



ACADEMY PROJECT FUNDING FOR EARLYCAREER RESEARCHERS

Supplement to September 2018 call

10 Sep–1 Oct 2018



ACADEMY OF FINLAND

The Academy of Finland funds cutting-edge, responsible and high-impact research and promotes the renewal and regeneration of science. We are Finland's leading expert organisation in science and science policy. Our funding is based on open competition and independent peer review.

We promote the internationality of research and good scientific practice. We require that the researchers and sites of research we fund follow the research-ethical guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity.

In 2018, our funding for research amounts to 444 million euros. Part of our funds (€70.7m in 2018) come from proceeds of Finland's national gaming company Veikkaus.

Read more about us on www.aka.fi/en.



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Supplement to September 2018 call

The Finnish Government's budget proposal for 2019 includes a permanent increase of 25 million euros for research funding to be distributed by the Academy of Finland. The funding boost is targeted at the younger generation of researchers (see [press release by Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, 29 Aug 2018, in Finnish](#)). **The Academy of Finland has decided to allocate a maximum of 25 million euros to early-career researchers who have shown rapid progress in their research career and who have significant potential to ensure the renewal of research in their field.**

In the Academy's September 2018 call, applicants eligible under the above criterion may submit an application either for Academy Project funding for early-career researchers or for regular Academy Project funding. Applications submitted for regular Academy Project funding will not be reviewed or processed as part of the targeted call for early-career researchers.

The allocation of funds will be implemented by opening a targeted Academy Project call for early-career researchers.

Applications submitted to the targeted call will be reviewed in the same panels as applications for regular Academy Project funding. If an application for Academy Project funding for early-career researchers is unsuccessful, the research council concerned will still process it together with applications submitted for regular Academy Project funding.

Aim

The aims of this targeted call are the same as those for regular Academy Project funding. However, the review of applications will also focus on the applicant's career progress and potential for scientific renewal.

Eligible applicants must clearly describe in their research plans (under *Special call objective*) how they identify themselves as belonging to the younger generation of talented researchers in their field, how their careers have progressed and how they view their potential to ensure the renewal of research.

Who is eligible to apply?

If you want to apply for this funding, you must (in addition to being the principal investigator of the project) be **a researcher at the professor or docent level**. In the review of applications, special attention will be paid to the applicant's achievements in the past five years and to their potential to contribute to the renewal of research. Possible career breaks (maternity, paternity, parental or childcare leave, military or nonmilitary service, or long-term illness) will be considered, as is standard Academy practice.

If the PI does not have an employment relationship with, for example, a university or research institute, they must give an account of how their salary will be covered during the funding period. If their status changes after they have submitted the application, they must immediately notify the Academy. These details must be accounted for in the application.

Funding

The funding will be granted following the criteria set for Academy Project funding.



Funding period

The funding period starts on 1 September 2019. As a rule, the funding is granted for four years.

Special conditions and restrictions

The special conditions and restrictions that apply to this call are the same as those set for Academy Project funding.

Parts of the application

Online form – Details to be filled in the tabs include the [research plan \(for targeted Academy Projects\)](#) and the ten most important publications for the project.

Obligatory appendices

- [curriculum vitae](#), no more than two pages
- complete [list of publications](#)
- [data management plan](#)

Case-specific appendices

- invitation by foreign university or research institute, if the research or part of it will be conducted abroad; please do not append any letters of recommendation
- statement by ethics committee or animal care committee
- progress report on all Academy-funded projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports

How to apply

The deadline for applications is 1 October 2018 at 16.15 local Finnish time. The deadline is non-negotiable. Fill in the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls* > **Academy Project funding for early-career researchers**.

Draft the application so that the Academy's contribution to funding comes to no more than 70% of the estimated total project costs. Read more on our website under [Full cost model](#).

In the case of consortium applications, each consortium party must also meet the criteria set for this targeted call. See the [guidelines for consortium applications](#) on our website. Please note that consortium PIs can submit the joint consortium application only after all consortium subprojects have tagged their applications as complete. The non-negotiable call deadline also applies to consortia. Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the call deadline has expired.

Contacts

Division of Biosciences, Health and Environmental Research:

- Science Adviser Päivi Lindfors, tel. +358 295 335 028

Division of Social Sciences and Humanities Research:

- Science Adviser Satu Huuha-Cissokho, tel. +358 295 335 075
- Science Adviser Riitta Launonen, tel. +358 295 335 059



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- Science Adviser Helena Vänskä, tel. +358 295 335 036

Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research:

- Science Adviser Jukka Tanskanen, tel. +358 295 335 071
- Science Adviser Jenni Heino, tel. +358 295 335 030
- Science Adviser Ulrika Jakobsson, tel. +358 295 335 038
- Science Adviser Timo Lehtinen, tel. +358 295 335 054
- Senior Science Adviser Ritva Taurio, tel. +358 295 335 115