



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

SEPTEMBER CALL

10 Sep–1 Oct 2018

Call closes at 16.15 local Finnish time.



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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STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO APPLYING

- **Read key sections of the call text:** the guidelines for applicants, the guidelines specific to the scheme from which you're applying for funding and the appendices that concern the scheme.
- **Make sure you have a commitment from your site of research** (usually a university or research institute) to supporting the project.
- **Log in to our online services** when the call opens. Update your personal details.
- **Start drafting the application as early as possible.** You can draft appendices even before the call opens, and update the application form until the call closes. You may also use a test call feature before the call opens.
- **Start writing the research plan as early as possible. Draft the appendices** (e.g. CV and data management plan) **following the guidelines provided.** You may save and update the form and the appendices until the call closes.
- **Get to know** [the review forms and the review criteria](#), and be sure to consider them when writing your research plan.
- **You can fill in the application section by section.** Make the **scientific abstract** interesting and descriptive, and provide several detailed **keywords** (at least research topic, material and methods). Also take time to write a readable **popular description**. As of September 2018, the research plan is entered on a separate tab of the online form. Remember to save the form every 60 minutes. Submit the application only after you've filled in all obligatory information.
- **Consult your site of research when filling in budget details.** You'll need these: percentages for overheads and indirect employee costs, coefficient for effective working hours and details on VAT practice. Justify each cost item in the free-text fields on the tab *Funding plan*.
- Show the finished application to a colleague and **make the most of the feedback**.
- **Submit the application** (incl. obligatory appendices and details) **well before the closing date.** The system will only accept applications that contain all obligatory information. You can edit and supplement the application until the deadline expires. You can't edit or submit the application after the deadline has expired.

[Information on decision dates](#) is available on our website. We'll update the information as it becomes available.

After the funding decision has been made, we'll send you an email with a link to the online services, where you can view the decision and any reviews drafted on your application.

You'll find answers to most questions in the call text and its appendices. If you have questions about the call, get in touch with relevant representatives at your site of research or the call's contact person.

If you have questions for us after submitting the application and before the decision is made, please call or email the call's contact person.



1. GENERAL GUIDELINES

During summer 2018, we will be preparing some changes to the technical process of submitting an application.

The technical instructions will be supplemented in August so that they are ready when the call opens on 10 September. Please check the updated guidelines on our website before filling in your application. You can use the previously published guidelines to help you prepare your application before the call opens.

We will post the updated guidelines at www.aka.fi/whatsnew as they become available.

1.1 GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

In a nutshell

The Academy of Finland grants funding in open competition for research of the highest possible quality. We offer many different funding opportunities, and you can apply for funding to

- 1) **hire a research team**, either under an open theme (researcher-driven research such as in Academy Projects) or under a specific, pre-determined theme (theme-driven research such as in Academy Programmes and other targeted opportunities)
- 2) **cover your own salary** for research under an open theme (researcher-driven research such as in Academy Research Fellow and Postdoctoral Researcher funding)
- 3) **improve research environments** (organisation-driven research such as in funding for research infrastructures and funding to strengthen university research profiles).

Because different funding schemes have different objectives, we have set conditions that determine who can apply for our funding and what the funds can be used for. These conditions are specified in the call text separately for each funding opportunity. Academy funding is always paid via the site of research (usually a university or research institute), in compliance with the Finnish Act on Discretionary Government Transfers. Before you submit your application, you must check with your site of research that you will obtain their commitment to the research.

Applications can be submitted only when calls are open, and they are filled in in the Academy's online services following the guidelines provided. An application consists of the online form with its tabs and text fields and the appendices appended to the application.

[Our step-by-step guide to applying](#) gives you a rundown of the most important steps involved in applying for Academy funding. Another important section on our website that you should familiarise yourself with is [How applications are reviewed](#).

Are you eligible to apply?

If you want to apply for research funding from the Academy of Finland (the term used for applicants is 'principal investigator'), you must be a researcher with a doctoral degree or a researcher at the professor or docent level. In some of our funding opportunities, the applicant is a university or research institute. Any other possible



types of applicants (such as in the case of mobility grants based on bilateral agreements) will be specified separately for each funding opportunity concerned.

We allocate funding based on peer review to the best researchers and research teams and to the most talented early-career researchers to support them in carrying out scientifically ambitious projects. In principle, the projects we fund must benefit Finnish research and society and international collaboration.

Our funding is paid via a site of research (usually a university or research institute) based in Finland. Academy funding can be granted to foreign sites only in exceptional cases, such as in the case of international research infrastructure projects. As an applicant, you must have a close connection with Finland to support the implementation of a multi-year project. You must describe this connection in the application. Academy-funded researchers may also spend time working abroad during their funding period.

Restrictions related to applying

In the September call, we will consider only one application per researcher if the application concerns Academy Project funding (incl. a consortium subproject), Academy Research Fellow funding, Postdoctoral Researcher funding or clinical researcher funding. If you do submit more than one application for any of these funding opportunities, or apply for funding from more than one of them, we will only review the first application to arrive. Applications that are not reviewed will not be eligible for funding.

Members of the Academy Board, the Academy's research councils or the Strategic Research Council are not granted Academy research funding during their term. This restriction applies to members in office as of 1 January 2019 and to funding decisions made thereafter. The restriction does not apply to funding schemes where the applicant is an organisation.

Academy Programme funding cannot be granted to a person who has participated in the planning of the programme to an extent likely to give them a comparative advantage over other applicants. This applies to, for example, members and permanent experts of preparatory and steering committees.

We will not process a funding application if the applicant has been found guilty of research misconduct in the three years preceding the year of the call.

WHAT DOES THE FUNDING COVER?

What the funding covers depends on the funding opportunity. You can apply for Academy funding to cover, for example, the following direct research costs:

- research team salaries
As a rule, staff hired with Academy research funding must have an employment relationship. We recommend that they be hired for a period of employment no shorter than the funding period, unless a shorter contract is necessary for special reasons dictated by the implementation of the research project. Short-term research, study or other assignments may also be carried out in the form of outsourced services, if it is determined to be necessary for the project.
- salaries of researchers returning to Finland
- essential implementation costs
- travels



- collaboration and mobility in Finland
- international collaboration and mobility
- mobility allowance for spells abroad
- preparation of international projects
- publishing (e.g. costs of open-access publishing).

