Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research (DPCR) Spring 2026

Link to the form will be available via the web page of the doctoral programme. In the spring application round, you can only apply for the study right.

1. STUDYINFO FORM FOR APPLYING FOR A STUDY RIGHT

HOW TO FILL IN THE APPLICATION FORM

In this document you will find general instructions concerning the application form as well as instructions applying to the Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research specifically. Read these instructions as well as those on the application form carefully!

1.1. This is how you fill in the form (Studyinfo)

In order to submit the application form you are required to answer at least the mandatory questions and to upload mandatory attachments. You can check the missing information by clicking “Check x answers” at the top of the page (Under Submit application button). Please note that due to technical reasons, not all of the questions you need to answer or the attachments that pertain to your particular situation, are marked as mandatory.

In this application round, you may apply to a maximum of one doctoral programme at the University of Turku.

Please make sure that you allow enough time for filling in the application. Click Submit application button on the top right corner of the page. After submitting the application, you will receive a confirmation email to the address you have given on the application form.

Studyinfo is supported on the newest versions of the following browsers: Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge and Safari.

Consider the following on the application form:

- The application form cannot be saved as a draft. After submitting the application, you can return to your application form to upload missing attachments. You can make changes to your application until the application period closes (16 March 2026 at 4.00 PM Finnish time).
- You will find instructions on how to upload attachments and deadlines for when to upload them on the application form. You will be asked to upload attachments based on the answers you have given to questions on the application form. You can see the deadline for an individual attachment and the method of delivery next to the upload button on the form.

- The confirmation email includes a link that you can use to make changes to your application during the application period. If you have a Finnish personal identity code and Finnish online banking credentials, a mobile certificate or an electronic ID-card you can log in to My Studyinfo's "Applications and accepting an offer of admission" section.
- You can only submit one (1) application form in this joint application. If you submit several application forms, only the newest one will be taken into consideration and all others will be deleted. University of Turku will not inform applicants about deleted applications.
- You can preview your application and check the answers you have given by clicking the Preview-button in the top right corner.

1.2. Instructions for applying to the Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research (DPCR, Studyinfo)

NB! In addition to these instructions, please read and follow the instructions of the faculty you are applying to as well as the Call for Applicatiions.

Here are some instructions on sections which may raise questions. Not all questions of the application form are considered here.

Study Programme

First, choose the Doctoral Programme to which you wish to apply. You can apply to a maximum of one programme and submit only one application form (see above). The Doctoral Programme you choose, will influence some of the questions. For DPCR choose Doctoral Programme of Clinical Research – University of Turku, Graduate School.

Target degree

Choose *the faculty, the planned degree and your Major.* **Choose your planned degree according to your basic degree and the faculty you are applying to.** The possible degrees are the following:

- at the Faculty of Medicine: Doctor of Medical Science, Doctor of Odontology, Doctor of Philosophy.
- at the Faculty of Science: Doctor of Philosophy
- at the Faculty of Technology: Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Science (Technology).
- at the Faculty of Social Sciences: Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Psychology
- at the Turku School of Economics: Doctor of Science in Economics and Business Administration, Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Social Sciences.

The subjects within a faculty have been restricted according to the subjects that it is possible to study in the Doctoral Programme in Clinical Research. If applying to the Faculty of Medicine, see Subjects in doctoral training and heads of subject in the Faculty of Medicine. If applying to other facutlies or the School of Economics, please check their instructions if applicable.

Supervisors

The applicant must discuss and agree on the thesis project with their supervisors before applying. Please fill in the information for all of your supervisors although only the first field is marked as mandatory field. Please also see the instructions on the supervision and study plan below in the section *Attachments*.

Faculty of Medicine: One of the supervisors should have the competence of at least adjunct professor or equivalent. A person who has not completed a doctoral degree, cannot act as a supervisor. **NB: You need to attach a supervisor's justified application for the approval of a supervisor, when proposing only one supervisor for doctoral training (Only in the Faculty of Medicine).**

In the field *Affiliation*, please include a precise affiliation (department/clinic/unit) of each supervisor, i.e., more precisely than just, for example, the university or faculty of the supervisor.

