



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

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

FINDOS-Turku is a part of Finnish Doctoral Programme 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 researchers 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 researcher is supported by a carefully selected follow-up group and the doctoral programme.

[More information about FINDOS-Turku.](#)

**2. Application period and what can be applied for**

During the application period 1 May – 15 May 2024 the FINDOS-Turku Doctoral Programme invites applications for **the right to study for a doctoral degree** at the University of Turku, Faculty of Medicine (starting 1 August 2024).

**3. Who may apply**

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 [Faculty of Medicine](#), and the [FINDOS-Turku Doctoral Programme](#).

**4. Applying**

The right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Medicine is applied for by filling in an electronic form in My Studyinfo service and attaching the required additional documents (in pdf format). These are specified at the end of this call for applications (Appendix 1).

A link to the electronic application form and the guide with instructions will be published on the [webpage of the doctoral programme](#). The form will be accessible as the application period begins



on 1 May 2024 and closes at 3 pm (local time in Finland) on 15 May 2024. The application documents will not be returned to the sender.

During this application round the applicant may apply to a maximum of one doctoral programme 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.

The application form and the enclosures must be submitted by the application deadline. Applications that have not arrived by the deadline will not be processed.

## **5. Assessment of applications**

The FINDOS-Turku steering committee will process the applications. 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, the following issues are emphasized: quality and feasibility of the research plan, the applicant's research merits and completed studies. Additionally, the applicant's capability and motivation to complete a doctoral degree are evaluated. The applicant's research topic must fit in with the profile of the Doctoral Programme.

When admitting the right to study for a doctoral degree, the eligibility criteria of the applicant and the selection criteria of the Faculty of Medicine (see section 3) together with the selection criteria of the FINDOS-Turku doctoral programme are considered in addition to the criteria mentioned above.

## **6. Decisions**

The Dean/ Vice Dean of the Faculty of Medicine decides on granting the right to study for a doctoral degree based on the proposals of the steering committees of the doctoral programme.

The admission decisions are made by 12 June 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 19 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.



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 6 September 2024 at the latest. If the admitted applicant does not deliver the required certificates by the deadline, they forfeits the study right. [Instructions on delivering certificates and country-specific requirements](#).

## 7. 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](mailto:med-doctoral@utu.fi).

## 8. Other

In the spring of 2024, the faculty is in the process of updating the curricula. The instructions and regulations regarding doctoral education, which will lead to e.g. the regulations regarding postgraduate studies and the dissertation may change from August 1, 2024. The accepted applicant will complete their doctoral degree in compliance with the regulations that come into effect on August 1, 2024. Any updating of the graduate study plan to comply with the new regulations will be instructed separately.

## 9. Additional information

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

Contacts:

Director of the FINDOS-Turku Professor Ulvi Gursoy, [ulvgur@utu.fi](mailto:ulvgur@utu.fi)

Coordinator of the FINDOS-Turku [findos@utu.fi](mailto:findos@utu.fi)



## APPENDIX 1

For the application the applicant should prepare:

- a summary of the research plan (max 1000 characters) and
- the following documents must be in **pdf-format**:

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

By attaching the research plan to the application form the applicant gives permission for checking the research plan via the *Turnitin OriginalityCheck* plagiarism detection software, in accordance with the quality assurance system of the University of Turku.

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to assist in the preparation of the research plan should be clearly indicated in the research plan.

**2. Curriculum Vitae of the applicant**, including a list of publications when applicable.

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

**3. Motivation letter (max 1 page)**

The 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). 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 FINDOS-Turku. A student may hold only one doctoral degree study right at the University of Turku at a time.

**4. [Supervision and study plan](#)** (Fill in electronically, print and sign together with the supervisor/-s and the head of subject) **NB!** At least one of the supervisors should have access to UTU IT-systems (utu user account). Additional information is available at the Faculty of Medicine [webpage](#), under the "Supervision" section.

**5. Degree certificates and transcripts of study records.**

Additional information is available at the Faculty of Medicine [webpage](#), under the section "Degree giving the eligibility".

- 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.

## **6. 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.

## **7. A justified application for the approval of a supervisor, when proposing only one supervisor.**

Additional information is available at the Faculty of Medicine webpage, under the "[Supervision](#)" section.

## **8. Copy of 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.

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