We require that the site of research (e.g. university) provides the research project with all **necessary basic facilities**. These are determined based on the nature of the research and are the same as those available to other research staff at the site: office and laboratory premises, equipment (incl. computer equipment), and telecommunications, telephone, mailing, copying and library services, etc.

When the site of research is a university or a research institute, as a rule, the funding must be applied for VAT included. Consult the financial administration at the site of research for more information. The funding may also cover VAT costs, but only on certain conditions; read more on our website under [How to enter value added tax on the application](#).

In the application, provide a **cost estimate** including an estimate of the annual amount of funding needed, itemised by type of expenditure. Also include a **funding plan**, that is, all funding granted for the project as well as funding that will be provided by the site of research if the project is launched. The cost estimate must be realistic. Justify all research costs in the free-text fields on the tab *Funding plan* in the online form.

We fund researcher mobility within projects and with a separate scheme

The Academy of Finland provides funding for international researcher mobility within research projects and with a separate funding scheme.

In research projects (e.g. Academy Projects, projects in Academy Programmes, targeted projects and research costs in connection with research posts), this funding is applied for as part of the project's research costs:

- 1) mobility allowance for mobility from Finland as part of a project's research costs; recommendation:
 - researchers with dependent children: €1,500/month
 - researchers without dependent children: €1,050/month
- 2) grants to non-EU researchers coming to Finland to work for periods shorter than a year
- 3) salary funding for researchers other than the project PI
 - salary funding for international researchers' work in Finland
 - salary funding for researchers returning to Finland
 - salary funding for the project's researchers' work abroad during the funding period
- 4) salary funding for the project PI (under certain limitations) who works abroad or returns to Finland (see Salary costs of principal investigator (under certain limitations)).

In our funding scheme International researcher mobility based on bilateral agreements you may apply for research grants or personal grants independently of research projects. This mobility funding is applied for in September.



Read more in Appendices 2 A–C of the September 2018 call text and on our website under [Calculation of support to international researcher mobility](#).

Salary costs of principal investigator (under certain limitations)

Academy funding for research projects (Academy Projects, targeted projects and Academy Programme projects) is primarily intended **for the salaries of full-time researchers working on the projects and for other research costs**. The salary costs of the PI may, under certain limitations, be incorporated into the total project costs.

1. Including PI's salary (for project management) in total project costs

The salary costs of the PI may be incorporated into the total project costs in accordance with what is stated in the research plan. In order for the salary costs to be eligible, **the PI's tasks must be clearly specified in the application**.

The salary costs must not be significant in relation to the project's total costs. For example, a four-year research project must not include more than six months of the PI's effective working hours. This is equivalent to approximately 1.5 months a year.

2. Applying for funding for PI's salary (for research)

The Academy can grant a maximum of twelve months of funding towards the salary of a PI for conducting research.

The funding is intended to support project implementation and **granted only for well-substantiated research-related reasons** (e.g. work abroad, return to Finland or transfer to another research organisation or a company in Finland). (Possible business collaboration must fulfil the terms set out in the Academy's [General conditions and guidelines for funding](#), section 10.1.)

The research-related reasons and the PI's tasks must be clearly presented in the application. The funding cannot be used for this purpose unless it is mentioned in the terms and conditions included in the funding decision.

3. Granting salary funding to PI with no employment relationship

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. Applicants must describe this at the application stage.

Retired researchers can be granted funding on the same grounds as other researchers.

HOW TO WRITE THE APPLICATION

Follow good scientific practice

Academy-funded research must be conducted following the principles of good scientific practice (promoting open science, promoting equality and nondiscrimination, treating research-ethical issues appropriately, and considering principles related to IPRs).

All results produced with funding from the Academy of Finland must be made public.



The Academy is committed to following the [guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity](#) and requires that Academy-funded researchers and sites of research respect the same guidelines.

We also require that you follow the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity in international research collaboration. [The Code of Conduct is available on the website of ALLEA \(All European Academies\)](#).

For information on how to promote open science, please see Appendix 3 of the September 2018 call text.

Read the review criteria

Our funding is based on a review of the scientific merits of the research plan and the applicant. We mainly use foreign experts as reviewers. As an applicant, you have the right to submit your application in Finnish or Swedish, **but we ask you to submit it in English to:**

- facilitate international peer review
- ensure an equal preparation of funding decisions
- ensure a smooth processing of applications.

To ensure a successful review, it is important that – in addition to the correct **research council** and **research fields** – you also enter **keywords describing your research, research methods and data**. For more information, see [Research fields](#) and [Research field classification](#) on our website.

Our review process is presented on our website under [How applications are reviewed](#) and [Guides for reviewers](#). We are currently working on improving the review process. The criteria applied in the review are presented under [Review criteria](#). Please familiarise yourself with the criteria and the guidelines.

For justified reasons, we may decide not to review or process an application. The reasons that are considered in these cases are presented on our website under [Review criteria](#).

What is a consortium (in Academy Project calls, Academy Programme calls and targeted calls)?

In calls that concern funding for research teams (Academy Project funding, Academy Programme funding and targeted funding), principal investigators apply for funding **for their research teams**. **In calls that concern personal funding** (e.g. funding for research post as Academy Research Fellow, Academy Professor, Postdoctoral Researcher or clinical researcher), researchers apply for funding independently **for themselves** and with their own research plan.

In calls for research teams, funding may be applied for (or the Academy may require that funding is applied for) as **a consortium, a fixed-term body of independent subprojects** that work under a joint research plan. By coming together as a consortium, projects may tackle more extensive research problems, for instance.

From the perspective of the Academy's application process, **a consortium is an application built around a joint research plan, where each party to the consortium applies for funding from the Academy**.



In Academy calls, collaborators who have an important role in the implementation of the research plan but who will not apply for funding as consortium subprojects are therefore not regarded as consortium parties. Under *Collaborators* on the application form (*Research plan > Implementation > Collaborators*), describe how other Finnish or foreign researchers working with their own funding will contribute to the project.

