



Call for applications for doctoral researcher positions at the University of Turku Graduate School, Doctoral Programme in Nursing Science

In this call for applications, you can apply for the right to study for a doctoral degree in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Turku, Doctoral Programme in Nursing Science. Please read more specific instructions below and apply on 28 March 2024 at the latest.

The Doctoral Programme in Nursing Science (DPNurs) provides systematic doctoral education in the field of the nursing science. DPNurs covers central [research fields](#) in nursing science. DPNurs is responsible for the doctoral education in health sciences in the University of Turku. DPNurs educates high-level researchers and experts in nursing science for the national and international needs of the research field, as well as for social and health services, education, business, and industry. DPNurs supports expertise required in research activities and systematic career development in nursing science. Doctoral researchers are involved in the national and international nursing and health science community, where the Doctoral Programme in Nursing Science has strong integration.

[More information about Doctoral Programme in Nursing Science](#)

Application period and what can be applied for

During the application period 28 February–28 March 2024, you can apply for the **right to study for a doctoral degree in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Turku from 1 August 2024 onwards**.

What is expected of you

When applying for a right to study:

- 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§).
- You must fulfil [the University of Turku language skill requirements](#).
- You are required to fulfil the prerequisites set by the Faculty and doctoral programme for granting a right to study
 - o [The eligibility criteria and other general guidelines can be found on the web page of the Faculty of Medicine](#).
 - o [Prerequisites in the Doctoral Programme of Nursing Science](#).

How to apply

The right to study for a doctoral degree is applied for by filling in an electronic form My Studyinfo service and attaching the required additional documents. [A link to the electronic form will be published on the website of the graduate school](#). The form will be accessible as the application period begins on 28 February 2024 and closes at 3:00 pm (local time in Finland) on 28 March 2024.

Research plan and other documents should be in English. All attachment documents must be in PDF format.



During one application round the applicant may apply to a maximum of three doctoral programmes at the University of Turku. You can only have one valid study right at a time for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku.

All required attachments must be submitted before the end of the application period. Applications that arrive after the application period has ended will not be processed. The application documents will not be returned to the sender.

Attachments to the application:

1. Research plan, max 5 pages ([research plan 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). The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to assist in the preparation of the research plan should be clearly indicated in the research plan.

2. Progress and resource plan ([instructions](#))

3. Curriculum Vitae of the applicant ([Please see the instructions of Finnish National Board on Research Integrity \(TENK\) for writing a CV](#))

4. List of publications (following the [instructions of the Academy of Finland](#))

5. [Supervision and study plan](#) (fill in electronically, print and sign together with the supervisor/s and the head of subject)

6. Degree certificates and transcripts of study records

- a) If you have completed your former degree(s) that make you eligible for doctoral studies at a higher education institution in Finland, you must attach your scanned original degree certificates, transcripts of study records and other educational documents which may be of relevance in the selection to the electronic application form.
- b) If you have completed your former degree(s) that make you eligible for doctoral studies at a higher education institution abroad (i.e., outside of Finland), you must attach the following items to the electronic application form:
 - a. scanned original degree certificates (in the language that the degree was completed in)
 - b. scanned original transcripts of study records (in the language that the degree was completed in)
 - c. scanned other original educational documents which may be of relevance in the student selection and that you are applying based on.

If the original degree certificates or transcripts of study records 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 and a translation made by an authorised translator. A transcript in English can be replaced by a Diploma Supplement (DS) awarded by a European educational institution, provided that it contains the information about completed courses and other study attainments.



Please make sure that all attachments are good-quality, easy to read, full colour scans or photographs of the complete required document. Attachments that do not meet these requirements may be rejected.

7. Verification of language proficiency

The University of Turku follows the Rector's decision (15 Aug 2019 and 21.12.2023 updated decision) on the means of verifying one's language proficiency. [See the language requirements on the webpage of the university's graduate school.](#)

If you are required to prove your language proficiency with a language test, a scanned certificate of a completed language test must be attached to the application.

8. Copy of a valid passport

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.

9. When only one supervisor for doctoral training is proposed, the supervisor's justified plea for approval of only one supervisor must be attached to the application.

[See Before applying / Doctoral training at the Faculty of Medicine > Supervision](#)

Assessment of applications

The Steering Committee of the doctoral programme will evaluate the applications. Applications may also be sent for evaluation to national and/or international reviewers. Applicants may be invited to an interview by the DPNurs steering committee. 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.

In the selection the following issues are emphasized: quality, feasibility and social relevance of the research plan. In addition, applicant's merits, completed studies, capability, and motivation to complete a doctoral degree are evaluated.

When admitting the right to study for a doctoral degree, the eligibility criteria of the applicant and the [selection criteria of the Doctoral Programme in Nursing Science](#) are considered in addition to above-mentioned criteria. A prerequisite for admission is that there is at least one person who has agreed to act as a supervisor and who fulfils the qualification requirements for supervisors. In addition, the applicant's research topic must fit in with the profile of the Doctoral Programme.

Decisions

The Dean/Vice Dean of research affairs of the faculty decides on granting the right to study for a doctoral degree based on the proposal of the Steering Committee of the doctoral programme.

The admission decisions are made by the end of May 2024. All applicants will be personally informed about the decision.



An admitted applicant has to notify the University of Turku of their acceptance of the study place by 3:00 pm (Finnish time) on 14 June 2024 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, 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.

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, on 6 September 2024 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.](#)

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 application for the rectification of the decision to the Faculty of Medicine within 14 days of the official publishing of the results.

Other information

In spring 2024, the faculty will be updating its curricula and the guidelines and regulations for doctoral studies, which may result in changes to the regulations for doctoral studies and doctoral dissertation form 1 August 2024. An approved applicant will complete their studies in accordance with the regulations that will come into force on 1 August 2024, and instructions for updating the personal study plan will be provided separately.

Additional information

[Doctoral programme in Nursing Science](#)

[Faculty of Medicine](#)

DPNurs Director, Professor Riitta Suhonen, riitta.suhonen@utu.fi

DPNurs Coordinator, PhD Verna Louhivuori, vtlouh@utu.fi