



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 and/or for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position under an employment contract. Please read more specific instructions below and apply on 15 September 2023 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 August – 15 September 2023, you can apply for:

- a) the right to study for a doctoral degree in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Turku from 1 January 2024 onwards**
- b) a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position under an employment contract**

The position of a Doctoral Researcher is set to begin on 1 January 2024 at the earliest and for the duration of a maximum of four years (up to until 31 December 2027). The positions are intended for full-time doctoral dissertation research. Duties other than those related to doctoral dissertation research, such as teaching duties, must be proportioned so as not to compromise the completion of the doctoral dissertation within the planned schedule. 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.

When determining the length of the employment contract, prior funding granted for pursuing a doctoral degree is taken into account. The maximum length for a Doctoral Researcher position is four years. A person already awarded with a doctoral degree cannot be chosen as a Doctoral Researcher under an employment contract.

The Doctoral Researcher works at the Department of Nursing Science. The employment contract of a Doctoral Researcher requires residence in Finland.

The salary is based on the salary system of the university's teaching and research staff. It consists of a task-specific salary component and a personal performance salary component. The task-specific salary component of a Doctoral Researcher 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 Researcher is typically on level 2, in which case the salary range is 2 313–3 273 € per month at the beginning of the employment relationship.



A probationary period of 6 months applies.

c) both of the above (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 2023 application round or who are granted a right to study in the autumn 2023 application round may apply for [the Finland Fellowship funding](#) for the year 2024. The funding is applied for by checking the corresponding field on the application form.

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](#).

When applying for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position under an employment contract:

- You are required to have an active right to study in the doctoral studies of the Faculty of Education in the University of Turku. If you have not yet been granted a right to study, you must apply for a right to pursue a doctoral degree in the Faculty of Education within this call for applications. A right to study is a prerequisite for an applicant to be chosen for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position under an employment contract;
- You are planning to pursue or pursuing your first doctoral degree;
- You have not previously been granted a full-time four-year funding for pursuing a doctoral degree.

How to apply

The right to study for a doctoral degree is applied for by filling in an electronic form 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 August 2023 and closes at 11:59 pm on 15 September 2023.

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

If you already have a right to study in the Doctoral Programme in Nursing Science and you are only applying for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position under an employment contract, you are expected to submit attachments 1–4.



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](#))

The research plan should follow the guidelines for the responsible conduct of research (see [Responsible Conduct of Research \(RCR\) | Finnish National Board on Research Integrity TENK](#)). The research plans can be checked with the Turnitin OriginalityCheck plagiarism detection software. 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) 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 process for the Doctoral Researcher positions, 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 Head of the department decides on recruitment of the applicant for the position of a Doctoral Researcher 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 the position of a Doctoral Researcher will be announced on the website of the doctoral programme by the end of November 2023.

An admitted applicant has to notify the University of Turku of their acceptance of the study place by 3:00 pm (UTC +2) on 15 December 2023 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 4 March 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.](#)

Additional information

[Doctoral programme in Nursing Science](#)

[Faculty of Medicine](#)

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