The Academy treats the consortium PI's and the subprojects' joint consortium application as one application, although the funding is granted to each subproject separately.

The cost estimate and funding plan presented in the consortium application must be drafted taking into account possible consortium size restrictions and the total funding available for the call concerned.

Appendix 5 of the September 2018 call text shows an illustration of how to submit a consortium application. The joint consortium application is submitted by the consortium PI. The PI can submit the consortium application only after all subprojects have tagged their applications as complete. This procedure applies to consortium applications for both letters of intent (first call stage) and full applications (second call stage). Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the call deadline has expired.

Consortium PIs must check the status of the consortium application in the Academy's online services to make sure that the subprojects complete their applications in good time before the deadline.

Read more under [Guidelines for consortium application](#) on our website. The guidelines will be updated before the September call opens.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE APPLICATION

The structure of the application has changed

The application consists of the tabs of the online form and the appendices

The parts of the application are 1) the online form with its tabs and text fields and 2) the appendices to the application.

The following is a summary of the key changes in the application process that take effect as of the September 2018 call:

1. **Fill in your research plan on a separate tab** in the online application. We have reorganised the structure of the research plan to better correspond to the review of applications. The September 2018 call will have five different research plan templates depending on the funding scheme: Academy Project, targeted Academy Project, Academy Research Fellow, Postdoctoral Researcher or clinical researcher funding. The research plan is no longer a separate appendix. You may, of course, still draft it as a single document and then – after the call has opened – transfer it in parts into the text fields on the tab in the online application. The updated guidelines will be posted on the Academy's website under [Research plan guidelines](#).
2. **The list of publications is also filled in on a separate tab** on the online form. You can import details on your publications directly from [the VIRTAA publication](#)



[information service](#) by using the search function on the form. If necessary, you may supplement the VIRTÄ list if it lacks information. More detailed information on the VIRTÄ service and the search function will be posted on the Academy's website under [Guidelines for list of publications](#).

3. **The CV is still an appendix** to the application. However, please note that we have simplified our CV guidelines to better correspond to the practices of international funding calls. You may include a link to a more comprehensive online CV.

During the summer, we will also be preparing technical improvements that concern the commitment of the site of research and the possibility to authorise other people than the applicant to view and supplement parts of the application. The exact details concerning these improvements will be finalised at a later stage. **The guidelines will be supplemented before the call opens on 10 September. Please check the updated guidelines on our website.**

As of the end of August, we will open a test call where you can try out the new application process.

Although some guidelines are still under preparation, you may prepare your applications following the guidelines in the call text.

You can make your application easier to review by following the guidelines we have provided.

Fill in the research plan on the online form

Structure the research plan following our guidelines, read the review questions

As of the September 2018 call, **the research plan is filled in on a separate tab on the online form.** [Structure the research plan following the updated guidelines](#). You may prepare the plan as a single document, but you must transfer the different parts of the plan into the text fields on the tab. The aim of this reform has been to improve the comparability of applications. You may still submit your research plan as a PDF appendix to the application, but we do not recommend it – to ensure the uniformity and quality of the review process, applications must be comparable.

The September 2018 call will have five different research plan templates depending on the funding scheme: Academy Project, targeted Academy Project, Academy Research Fellow, Postdoctoral Researcher or clinical researcher funding. See [Research plan guidelines](#) on our website for the updated structure.

The application and its appendices must provide clear answers to [the questions addressed in the review](#).

Below you will find a description of some parts of the research plan.

Follow the Advisory Board's guidelines

The ethical issues of the research must always be described in the research plan; they are examined as part of the scientific review. See the [guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity](#).



We require that all Academy-funded research is conducted following [the guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity](#), including [the recommendations on ethical review in human sciences](#). We also require that you follow [the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#) in international research collaboration.

In the research plan, describe scientific impact and impact beyond academia as well as promotion of sustainability

The research plan should include descriptions of both the research project's **scientific impact** and its expected **impact beyond academia**. Impact beyond academia may come in many different forms depending on the research field and the project. For instance, science is a source of wealth and prosperity, but it also improves our understanding of the world and enhances the level of civilisation, supports the development of good practices and informs decision-making.

The Academy also takes into account [the principles of sustainable development](#) in its research funding. In the research plan, as part of societal effects and impact, describe how the project will promote the objectives of sustainable development: equal prospects for wellbeing, a participatory society for citizens, sustainable employment, sustainable society and local communities, a carbon-neutral society, a resource-wise economy, lifestyles respectful of the carrying capacity of nature and decision-making respectful of nature.

Describe your use of research infrastructures

Under the tab *Research infrastructures*, describe which international and national research infrastructures will be used and how this will benefit the project. Select the roadmap infrastructure(s) from the menu or enter other infrastructures under *Other*.

Research infrastructures refer to a reserve of research instruments, equipment, data and services that support organised research, researcher training and teaching. Infrastructures may also facilitate research and development at different stages of innovation activities as well as maintain and improve research and innovation capacity. Research infrastructures may be based at a single location (single-sited), scattered across several sites (distributed), or provided via a virtual platform (virtual). They can also form mutually complementary wholes and networks.

Read more at [infras.openscience.fi](#) and on our website under [Research infrastructures](#).

HOW APPLICATIONS ARE SUBMITTED AND BECOME PENDING, PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC DESCRIPTION

How applications are submitted and become pending: late applications will not be accepted

Applications for the Academy of Finland's September 2018 call can be drafted and submitted in the online services as of Monday 10 September. The deadline for applications is Monday 1 October at 16.15 local Finnish time. The non-negotiable call deadline also applies to consortia. Please note that consortium PIs can submit the consortium application only after all consortium subprojects have tagged their applications as complete. International calls may have other deadlines. To ensure smooth drafting and submission, please submit the application as early as possible.

We are preparing a feature by which applicants (PIs) could authorise another person to supplement or view the application while the call is open. The responsibility for



completing the application still rests with the applicant. [More information about the authorisation option will be posted on our website before the call opens.](#)

According to section 17 of the Finnish Administrative Procedure Act and section 8 of the Act on Electronic Services and Communication in the Public Sector, the sender is responsible for the application arriving by the set deadline.

