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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DOCTORAL CANDIDATE POSITIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TURKU GRADUATE SCHOOL, KEVEKO AND OPPI DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

1 Doctoral Programmes at the Faculty of Education: KEVEKO and OPPI

The Doctoral Programme on Educational Policy, Lifelong Learning and Comparative Education Research (KEVEKO) studies learning and education as a part of life cycle and as a social and cultural activity. Education is mainly studied as a social phenomenon. The programme is linked to research conducted at the Department of Education and the Centre for Research on Lifelong Learning and Education (CELE). Professor Risto Rinne acts as the Head of the programme.

The Doctoral Programme on Learning, Teaching and Learning Environments Research (OPPI) educates internationally oriented, professional researchers and experts in learning, teaching and learning environments who promote evidence-based development activity in different fields of education. The programme is linked to the research conducted at the Department of Teacher Education and the Centre for Research on Learning and Instruction (CeRLI). Professor Erno Lehtinen acts as the Head of the programme.

2 Application period and what can be applied for

During the application period 2 September–20 September 2019 the KEVEKO and OPPI Doctoral Programmes invite applications for:

a) *the right to study for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku begins on January 1, 2020*

b) *fixed-term Doctoral Candidate positions*

The position of a Doctoral Candidate is set to begin on 1 January 2020 at the earliest and for the duration of a maximum of four years (up to until 31 December 2023). The positions are primarily intended for full-time doctoral dissertation research with the aim of completing the doctoral degree in four years. Duties other than those related to doctoral dissertation research must not compromise the full-time doctoral dissertation research. As a rule, teaching can be at most 5% (maximum about 80 h/ academic year) of the annual working time of the Doctoral Candidate.

The Doctoral Candidate works either at the Department of Education (Doctoral Candidates of KEVEKO) or at the Department of Teacher Education (Doctoral Candidates of OPPI) according to the candidate's doctoral programme.

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 personnel; €2,033.29-€2,535.20 per month. The component based on personal performance is 6-50% of the task-specific salary. The task-specific salary component of a beginning Doctoral Candidate is typically on level 2. A probationary period of 6 months applies.

c) *both of the above (a and b)*



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3 Who may apply

3.1 *The right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Education, 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 Education.

3.2 *Doctoral Candidate positions can be applied for by...*

- Persons who have an active right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Education, University of Turku, and who have not previously received four years of full-time funding for their doctoral studies.
- Persons who have not yet been granted the right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Education, University of Turku, but match the profile of one of the doctoral programmes in the faculty and meet the eligibility criteria for the right to study for a doctoral degree (see 3.1). As the right to study for a doctoral degree is a precondition for receiving a Doctoral Candidate position funded by the university, the applicant must apply for both the right to study for a doctoral degree as well as a Doctoral Candidate position.

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

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.

4 Applying

4.1 *Application documents*

The right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Education and Doctoral Candidate positions are applied for by *filling in an electronic form and attaching the required additional documents to the electronic application form*. Application documents are specified at the end of this call for applications (Appendix 1). Applicants will be notified separately of potential candidates' optional, additional interviews.

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 2 September 2019 and closes at 11:59 pm on 20 September 2019.

The application documents will not be returned to the sender.

NOTE! When applying for a fixed-term Doctoral Candidate position in OPPI doctoral programme:
- An article-based dissertation is required from those selected for Doctoral Candidate positions
- The research plan must be written in English

4.2 *Assessment of applications*

Applications for the Doctoral Candidate positions and for the right to study for a doctoral degree are reviewed by the steering committee of the KEVEKO and OPPI Doctoral Programmes.



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Applications may also be sent for evaluation to national and/or international reviewers. 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 of Doctoral Candidate positions, the following factors are emphasized: quality and feasibility of the research plan, applicant's research merits and completed studies. In addition, applicant's capability and motivation to complete a doctoral degree are evaluated. Any other funding received by the applicant for doctoral studies is taken into consideration when determining the duration of the Doctoral Candidate position.

When admitting the right to study for a doctoral degree, the eligibility criteria of the applicant (see 3.1.) and the selection criteria of the Faculty of Education are considered in addition to the criteria mentioned above. A prerequisite for admission is that there is at least one person who has agreed to act as a supervisor and who fulfills the qualification requirements for supervisors. The main supervisor must be a professor or a docent working in the faculty (Department of Education or Department of Teacher Education). In addition, the applicant's research topic must fit in with the profile of the Doctoral Programme.

5 Decisions

The Vice Dean responsible for research of the Faculty of Education decides on granting the right to study for a doctoral degree based on the proposals of the steering committees of the Doctoral Programmes. The Dean of the Faculty of Education decides on recruitment of the applicant for a Doctoral Candidate's position based on the proposals of the steering committees of the Doctoral Programmes.

All applicants will be personally informed about the decisions. The names of the applicants who have been selected for a Doctoral Candidate position will be announced on the website of the doctoral programme by the end of November 2019.

An admitted applicant has to notify the University of Turku of his/her acceptance of the study place by 3:00 pm (GMT +2) on 13 December 2019 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



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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>.

6 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 Education within 14 days of the official publishing of the results. Contact information: edupostgraduate@utu.fi.

7 Additional information

Faculty of Education

edupostgraduate@utu.fi

<https://www.utu.fi/en/university/faculty-of-education/doctoral-training>



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APPENDIX 1. Description of the application documents

a) **Applying for a right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Education**

IN ADDITION to the electronic form, the documents 1-6 (+ 7) must be submitted.

b) **Applying for a Doctoral Candidate position**

IN ADDITION to the electronic form, the documents 1-3 must be submitted.

c) **Applying for both of the above, i.e. a right to study for a doctoral degree and a Doctoral Candidate position**

IN ADDITION to the electronic form, the documents 1-6 (+ 7) must be submitted.

All documents must be in PDF format.

1. **Research plan**

Please see the instructions

<https://www.utu.fi/en/university/faculty-of-education/doctoral-training/application-instructions>
(→ Description of the application documents)

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** (in Finnish or in English)

Please see the instructions of Academy of Finland for writing a CV

<https://www.tenk.fi/en/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae>

A CV includes a list of publications.

3. **Motivation letter**

Motivation letter is a one-page-long freeform document, which includes the reasons for applying to doctoral studies and/or for a Doctoral Candidate position in the Faculty of Education, University of Turku.

4. **A copy of the degree certificates and the 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), copies of the degree certificates, the transcripts of study records, and other educational documents which are of relevance in the student selection must be attached to the electronic application form. If the original degree certificates and other educational documents are not written in English, Finnish or Swedish, official translations to one of these languages are required. An official translation here means a translation of the educational documents issued by the awarding



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institution, a translation made by an authorized translator, or a certified copy of a translation issued by the awarding institution or an authorized translator.

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 and other educational documents or certified copies of the degree certificates and other educational documents and the official translations of these 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>.

5. Certification of the language skills

Please see the language skill requirements

<https://www.utu.fi/en/university/faculty-of-education/doctoral-training/application-instructions>

(→ Language requirements)

6. An evaluation of the research plan and the applicant's ability to carry out the doctoral degree filled in by the first supervisor

The student should personally discuss supervision with their main supervisor before applying to the studies. The supervisor delivers the evaluation directly to the Faculty of Education.

7. Those carrying out postgraduate studies elsewhere must present a reason for transferring to the Faculty of Education, University of Turku. In addition, a written consent from the previous supervisor is required.

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