futures Research Centre. At the Pori Unit the possible major subjects of the doctoral degree are Accounting and Finance, Marketing or Management and Organization.

2. Application period

The application period is **29 August – 16 September 2022**.

3. What you can apply for

- a) a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position (starting 1 January 2023) or
- b) the right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics (starting 1 January 2023) or



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- c) both of the above at the same time (a and b)

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 2022 application round or who are granted a right to study in the autumn 2022 application round may also apply for Finland Fellowship funding for the year 2023. The funding is applied for by checking the corresponding field on the application form. For more information, see <https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/finlandfellowship>.

a) fixed-term Doctoral Researcher positions

The position of a Doctoral Researcher is set to begin on 1 January 2023 at the earliest and for the duration of a maximum of four years (up to 31 December 2026). The 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 right to pursue a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics is a precondition for receiving a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position. The position may be granted for a maximum of four years based on the stage of the applicant's doctoral dissertation and postgraduate studies. Duties other than those related to doctoral dissertation research must not compromise the full-time doctoral dissertation research. As a rule, up to 5% (a maximum of about 80 hrs per academic year) of the annual working time of the Doctoral Researcher can consist of teaching. The 5% rule does not apply to such teaching given by the doctoral researcher which can be embedded in the doctoral degree as ECTS credits. The teaching duties are related to the Doctoral Researcher's own field of research where possible. A doctoral researcher position requires living in Finland for the duration of the employment contract.

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. 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, in which case the salary range is 2 234–3 162 € per month at the beginning of the employment relationship. A probationary period of 6 months applies. The Doctoral Researchers work at the departments and other units at TSE.

b) the right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics

Turku School of Economics offers the degrees of Doctor of Science in Economics and Business Administration, Doctor of Social Sciences and Doctor of Philosophy. Eligibility for the different degrees is determined by the applicant's educational background. The applicants are required to have at least 60 ECTS of previous studies *in the major of the doctoral degree*, of which 18 ECTS must be advanced studies, a minimum grade "good" for the Master's thesis, and at least a grade of "good" for the major subject (the equivalent of 4/5).

For those who apply for the right to study for a doctoral degree, TSE will evaluate 1) the quality of the research plan, 2) the suitability of the research topic in relation to the research profile and expertise of the major subject and its faculty, and 3) the applicant's prior academic performance and possible scientific merits. [The selection criteria for postgraduate studies at Turku School of Economics](#) are presented in detail on the website of Doctoral Training at Turku School of Economics.

To receive the right to study, the applicant needs to have a higher university degree and an approved research plan. The right to study granted in this application round will begin on 1 January 2023.

- c) **both of the above at the same time (a and b)**

4. Who may apply

4.1 Doctoral Researcher positions can be applied for by...

- a) Persons who have an active right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics.



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- b) Persons who have not yet been granted the right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics, but fit the profile of the doctoral programme and meet the eligibility criteria for the right to study for a doctoral degree (Finnish Universities Act 558/2009, Section 37). As the right to study for a doctoral degree is a precondition for receiving a Doctoral Researcher position funded by the university, the applicant must apply for both the right to study for a doctoral degree as well as a Doctoral Researcher position in this application round. The degree that gives eligibility for applying for the right to study for a doctoral degree must be granted by the end of the application period, 16 September 2022.

Persons who already have a doctoral degree or who have received funding for completing a doctoral degree equivalent to the amount of 4 years of full-time research cannot be selected for a Doctoral Researcher position.

According to Section 39 of the University of Turku Rules of Procedure, a person selected for the position of a Doctoral Researcher 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.

4.2 The right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics can be applied for by...

Persons who meet the eligibility criteria for the right to study for a doctoral degree, as stipulated in the Universities Act (558/2009, Section 37), as well as [the selection criteria for postgraduate studies at Turku School of Economics](#). The degree that gives eligibility for applying for the right to study for a doctoral degree must be granted by the end of the application period, 16 September 2022.