An application becomes pending at the Academy when the online application and the obligatory appendices **have been submitted in the online services**. The system will confirm a successful submission by sending an email to the address provided by the applicant.

Please note that you cannot submit a full-costing-based application in which the Academy's contribution to funding is higher than the percentage indicated in the call text. Do not use a space as the thousands separator on the budget pages. The system will not accept applications that lack obligatory details or appendices.

Append only the requested appendices to the application, append them in PDF format and make sure not to exceed the maximum lengths indicated in the guidelines.

For guidelines on how to submit an application in the Academy's online services, see our [how-to guidelines for the online services](#). If you run into problems in the online services at the time of submission, please contact us (the contact persons are named in the call text) before the deadline expires, either by phone or via [Questions and feedback](#) on our website.

Supplement the application if necessary and always notify us of other funding

You can make changes (e.g. change appendices) in an application you have submitted to the Academy, but you must make them **before the deadline expires**. To do this, log in to the online services, open the application, make the necessary changes and save the supplemented application by the set deadline. You will not receive any confirmation message when you supplement and re-save an application.

If you notice that your application lacks important information **after the deadline has expired**, immediately get in touch with the call's contact person, who can open the application so that you can add the missing information. Make sure to re-submit the application after you have supplemented it. You will receive an email confirmation after the resubmission.

We will consider the additions insofar as it is possible in view of the review and decision-making process. An important addition is, for instance, an invitation by a foreign university.

See the [instructions on how to supplement a consortium application](#) on our website. The guidelines will be updated before the call opens.

Do not submit any new appendices via the so-called additional information feature; such appendices will not be saved as part of the application.

You must immediately notify us if you receive funding from other sources for the same purpose after your application to the Academy has been submitted.



Publicity and data protection

Under the Finnish Act on the Openness of Government Activities, an application and its appendices are public information; research plans, plans of intent, abstracts and progress reports, however, are not. For example, the CV is a public document and as such must not include any confidential information.

The Academy is committed to following regulations on data protection. The GDPR-compliant privacy statement concerning the research funding process is available on our website under [Privacy statements](#).

Public project description and abstract

The public description of the project is an important part of the application. The description is a way for the Academy and researchers to disseminate information on Academy-funded research to the research community, stakeholders and the public at large. The description should therefore be as readable as possible, written for a nonscientific audience. It must give the reader a summary of the key points of the research. Read more under [Public description of project](#) on our website. The description must not exceed 1,000 characters.

If a project is granted funding, we will publish the description of the project on our website.

Finnish- or Swedish-speaking applicants write their descriptions in Finnish or Swedish. All applicants must also write a description in English to facilitate international peer review.

In contrast to the public project description, **the scientific abstract** (which is part of the research plan) is confidential information. The abstract is a summary of the research plan. It provides a brief overview of scientific and societal objectives, research methods and data as well as expected results and impact of the research. It is important that the abstract is carefully written to facilitate the review. The abstract must not exceed 2,500 characters.

1.2 GUIDELINES FOR SITES OF RESEARCH

Terms and conditions for funding

Funding by the Academy of Finland is granted following the Finnish Act on Discretionary Government Transfers and the Academy's general conditions for funding.

The Academy will fund a research project only if the site of research undertakes to provide the researcher with the necessary basic facilities for research.

We allocate the funding to the researcher's host organisation. The host organisation receiving the transfer is permitted to use it solely to fund the research carried out by the PI named in the funding decision. Staff to be hired with Academy research funding must have an employment relationship with the site of research or the organisation receiving the funding.



Grants for research abroad (mobility grants awarded under the funding scheme *International researcher mobility based on bilateral agreements*) may also be allocated directly to the researcher.

Our general funding conditions are the same irrespective of whether the case involves a central government organisation or a recipient of discretionary government transfers.

The funding is regarded as a discretionary government transfer if the recipient is a nongovernmental organisation (e.g. university, independent public institution, municipality, joint municipal authority, association, business, foundation, foreign organisation or private individual). The funding is allocated to the host organisation – not the researcher – and the organisation is thus regarded as the recipient of the transfer (as per the Finnish Act on Discretionary Government Transfers), and will accordingly be required to assume all related obligations.

For detailed conditions and guidelines (revised annually) on use of funding and reporting, see [How to use the funding](#) on our website.

We fund research organisations

A research organisation refers to an organisation whose primary goal is to conduct independent basic research, industrial research or experimental development or to disseminate its results widely by means of education, publication or knowledge transfer. Research organisations include higher education institutions or research institutes, which are funded according to the Finnish Act on Discretionary Government Transfers and the Academy's general funding conditions.

Academy funding to non-research organisations

The primary goal of non-research organisations is related to other activities than independent research or dissemination of research results. The Academy does not grant funding to support economic activity. Economic activity is defined as all activity where goods or services are offered on an open market.

Please contact us before applying, if you intend to apply for funding for non-research organisations.

Business collaborators in Academy-funded projects

If an Academy-funded project involves cooperation with business companies that are not funded by the Academy, the project must follow special terms and conditions regarding business cooperation. The aim of the terms and conditions is to prevent indirect state aid to business companies. Read more in [the Academy's general funding conditions](#) (item 10.1).

Where an Academy-funded project involves cooperation with business companies, the terms and conditions of the project, in particular as regards contributions to its costs, the sharing of risks and outcomes, the dissemination of results, and access to and allocation of IPRs, must be concluded in writing before the start of the project.

What are co-funding, full costing and the additional cost model?

Academy research funding is in essence a form of **co-funding** in which the funds to finance the costs of a project usually come from at least two sources. When Academy



funding is applied for, universities, research institutes and other research organisations commit to the co-funded activity by contributing their percentage of the costs.

In calls implemented under **the full cost model**, Academy funding can be used to cover both direct project costs (e.g. direct salaries) and indirect costs (e.g. rents for premises). Both types of costs are covered with the same percentage.

In your application, you must provide a funding plan in accordance with the full cost model, including the amount of funding to be applied for from the Academy. Draft the online application so that the Academy's contribution to funding comes to no more than the percentage indicated in the call text. In calls where cost calculation follows the principles of full costing, the Academy's contribution usually comes to no more than 70% of the total costs. In some funding opportunities (e.g. funding to strengthen university research profiles and SRC funding programmes), exceptionally, the Academy's contribution is 100%.

