Research Council of Finland

2 November 2026

Privacy notice: Applicant feedback survey, winter call 2027
EU General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679, Articles 13 and 14

Controller	Name Research Council of Finland Address Hakaniemenranta 6, PO Box 131, FI-00531 Helsinki Email kirjaamo@aka.fi Telephone +358 295 335 000 (switchboard)
Controller's contact person	Name Sirpa Nuotio Address Hakaniemenranta 6, PO Box 131, FI-00531 Helsinki Email sirpa.nuotio@aka.fi Telephone +358 295 335 082
Data protection officer	Email tietosuoja@aka.fi Telephone +358 295 335 000 (switchboard)
Purpose and legal basis of personal data processing	The Research Council of Finland is a central government authority in the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture's administrative branch whose statutory duty is to promote scientific research and research framework conditions as well as their utilisation by funding them and by participating in international cooperation, to act as an expert in the development and implementation of science policy, and to carry out other tasks assigned to it (Act on the Academy of Finland 922/2009). The purpose of the survey is to collect information on the 2026 winter call from applicants and research services staff. The results of the survey will be used to further improve the Research Council's research funding processes. A link to the survey will be sent to the email address provided by the applicants in their application, as well as to the research services email addresses of the research organisations. Respondents are not asked for their name or contact details. Respondents are asked to indicate which funding scheme they applied to and the host organisation for which they sought funding, or alternatively to state that they work in research services. AI tools may be used to analyse the open-ended responses. Processing of personal data is necessary for the authority to comply with the statutory obligation of RCF (Article 6(1)(e) of the General Data Protection Regulation).
Categories of personal data	The data subjects are the persons who respond to the survey. Based on the results of the survey, the responses can be divided into different categories according to the type of funding applied for and to the host organisation.

	The personal data to be processed consist of the funding scheme applied for, or information indicating that the respondent works in research administration, as well as the host organisation.
Personal data recipients or recipient categories	The data are disclosed only according to the duties and permissions granted in Finnish legislation. The right of public access is regulated under the Finnish Act on the Openness of Government Activities (621/1999). Public documents are disclosed according to sections 13 and 16 of the Act. An official document may be secret if it has been so provided. Chapter 6 of the Act lays down the obligations of secrecy, and the documents of an authority that are to be kept secret are described in section 24. Chapter 7 of the Act stipulates derogations from secrecy (sections 26–30). Pursuant to section 26, subsection 1 of the Act, an authority may grant access to non-disclosable information if there is a specific provision on such access or on the right of such access in an Act or if the person whose interests are protected by the secrecy provision consents to the access. The disclosure of information contained in a non-disclosable document on behalf of an authority or for a task performed on behalf of an authority is governed by section 26, subsection 3 of the Act.
Transfer of personal data to third countries and information on safeguards used	Data will not be transferred outside the European Union or the European Economic Area.
Period for which personal data will be stored or how this period is defined	The personal data will be deleted together with the other survey results once they are no longer needed and no later than 31 December 2027. For public authorities, archiving obligations are laid down separately by law (Archives Act 831/1994). The archiving plan of the Research Council of Finland contains more detailed provisions on archiving. The Finnish Archive Act (831/1994) regulates the archiving duties of authorities.
Source of data if not obtained from data subject	The personal data are obtained from the data subjects. The research services email addresses are obtained from the stakeholder register maintained by the Research Council of Finland (privacy notice).
Information on automated decision-making (incl. profiling)	The Research Council of Finland does not use automated decision-making.
Right to object	If the Research Council of Finland processes personal data for the purpose of carrying out a statutory task, the data subject does not have the right to object to the processing of the data. If the data is processed for the performance of a task carried out for reasons of public interest,

	in the exercise of official authority or for the purposes of the compelling legitimate interests pursued by the controller or a third party, the data subject has the right to object to the processing on grounds relating to their particular situation.
Rights of data subjects	*Right of access* The data subject has the right to obtain from the controller confirmation as to whether personal data concerning them are being processed, and, where that is the case, to obtain access to the personal data. On request, the controller shall provide a copy of the personal data undergoing processing. The request should be addressed to the contact person of the controller. Provided that the data subject requests the above copy more frequently than once a year, the controller will charge a reasonable fee based on administrative costs. *Right to rectification* The data subject has the right to obtain from the controller without undue delay the rectification of inaccurate and incorrect personal data concerning them. The request should be addressed to the controller's contact person. *Right to restriction of processing* The data subject has the right to obtain from the controller a restriction of processing, for example when the accuracy of the personal data is contested by the data subject, for a period enabling the controller to verify the accuracy of the personal data. Where processing has been restricted, such personal data shall, with the exception of storage, only be processed with the data subject's consent or for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims or for the protection of the rights of another natural or legal person or for reasons of important public interest of the European Union or of an EU member state. *Right to erasure* In certain situations, the data subject has the right to ask the controller to erase personal data concerning them without undue delay. This right does not apply, for example, if the processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation under Union or Member State law to which the controller is subject or if the processing is carried out for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller. Nor does the right apply, for example, where processing is necessary for archiving purposes in the public interest, or where the right to erasure is likely to prevent or greatly complicate such processing.

	If you have requests concerning the rights of the data subject, please contact kirjaamo@aka.fi. *Right to lodge complaint with supervisory authority* Without prejudice to any other administrative or judicial remedy, every data subject has the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority, in particular in the member state of their habitual residence, place of work or place of the alleged infringement, if the data subject considers that the processing of their personal data infringes the General Data Protection Regulation. This right is without prejudice to other administrative appeal or legal remedies. In Finland, the national supervisory authority is the Data Protection Ombudsman: tietosuoja@om.fi, tel. +358 295 666 700.