5. Applying

The Doctoral Researcher positions and/or the right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics and are applied for by **filling in an electronic application form and attaching the required additional documents to the application form**. Application documents are specified at the end of this call for applications (Appendix 1). Applicants will be notified separately if they are invited to an additional interview.

A link to the application form will be made available at <https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/how-to-apply/call-for-applications>. The form will be accessible as the application period begins on 29 August 2022 and will close at 11:59 pm (local time in Finland) on 16 September 2022.

The application and the additional attachments and enclosures should be written in English when applying for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position and the right to study for a doctoral degree related to the fixed-term position, because international experts are involved in the assessment of the applications. The degree certificate/diploma and transcript of records may be in Finnish or Swedish. If you apply solely for the right to study for a doctoral degree, the application and the required attachments may be written in Finnish.

The application must be submitted online no later than Friday, 16 September 2022. The application form in the application system will close **at 11:59 pm (local time in Finland)**. Submitting the application after that is not possible.

During the selection process the applicant may be asked for additional information. The application documents will not be returned to the applicant.



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6. Assessment of the applications

6.1 Fixed-term Doctoral Researcher positions

After a screening based on the eligibility and selection criteria related to the right to study for a doctoral degree, the major subjects assess the applications. They may also interview the applicants. Based on the assessment, the best applications are evaluated by a board consisting of national and international experts from TSE and other universities. Before this, the research plans will be checked with the *Turnitin OriginalityCheck* plagiarism detection software in accordance with the University of Turku quality assurance system.

The evaluation and selection criteria are as follows:

1. The right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics, or meeting the eligibility and selection criteria at issue
2. The quality of the research plan
3. Academic performance and scientific merits
4. The progress of studies and research to this date as other complementary criteria

The final selection will be based on a comprehensive evaluation of applications (not on a single criterion) since the applicants can be at very different stages of their doctoral dissertation process. Any other funding received by the applicant for doctoral studies is taken into consideration when determining the duration of the Doctoral Researcher position.

The Head of each Department at the Turku School of Economics will decide on recruitment of the applicants for the position of a Doctoral Researcher based on the proposal of the Steering Committee of the Doctoral Programme of TSE by the end of November 2022. All applicants will be personally informed about the decisions. The names of the applicants who have been selected for the position of a Doctoral Researcher will be announced on the website of the doctoral programme by the end of November 2022.

6.2 The right to study for a doctoral degree

Applications are assessed based on [the eligibility and selection criteria for postgraduate studies at TSE](#). After a screening based on eligibility, the applications are assessed by the major subjects and the Steering Committee of the Doctoral Programme of TSE. The admission decisions for postgraduate studies are made by the end of November 2022. The right to study for a doctoral degree is granted by the Dean of Turku School of Economics based on the proposal of the Steering Committee of the Doctoral Programme of TSE. All applicants will be personally informed about the decisions.

According to the Universities Act (558/2009), Section 82, and the University of Turku Regulation on Studies, 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 Turku School of Economics within 14 days of the official publishing of the results.

7. Accepting the study place

An admitted applicant has to notify the University of Turku of his/her acceptance of the study place by 3:00 pm (local time in Finland) on 15 December 2022 according to the instructions given in the admission notification. If the admitted applicant does not give the notification by the end of the allotted time period 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.



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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 by 3 March 2023 at the latest. If the admitted applicant does not deliver the required certificates by the deadline, they forfeit the study right. Instructions on delivering certificates and country-specific requirements are available at <https://www.utu.fi/en/study-at-utu/accepted-students/original-documents>.

8. Appeal for rectification

If an applicant is dissatisfied with the result of the student selection (right to study for a doctoral degree), they have the right to submit an appeal for the rectification of the decision to Turku School of Economics within 14 days of the official publishing of the results. The appeal must be made in writing and must include detailed grounds for rectification. The appeal must be sent to the following address: Turku School of Economics, Registry, FI-20014 University of Turku, Finland, or [tse-asiakirjat \(at\) utu.fi](mailto:tse-asiakirjat@utu.fi).