Before submitting your application, you must agree with the administration at your own organisation on the contribution of the site of research to the funding of the project. As the total project costs must not include any costs that do not pass through the books of the site of research, you must check with your own organisation whether the funding planned as the own funding contribution suits this purpose. When calculating the total projects costs at the application and decision-making stage, we will only take into account funding that has been confirmed (e.g. through a decision by the body that has granted the funding).

The maximum funding percentage is applied in calculating **estimated** total costs both at the application and decision-making stage and in calculating **real** total costs during the project (payment procedure). The percentage is applied to all project costs, that is, to both direct and indirect costs, including overheads.

Learn more on our website at [Full cost model](#) and [Full cost model: principles and definitions](#).

Full costing was introduced on the proposal by the Finnish Ministry of Finance in 2009. Earlier, the Academy compensated overheads following **the additional cost model**. That model is still applied to the salary funding in research posts as Academy Research Fellow and Academy Professor. In applications following the additional cost model, the system will calculate (in addition to other costs) 14.29% as overheads costs, in which case the decision includes an overheads percentage of 12.5%.

Sites of research commit to the funding at the application stage

The Academy will fund a research project only if the application includes a commitment by the site of research. You must agree on this commitment **in advance** with a representative of the site of research. Read more under [Commitment by site of research](#) on our website.

In calls where full costing is applied, you must – before submitting your application – determine from your own organisation **the funding contribution, the coefficients and the VAT practice of the site of research**, and agree on them with the commitment issuer. The coefficients will be valid during the entire funding period.



If there are no other funding sources, the site of research must cover **at least 30%** of the costs of a project under full costing. If there are other sources, their contributions must also pass through the books of the site of research.

The competent person of the site of research issues the commitment on behalf of the site of research. By issuing the commitment, the site undertakes to, for instance:

- secure the necessary basic facilities for the project, which are the same as those available to other research staff at the site: office and laboratory premises, equipment (incl. computer equipment), and telecommunications, telephone, mailing, copying and library services
- fund the project (in accordance with full costing) with the funding contribution presented in the funding plan.

In the case of applicants for funding for research posts as Academy Professor and Academy Research Fellow, the commitment by the site of research also applies to the use of the researcher's working hours for purposes other than research, and to salaries and other circumstances surrounding the researcher's work.

Costs related to storing and sharing research data are also regarded as belonging to the overheads of the project's site of research.

At the application stage, sites of research must check that the following information is entered correctly:

- the coefficients (overheads, indirect employee costs and effective working hours) of the site of research (regarding projects to which full costing is applied)
- [the VAT practice](#)
- the Business Identity Code.

A prerequisite for Academy funding is that both the applicant and the site of research commit to the guidelines issued by the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity on [responsible conduct of research and procedures for handling allegations of misconduct in Finland](#). The site of research undertakes to submit to the Academy's Registrar's Office the final report of any investigations concerning violation of good scientific practice by the PI or a researcher of an Academy-funded project.

If the funding is a discretionary government transfer awarded to organisations outside the central government (e.g. universities), the site of research undertakes to act as the recipient of the transfer on behalf of the applicant and will accordingly assume all related obligations.

1.3 HOW DECISIONS ARE ANNOUNCED, HOW FUNDING IS ACCEPTED

We will notify you when the decision has been made

[The dates for Academy funding decisions are posted on our website](#). You can also [search our decisions](#) for the funded projects and their public descriptions.

The decisions on applications for Academy Project, Academy Research Fellow and Postdoctoral Researcher funding submitted in the September 2018 call will be made in two stages. First, applications that have received rating 1–4 in the review will receive a negative decision at the discretion of the research council concerned. This



means that these applicants will be notified of the decision earlier than before. The rest of the applications will be processed at the second stage.

As an applicant, you will receive an automatic **email message** after the decision has been made. After receiving this message, you can **log in to the online services** with your user ID to view the decision and its justifications. You can also read the conditions for the decision, if it has been favourable. In addition, you will have access to read the expert reviews on your application.

Applicants and sites of research must confirm receipt of funding

After being granted funding, you must check and accept it in the online services without delay. The system will then send a notification to the commitment issuer at the site of research. That person must also accept the granted funding.

The funds can be paid only after both the applicant and the representative of the site of research have accepted them as received. The system will then notify the funding to the finance administration of the site of research, whereupon the funds will be ready to use.



FUNDING OPEN FOR APPLICATION IN SEPTEMBER 2018

2. FUNDING FOR RESEARCH TEAMS

RESEARCHER-DRIVEN RESEARCH

2.1 ACADEMY PROJECT FUNDING, ALL RESEARCH FIELDS

Aim

When you apply for Academy Project funding, you apply for funding to hire a research team.

The Academy Project funding scheme is designed to promote the quality and diversity of research, scientific impact and impact beyond academia as well as science self-renewal. The aim is to attain internationally as high a scientific standard of work as possible and to support scientific breakthroughs and top-tier international research collaboration.

The funding is granted primarily to teams of researchers with doctoral degrees. In Academy Projects, we encourage researchers to engage in international mobility that will support the research, for example, so that researchers hired to the project work abroad for a fixed period. The project may also hire foreign researchers who already work or who will work in the Finnish scientific community. The funding may also be used to hire researchers returning to Finland.

Who is eligible to apply?

If you want to apply for Academy Project funding, you must (in addition to being the principal investigator on the project) be a researcher with the **qualifications of a professor or docent**.

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

Funding

Academy Project funding can be used to cover both direct and indirect research costs of the research team arising from, for example, the following:

- working hours (salary)
- research
- travel
- national and international collaboration and mobility
- work and researcher training abroad
- preparation of international projects
- publishing (e.g. costs of open access publishing).

Appendix 1 A of the September 2018 call text shows the research councils' principles for project size as well as statistics on the decisions from the previous round.

Funding period

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



Special conditions and restrictions

Academy Project funding is primarily intended towards the salaries of researchers who work full-time on the project and for other project costs. For guidelines on the PI's salary, see page 7 of the September 2018 call text.