The follow-up group (Faculty of Medicine rules updated 2024)

The aim of the follow-up group (called the follow-up committee in the Faculty of Medicine) is to ensure the progress of the doctoral researcher's thesis work and studies, to provide an outside perspective to their research, and to support both the doctoral researcher and the supervisors in possible conflict situations.

Faculty of Medicine: After negotiating and in cooperation with their supervisors, an applicant to doctoral training assembles a follow-up committee. The follow-up committee consist of the doctoral researcher's supervisors, and two to three other researchers who have completed a doctoral degree and are familiar with the topic of the candidate's research. **Two of these other members must come from outside the doctoral researcher's own research group.** The outside member of the follow-up committee cannot be a spouse, parent, sibling or their spouse, or a child or their spouse of either the supervisor(s) or the doctoral researcher.

The information concerning the follow-up committee is mandatory in the Faculty of Medicine. In other faculties or the School of Economics, the follow-up group is not mandatory and can consist of one to three persons (two to three persons in the Faculty of Medicine!). However, the DPCR recommends you form a follow-up group with two to three persons from outside the research group regardless of your faculty to ensure smooth progress of the doctoral researcher's work. The doctoral programmed also recommends that one member of the follow-up group is from outside the University of Turku.

In the field *Work affiliation*, please include a precise affiliation (department/clinic/unit) of each follow-up group member, i.e., more precisely than just, for example, the university or faculty of the member.

Research director

The research director is only necessary in the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Technology, please see the instructions of these faculties. If you choose another faculty when filling in the DPCR application form, the field for research director will be eliminated from the form.

Questions related to the Doctoral Programme

Place where the doctoral research is carried out (place/unit/institution/hospital etc. where the thesis work is practically performed): The place of your research/research group at the university or another institution, not so much where you physically reside when working on your thesis.

Publication plan for your doctoral thesis: planned and already published articles - List the articles intended for your thesis, the already published ones as well as the planned articles and the planned publishing schedule of those. Write 'monograph' if your thesis format is not a compilation dissertation.

Attachments

Some attachments are asked for earlier in the form, the rest you can attach in this section. The following attachment slots are available. Please note that although they are not all are marked as mandatory information, they may be required depending on your faculty or your particular situation. The documents may have slightly different names in different faculties but please use the following slots. You can add several documents to a single slot.

- *CV, including publication list*
- *Research plan*
- *Motivation letter*
- *Supervision plan including the study plan, signed!* Please use
    - Faculty of Medicine supervision and study plan
        - Please read the instructions on the Faculty of Medicine webpage before making your application.
        - Faculty of Medicine Subjects in doctoral training and heads of subjects
    - Faculty of Science supervision and study plan
    - Faculty of Technology supervision and study plan
    - Faculty of Social Sciences supervisor's statement or commitment (file or copy of email message by a professor or a researcher with a doctoral degree working at the University of Turku to confirm that she/he is willing to supervise applicant's dissertation project). No template for study plan.
    - Turku School of Economics supervision plan or a commitment letter by supervisors. Study plan template.
    - **When preparing a study plan, please use the study guide.**
- *Supervisor's CV, including their publication list*
- *Reasoned request from the supervisor, if only one supervisor is proposed* (Faculty of Medicine or Faculty of Technology only)
- ***Other attachment***, please use this slot to upload the following documents if the pertain to your situation. You can upload more than one document to this category and upload other documents as well.

- *Letter of support for the collaboration* provided by the representative of the research organisation/principal investigator, *if* the data is mainly collected outside the University of Turku or the Varha collaborate area.
- *Supervisor's comment on the funding*, *if* the thesis work is a main job for the applicant (not required for the Turku School of Economics).

- *Scanned copy of your passport* (if you don't have a Finnish ID number)

Questions or problems?

If you have questions about the application or admission criteria, please contact DPCR coordinator Mikko Tähtö-Pakkanen dpcr@utu.fi Best of luck!