9. Additional information

Doctoral programme of Turku School of Economics (www.utu.fi/tse-doctoralprogramme),
Doctoral Programme Coordinator, tel. +358 29 450 3890, [tse-doctoralprogramme \(at\) utu.fi](mailto:tse-doctoralprogramme@utu.fi)

Appendix 1. Description of the application documents

Applicants should prepare the following documents and attach them to the electronic application form according to the instructions on filling in the application form. The instructions will be published at the latest in the beginning of the application period on the webpages of the Doctoral Programme of TSE.

The applicant must deliver all required documents by the end of the application period. Any late submissions will not be processed.

a) Application for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position (for those who already hold a right to study for a doctoral degree at TSE and who only apply for the funded doctoral researcher positions)

Attachments required in the electronic application system:

1. **Research plan**, including a realistic funding plan and schedule for the research and studies (max 10 pages (excl. cover and list of references), Times New Roman 12 pt, line spacing 1.5) in PDF format

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). Useful information on preparing your research plan is available on the Doctoral training website of TSE: <https://www.utu.fi/en/university/turku-school-of-economics/research/doctoral-training/applying>.



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2. **Curriculum Vitae** (please follow the instructions of the Finnish National Board on Research Integrity and the Academy of Finland: <https://tenk.fi/en/advice-and-materials/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae>)
3. **List of Publications** (<https://www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/apply-for-funding/how-to-apply-for-funding/az-index-of-application-guidelines2/list-of-publications/>)
4. **Transcript of records** (postgraduate studies) and copies of the degree certificate and transcript of records of your Master's degree
5. **Personal Study Plan** (psp/hops): a free-form plan showing the schedule for completing any remaining studies required for the degree

NB! The application documents should be written in **English** when applying for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position because international experts are involved in the assessment of the applications. The degree certificate/diploma and transcript of records may also be in Finnish or Swedish. The application form can be filled in in English or Finnish.

- b) Application for the right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics AND
c) Application for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position and for the right to study for a doctoral degree at Turku School of Economics at the same time**

Attachments required in the electronic application system:

1. **Research plan**, including funding plan and schedule for the research and studies (max 10 pages (excl. cover and list of references), Times New Roman 12 pt, line spacing 1.5) in PDF format

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). Useful information on preparing your research plan is available on the Doctoral training website of TSE: <https://www.utu.fi/en/university/turku-school-of-economics/research/doctoral-training/applying>.
2. **Curriculum Vitae** (please follow the instructions of the Finnish National Board on Research Integrity and the Academy of Finland: <https://tenk.fi/en/advice-and-materials/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae>)
3. **List of Publications** (<https://www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/apply-for-funding/how-to-apply-for-funding/az-index-of-application-guidelines2/list-of-publications/>)
4. **Letter of motivation**

The application must include a one-page letter of motivation. In the letter, the applicant must state why they are applying specifically to Turku School of Economics and to the chosen major subject, and what novelty value the intended research would bring to the scientific field. The letter must also include the applicant's reflections on their professional aspirations.
5. **Degree certificates and transcripts of study records**

A. If the applicant has completed the former degree(s) which make them eligible for doctoral studies at a university in Finland, the scanned 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.



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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.

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 by 3 March 2022 at the latest. If the admitted applicant does not deliver the required certificates by the deadline, they forfeit 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>.

6. Possible **reference letters** in PDF format

7. **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.

8. **If the applicant has a right to study for a doctoral degree at another university or in another doctoral programme at the University of Turku, the applicant must provide reasons for changing over to the Doctoral Programme of Turku School of Economics.** If any materials collected during the previous dissertation process are planned to be used in the dissertation, the applicant must submit a free-form account showing that he/she has the right to use the materials. A student may hold only one doctoral degree study right at the University of Turku at a time.

NB! The application documents should be written in **English** when applying for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position and a right to study for a doctoral degree related to the fixed-term position, because international experts are involved in the assessment of the applications. The degree certificate/diploma and transcript of records may also be in Finnish or Swedish. The application form can be filled in in English or Finnish. If you apply solely for the right to study for a doctoral degree, the application and the required attachments may be written in Finnish.