In the September call, we will consider only one application per researcher if the application concerns Academy Project funding (incl. a consortium subproject), Academy Research Fellow funding, Postdoctoral Researcher funding or clinical researcher funding. If you do submit more than one application for any of these funding opportunities, or apply for funding from more than one of them, we will only review the first application to arrive. Applications that are not reviewed will not be eligible for funding.

If you have ongoing Academy Project funding (an independent project or a consortium subproject), or funding allocated to an Academy Research Fellow or an Academy Professor for hiring a research team, you will not be eligible to receive funding for a simultaneous Academy Project except for very compelling reasons. In the September 2018 call, however, a PI who has an ongoing project with Academy Project funding ending on 31 December 2019 can be granted Academy Project funding as of 1 September 2019.

Directors, vice directors and team leaders of Academy-funded Centres of Excellence (CoE) cannot receive Academy Project funding during the first three years of the CoE term.

The research councils may have their own principles concerning Academy Project funding. Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application.

Parts of the application

Online form – includes, for instance, [the research plan](#) (for Academy Project application) and [the list of publications](#).

Obligatory appendices

- [curriculum vitae](#)
- [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 committee on animal experimentation](#)
- [progress report](#) on all Academy-funded projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports

The technical instructions concerning the application will be supplemented in August so that they are ready when the call opens on 10 September. You can use the previously published guidelines to help you prepare your application before the call opens. Please check the updated guidelines on our website before filling in your application.



How to apply

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

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](#).

If the applicant is a consortium, see detailed guidelines on our website under [Guidelines for consortium application](#) (to be updated). 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 Vera Mikkilä, tel. +358 295 335 048
- Senior Science Adviser Jaana Lehtimäki, tel. +358 295 335 060
- Science Adviser Suvi Broholm, tel. +358 295 335 045
- Science Adviser Timo Sareneva, tel. +358 295 335 106

Division of Social Sciences and Humanities Research:

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- Science Adviser Riitta Launonen, tel. +358 295 335 059
- Science Adviser Helena Vänskä, tel. +358 295 335 036

Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research:

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- Science Adviser Timo Lehtinen, tel. +358 295 335 054
- Senior Science Adviser Samuli Hemming, tel. +358 295 335 024

THEME-DRIVEN RESEARCH

2.2 RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME ICT 2023: PROGRAMMABLE WORLD AND ADVANCED SOFTWARE TECHNIQUES

The Academy of Finland and Business Finland (formerly Tekes) are committed to implementing the research, development and innovation programme ICT 2023. The aim of the programme is to further improve Finland's scientific expertise in computer science and to promote the extensive application of ICT.

The theme of the September 2018 call is **Programmable World and Advanced Software Techniques**. The contents and aims of the call are described in more detail in the memorandum that will be posted on our website before the call opens. Business Finland will not open a parallel call for business-related projects, but BF funding is available under this theme through BF's normal application process.



Who is eligible to apply?

The funding can be applied for by both individual research projects and consortia composed of two or several research teams. In September 2018, the applicant may be involved in only one individual research project or consortium as a consortium PI or subproject PI.

Funding period

The funding period is three years. As a rule, the funding period will start on 1 September 2019. The Academy's preliminary funding budget for the projects is a total of 5 million euros.

Memorandum

The memorandum of the thematic call contains more detailed information on the call's background, aims, thematic areas and review criteria. [The memorandum will be posted on the Academy's website](#). Read the memorandum carefully.

Parts of the application

Online form – includes, for instance, [the research plan](#) (for targeted Academy Project application) and [the list of publications](#).

Obligatory appendices

- [curriculum vitae](#)
- [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 committee on animal experimentation](#)
- [progress report](#) on all Academy-funded projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports
- collaboration plan (if the project involves cooperation with businesses) with the company mentioned in the application; [the collaboration plan guidelines are available in the memorandum](#)

The technical instructions concerning the application will be supplemented in August so that they are ready when the call opens on 10 September. You can use the previously published guidelines to help you prepare your application before the call opens. Please check the updated guidelines on our website before filling in your application.

How to apply

The non-negotiable deadline for applications is 1 October 2018 at 16.15 local Finnish time. Fill in the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select **Open calls > ICT 2023: Programmable World and Advanced Software Techniques**.

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](#).



Applicants may be invited for interviews during the review process.

If the applicant is a consortium, see detailed guidelines on our website under [Guidelines for consortium application](#) (to be updated). Please note that consortium PIs can submit the 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 and more information

- Senior Science Adviser Juha Latikka (Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research), tel. +358 295 335 058
- [ICT 2023 programme](#)



3. FUNDING FOR INDIVIDUAL RESEARCHERS

3.1 FUNDING FOR RESEARCH POST AS ACADEMY RESEARCH FELLOW

Aim

When applying for funding for a research post as Academy Research Fellow, you apply for funding for your own salary for five years. Academy Research Fellows work on research plans of a high scientific quality. They have built extensive research networks and the funding allows them to develop their skills of academic leadership and to establish themselves as independent researchers in the international scientific community.

A post as Academy Research Fellow will provide you with a good and diverse opportunity to work independently on your research and to contribute to developing the research in your field. As an Academy Research Fellow, you are encouraged to engage in international research collaboration and mobility across international and sectoral borders, for example, so that you will work part of the term abroad. Foreign researchers who already work or who will work in the Finnish scientific community may also apply for the funding.

The duties of Academy Research Fellows include (without separate compensation) supervision of thesis and dissertation writers in their own field and teaching associated with their research, covering 5% of annual working hours.

Who is eligible to apply?

Successful applicants will have been engaged in successful scientific publication and collaboration since gaining their doctoral degree.

The applicant is a researcher with **3–9 years of experience** since PhD completion (degree certificate issued 1 Oct 2009–1 Oct 2015), or up to 13 years, if they have since completed medical specialist training.

Applicants who have completed their doctoral degree more than nine years ago can be considered only for special reasons (maternity, paternity, parental or childcare leave, military service or nonmilitary service, or long-term illness). If you plead these special reasons, justify them in the application under *Personal data/CV > Degrees > Additional information*. If the reasons are strictly confidential, please contact the presenting official (see Contacts).

