



September 2022 call

Panel/Name of reviewer:

Name of applicant:

Title of proposed project:

Application review form

Sport science research 2022

Application number:

How to review sport science research applications

The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture funds sport science research projects in specified thematic areas with the primary goal of generating new information to promote sports and physical activity. The research should be of a high scientific quality and have high applicability and relevance to policymaking. The Academy of Finland organises the scientific review of the applications. The relevance to the themes and applicability will be evaluated by the Ministry.

Please provide both written feedback and numerical ratings to each of the following items. Write evaluative rather than descriptive comments.

- [Bullet text refers to technical instructions for the online services \(SARA\).](#)

The review scale ranges from 6 (outstanding) to 1 (insufficient). The consistency between the numerical rating and the written comments is particularly important.

Rating	Description
6 (outstanding)	Demonstrates extremely high novelty and/or innovation; has potential to substantially advance science at global level; presents a high-gain plan that may include risks
5 (excellent)	Is very good in international comparison – contains no significant elements to be improved
4 (good)	Is in general sound but contains some elements that should be improved
3 (fair)	Is in general sound but contains important elements that should be improved
2 (poor)	Contains flaws; is in need of substantial modification or improvement
1 (insufficient)	Contains severe flaws that are intrinsic to the proposed project or the application



1 Quality of research

1.1 Scientific quality, novelty and innovativeness of research

Sub-rating (1–6)

Significance of project; objectives and hypotheses; ambitiousness and state of the art of objectives (possible novel concepts and approaches or development across disciplines); scientific impact of research; potential for breakthroughs or exceptionally significant outcomes; etc.

- See item **1 Aim and objectives** in the research plan.

2 Implementation

2.1 Feasibility of research plan

Sub-rating (1–6)

Feasibility of project (bearing in mind extent to which the proposed research may include high risks); materials, research data and methods; management of research tasks; research environment including research infrastructures; identified potential scientific or methodological problem areas and mitigation plan; etc.

- See item **2 Implementation** in the research plan.

2.2 Human resources, expertise, and collaborations

Sub-rating (1–6)

Competence and scientific expertise of applicant in terms of project implementation; complementary expertise of the team (i.e. project personnel directly working/funded for the project), including appropriateness and sufficiency for the proposed project; adequateness of human resources in terms of project implementation; contribution of national and/or international research collaborators and their environment to the success of the project (i.e. collaborators engaged in the project with their own funding); significance of planned mobility for implementation of research plan and researcher training; etc.

- See item **3 Research team and collaborators** in the research plan.
- See **most relevant publications and other key outputs** in the application form.
- See **CV** of the applicant in the application form.
- See **list of publications**.
- See **mobility plan** in the application form.



- See [letter\(s\) of collaboration](#).

3 Responsible science, societal effects and impact of project

3.1 Responsible science

(no numerical rating)

Consideration of the different aspects of responsible science; please comment especially if there are shortcomings in any of the following aspects: research ethics; promotion of equality and nondiscrimination within project or in society at large; open access to research publications; data management and open access to data; sustainable development.

- See [item 4 Responsible science](#) in the research plan.

3.2 Societal effects and impact of project

(no numerical rating)

Comments on aspects of societal effects and impact of the project, if relevant

- See [items 5 Societal effects and impact](#) in the research plan.
- Comments on societal effects and impact should not affect the scientific review/rating or ranking of the application. Instead, they will be considered as an additional factor when the funding decisions are made.

4 Summary assessment of project

Main strengths and weaknesses of project

(no numerical rating)

Summary assessment of the application including main strengths and weaknesses with justifications; concluding remarks.

4.1 Main strengths and their justifications:

4.2 Main weaknesses and their justifications:

4.3 Concluding remarks:

**5 Overall rating****Rating (1-6)**

- Please note that the final rating should not be a mathematical average of the sub-ratings. For example, the application should not be penalised if it has a slight weakness in one evaluation item that is later strengthened in another item (e.g. lack of some expertise in a local team but compensated through international collaboration).