



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE RIGHT TO STUDY FOR A
DOCTORAL DEGREE AND FOR FIXED-TERM DOCTORAL CANDIDATE
POSITIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TURKU, FACULTY OF MEDICINE,
FINDOS-Turku DOCTORAL PROGRAMME**

Application period 1–18 September 2020

1. Finnish Doctoral Programme in Oral Sciences – FINDOS-Turku

FINDOS-Turku is a part of Finnish Doctoral Program in Oral Sciences (FINDOS), which is a national Doctoral training network. FINDOS represents all different fields of Oral Sciences and brings together preclinical and clinical researchers. This encourages the exchange of knowledge and ideas, and improves the possibilities for translational Dental research. FINDOS provides systematic, well-supervised and high-standard doctoral training in the field of Oral Sciences.

FINDOS-Turku doctoral candidates are privileged to participate in an excellent doctoral training programme including basic and advanced research courses in oral science, as well as transferable skills courses offered by the doctoral programme, FINDOS network and UTUGS. The goal in the doctoral programme is to achieve the doctoral degree from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Turku in a four years net time. In addition to the supervisor, the progress of the doctoral candidate is supported by a carefully selected follow-up group and the doctoral programme.

More information about FINDOS-Turku: <https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/finnish-doctoral-program-in-oral-sciences>

2. Application period and what can be applied for

During the application period 1 September – 18 September 2020 the FINDOS-Turku Doctoral Programme invites applications for:

- a) the right to study for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku from 1 January 2021 onwards**
- b) fixed-term Doctoral Candidate positions**

The position of a Doctoral Candidate is set to begin on 1 January 2021 at the earliest and for the duration of a maximum of four years (up to until 31 December 2024). The positions are primarily intended for full-time doctoral dissertation research with the aim of completing the doctoral degree in four years. Other duties 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 81 h/ academic year) 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 personnel; €2,033.29-€2,535.20 per month. The component based on personal performance is max. 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)**



3. Who may apply

3.1 The right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Turku can be applied 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 FINDOS-Turku Doctoral Programme.

The eligibility criteria and other general guidelines (incl. language requirements) can be found on the web pages of the University of Turku Graduate School UTUGS.

The University of Turku Graduate School UTUGS:

<https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/how-to-apply>

The Faculty of Medicine: <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>

Prerequisites in the FINDOS-Turku Doctoral Programme:

<https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/finnish-doctoral-program-in-oral-sciences/admission>

3.2 Doctoral candidate position can be applied by:

- Persons who have the right to study for a doctoral degree at the 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 University of Turku, but match the profile of the doctoral programme and meet the eligibility criteria for the right to study for 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 person must apply for both the right to study for a doctoral degree and 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 Medicine 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.



22.6.2020

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 1 September 2020 and closes at 11:59 pm on 18 September 2020.

The application documents will not be returned to the sender.

4.2 Assessment of applications

The FINDOS-Turku steering committee will process the applications. External evaluators from the national FINDOS network will evaluate the applications for funded positions. The applicants for the funded positions may be invited for an interview by the evaluation panel. Please note that, due to the tight evaluation schedule, invitations for interviews will be sent on short notice.

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 merits and completed studies. In addition, applicant's capability and motivation to complete a doctoral degree are evaluated. In addition, the applicant's research topic must fit in with the profile of the Doctoral Programme. 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 FINDOS-Turku Doctoral Programme 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.

4.3 Decisions

The decision on granting the funded doctoral candidate position is made by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine based on the proposal of the steering committee of the doctoral programme. 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 2020. The decision on employing the doctoral candidate is made by the head of the institution/department.

The decision for the right to study for a doctoral degree (1 January 2021 onwards) is made by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine based on the proposal of the steering committee of the doctoral programme by the 30 November 2020 at the latest. All applicants will be personally informed about the decisions.

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 15 December 2020 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.



22.6.2020

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 Medicine within 14 days of the official publishing of the results. Contact information: med-doctoral@utu.fi.

6. Additional information

[FINDOS-Turku](#)
[Faculty of Medicine](#)

Contacts:

Director of the FINDOS-Turku, Professor Ulvi Gursoy, ulvi.gursoy@utu.fi

FINDOS-Turku Coordinator: med-doctoral@utu.fi



Appendix 1. Application documents

For the application the applicant should prepare:

A) a summary of the research plan **in English** (max 1000 characters)

B) the following documents in pdf-format **in English**:

Those applying for the fixed-term, Doctoral Candidate position, who already have the right to study for a doctoral degree in the Doctoral Programme in Oral Sciences, submit appendices 1–4.

1. Motivation letter (max 1 page)

Motivation letter is one page long freeform document, which includes the reasons for applying for the doctoral studies in the Finnish Doctoral Program in Oral Sciences (FINDOS-Turku), Faculty of Medicine.

2. Curriculum Vitae of the applicant, including the list of publication (if any) (see [CV template](#))

3. Research plan (max 5 pages, see [guidelines](#) and [additional points](#))

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).

4. Theoretical study plan (see [template](#))

5. [Signed supervision plan](#)

6. [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 the University of Turku, degree certificate is not needed as an application enclosure.

B. If the applicant has completed the former degree(s), which make them 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.

C. If the applicant has completed the former degree(s), which make them eligible for doctoral studies at a university abroad (i.e. outside Finland) they 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. 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>.

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

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some language test centres have been temporarily closed. For this reason, in the application period of autumn 2020, the delivery deadline for the language test result has been extended. **The test result should be available for online verification by 16 November 2020 at the latest.** The applicant also needs to deliver a scanned copy of the result by that day to the address med-doctoral@utu.fi. If the test result is not available by 16 November 2020, the application is rejected. The acceptable language tests and their minimum requirements are listed on the website (see the link above).

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