Mobility since PhD completion is required. The ‘mobility requirement’ is met if you apply for funding for a research post to **a research environment other than the one in which you worked while completing your doctoral thesis**. The funding will be paid via a site of research in Finland.

If you are applying for funding to **the same research environment**, you will be required to provide proof that you have worked abroad or somewhere else in Finland for at least six months after completing your PhD. For more detailed guidelines, please see Appendix 6 of the September 2018 call text.

Appendix 1 B of the September 2018 call text shows the previous success rates of applications for Academy Research Fellow funding, by research council.



Funding

For salary

The funding towards the salary of an Academy Research Fellow is determined according to a monthly salary of 5,000 euros. We will also allocate funding for indirect employee costs (28%) and overheads (14.29%, i.e. the funding includes an overheads share of 12.5%).

On the initiative of the researcher concerned, the Academy Research Fellow salary funding may be integrated **during the funding period** with salary funding received from other sources. The same applies if the researcher is part of the university's tenure track system. In the September 2018 call, however, applicants apply for the full amount of salary funding.

For research costs

Recipients of funding for research posts as Academy Research Fellow can – having received the decision on their salary funding – submit a separate application to the relevant research council for a grant to cover research costs. The funding is granted to cover research costs, costs of international collaboration and mobility and costs of setting up a research team.

Separate decisions will be made on the funding for the salary and the research costs of Academy Research Fellows in spring 2019. **Those selected to a post** will be requested to separately submit an application and a detailed funding plan for research costs.

However, you must also append a tentative funding plan for research costs to your application as part of the research plan (under *Funding plan*). More information on the research councils' practices concerning research costs is available in Appendix 1 C of the September 2018 call text.

Funding period

Research posts as Academy Research Fellow are filled for five years. The funding period is 1 September 2019–31 August 2024. The period can be changed only for special reasons (see Who is eligible to apply?). A person can be granted Academy Research Fellow funding only once.

Research at EUI

Those applying for Academy Research Fellow funding can also apply to do research at the European University Institute (EUI) as part of the Academy Research Fellow term. The EUI can receive one Academy-funded Academy Research Fellow at a time to carry out research at the EUI for 1–2 years. You need not append a separate invitation from the EUI to your application or contact the EUI. However, please read about EUI research before applying and contact the Academy's EUI contact person (see below) when drafting your application.

Restrictions

In the September call, we will consider only one application per researcher if the application concerns Academy Project funding (incl. a consortium subproject), Academy Research Fellow funding, Postdoctoral Researcher funding or clinical



researcher funding. If you do submit more than one application for any of these funding opportunities, or apply for funding from more than one of them, we will only review the first application to arrive. Applications that are not reviewed will not be eligible for funding.

If you are appointed to a professorship for an indefinite term while your application is being processed, please notify us without delay. Academy Research Fellow funding is not granted to persons who hold full professorships or other corresponding senior-level research posts at research organisations.

The Academy Research Fellow's site of research is an organisation based in Finland through which the funding is channelled and paid. During the funding period, the Academy Research Fellow may work abroad for periods of varying durations, for example at foreign universities.

Researcher who have received Academy funding for a research post as Postdoctoral Researcher cannot be granted Academy Research Fellow funding until the end of the Postdoctoral Researcher funding period.

[The research councils' principles and criteria](#) concerning Academy Research Fellow research costs and their applications for Academy Project applications, for instance, are available on our website. *Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application.*

Parts of the application

Online form – includes, for instance, [the research plan](#) (for Academy Research Fellow application) and [the list of publications](#).

Obligatory appendices

- [curriculum vitae](#)
- [data management plan](#)
- Finnish degree certificate or English-language degree certificate of a doctoral degree obtained abroad; please do not append any transcripts of records

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 committee on animal experimentation](#)
- [progress report](#) on all Academy-funded projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports

The technical instructions concerning the application will be supplemented in August so that they are ready when the call opens on 10 September. You can use the previously published guidelines to help you prepare your application before the call opens. Please check the updated guidelines on our website before filling in your application.

How to apply

The non-negotiable deadline for applications is 1 October 2018 at 16.15 local Finnish time. Fill in the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select **Open calls > Funding for research post as Academy Research Fellow**.



The additional cost model (14.29%, i.e. the funding includes an overheads share of 12.5%) is applied to the overheads in the applications for salary funding.

The full cost model is applied to the applications for research cost funding (the Academy's contribution to funding comes to no more than 70% of the estimated total research costs).

Contacts

Division of Biosciences, Health and Environmental Research:

- Science Adviser Harri Hautala, tel. +358 295 335 019
- Science Adviser Annika Raitala, tel. +358 295 335 097
- Science Adviser Heikki Vilen, tel. +358 295 335 135

Division of Social Sciences and Humanities Research:

- Senior Science Adviser Päivi Messo, tel. +358 295 335 074
- Science Adviser Minna Söderqvist, tel. +358 295 335 100

Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research:

- Science Adviser Jan Bäckman, tel. +358 295 335 010
- Science Adviser Anna Kalliomäki, tel. +358 295 335 035

Research at EUI (www.eui.eu):

- Science Adviser Päivi Pihlaja, tel. +358 295 335 016

3.2 FUNDING FOR RESEARCH POST AS POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

Aim

When applying for funding for a research post as Postdoctoral Researcher, you apply for funding for your own salary for three years. You use the same application to apply for funding for your own research costs. The aim of the funding for research posts as Postdoctoral Researcher is to support the most talented researchers who have recently completed their doctoral degree in gaining competence for demanding researcher or expert positions.

Postdoctoral Researchers have established effective national or international collaborative networks. In the review of applications, particular attention will be paid to the international dimension of the research plan. Postdoctoral Researchers are encouraged to engage in international mobility and collaboration.

We recommend that Postdoctoral Researchers provide (without separate compensation) supervision of thesis and dissertation writers in their own field and teaching associated with their field of expertise, covering 5% of annual working hours. However, no more than 10% of the annual working hours should be spent on teaching and other work not immediately associated with the researcher's own research.

Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible to apply, you must be a researcher with **up to four years of experience** since PhD completion (degree certificate issued 25 Sep 2014–1 Oct



2018), or up to eight years if you have obtained the degree simultaneously with medical specialist training.

Applicants who have completed their doctoral degree more than four years ago can be considered only for special reasons (maternity, paternity, parental or childcare leave, military service or nonmilitary service, or long-term illness). If you plead these special reasons, justify them in the application under *Personal data/CV > Degrees > Additional information*. If the reasons are strictly confidential, please contact the presenting official (see Contacts).

Mobility since PhD completion is required. The ‘mobility requirement’ is met if you apply for funding for a research post to **a research environment other than the one in which you worked while completing your doctoral thesis**.

If you are applying for funding to **the same research environment**, you will be required to provide proof that you have worked abroad or somewhere else in Finland for at least six months after completing your PhD. For more detailed guidelines, please see Appendix 6 of the September 2018 call text.

The Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering invites Postdoctoral Researcher applications from all fields it represents, but especially from chemical engineering, process technology, biomass processing technology, and electrical engineering and electronics. The Research Council has earmarked funding to increase the number of Postdoctoral Researchers in these fields.

Experiment to promote interaction between researchers and societal actors

The Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering has launched an experiment to promote the interaction between researchers and various societal actors. The aim of the experiment is to, for instance, facilitate exchange of information and promote the wider application of research results. The Research Council will therefore earmark part of its Postdoctoral Researcher funding budget for six Postdoctoral Researchers who during their terms will work short-term in companies, university hospitals, ministries, associations, educational institutions or other research-relevant organisations.

This interaction may be carried out in several periods, but the total time spent must not exceed six months over the three-year Postdoctoral Researcher term. During their visits, the Postdoctoral Researchers work according to their own research plan.

In the application, describe the work periods and collaboration as follows:

- 1) On the tab *Mobility plan* on the online form, describe how the work periods support the implementation of the research.
- 2) On the tab *Research plan* on the online form, under *Collaborators*, describe with whom you will collaborate and how the collaboration will promote interaction.
- 3) Append to your application an invitation from the organisation concerned; the invitation should describe how the proposed research is linked to the organisation's activities.

Funding

The total costs of a research post as Postdoctoral Researcher include funding for a 36-month salary, personal research costs and international and national mobility (e.g. travel and mobility allowance for a spell abroad). The recommended mobility



allowances for research spells abroad are presented in Appendix 2 A of the September 2018 call text. Funding is not granted for salary costs of other persons.

The applicant and the site of research must agree on the Postdoctoral Researcher's salary in advance. The salary is primarily determined according to [job grade 5 of the pay scale of teaching and research staff](#), which means some 2,980–4,200 euros/month, depending on the researcher's experience and the pay level at the site of research.

The Academy's contribution to funding comes to no more than 70% of the total costs of the researcher's salary and research costs. See Appendix 1 D of the September 2018 call text for the research councils' average funding for Postdoctoral Researchers in the previous call.

Funding period

The funding for a research post as Postdoctoral Researcher is granted for three years. The funding period is 1 September 2019–31 August 2022, and it can be changed only for compelling reasons (see Who is eligible to apply?). A person can be granted Postdoctoral Researcher funding only once.

Special conditions and restrictions

In the September call, we will consider only one application per researcher if the application concerns Academy Project funding (incl. a consortium subproject), Academy Research Fellow funding, Postdoctoral Researcher funding or clinical researcher funding. If you do submit more than one application for any of these funding opportunities, or apply for funding from more than one of them, we will only review the first application to arrive. Applications that are not reviewed will not be eligible for funding. An applicant for Postdoctoral Researcher funding may be named as a researcher in a concurrent application of another applicant. Applicants must notify this on the tab *Research plan* under *Human resources*.

[The research councils may have their own principles concerning Postdoctoral Researcher funding.](#) Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application.

The Postdoctoral Researcher's administrative site of research is a research organisation based in Finland via which the Academy's funding is paid. This also applies to the interaction experiment of the Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering. During the funding period, however, the Postdoctoral Researcher may work at other sites for periods of varying durations, for example at foreign universities.

In the interaction experiment of the Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering, the researcher's employer during the entire Postdoctoral Researcher term is the research organisation through which the Academy's funding is channelled. Possible business collaboration must fulfil the terms set out in the Academy's [General conditions and guidelines for funding](#), section 10.1.

Research at EUI or IIASA

Those applying for Postdoctoral Researcher funding can also apply to do research at the European University Institute (EUI) as part of the Postdoctoral Researcher term. The EUI can receive up to two Academy-funded Postdoctoral Researchers at a time to carry out research at the EUI for 1–2 years. You need not append a separate



invitation from the EUI to your application or contact the EUI. However, please read about EUI research before applying and contact the Academy's EUI contact person (see below) when drafting your application.

During the Academy funding period, Postdoctoral Researchers can also visit the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), whose research focuses on global issues that require broad-based, multidisciplinary research cooperation. IIASA develops and utilises methods of systems analysis, but the applicant is not required to have knowledge of these methods. If your research is linked to one of IIASA's research projects, you can agree the length of the visit with IIASA and append IIASA's invitation to your application for Postdoctoral Researcher funding. Contact the Academy's IIASA contact person for more details (see below).

Parts of the application

Online form – includes, for instance, [the research plan](#) (for Postdoctoral Researcher application) and [the list of publications](#).

Obligatory appendices

- [curriculum vitae](#)
- [data management plan](#)
- Finnish degree certificate or English-language degree certificate of a doctoral degree obtained abroad; please do not append any transcripts of records

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 committee on animal experimentation](#)
- [progress report](#) on all Academy-funded projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports
- free-form invitation describing how the research is linked to the activities of the participating organisation (if you are applying for funding from the interaction experiment of the Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering)

The technical instructions concerning the application will be supplemented in August so that they are ready when the call opens on 10 September. You can use the previously published guidelines to help you prepare your application before the call opens. Please check the updated guidelines on our website before filling in your application.

How to apply

The non-negotiable deadline for applications is 1 October 2018 at 16.15 local Finnish time. Fill in the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select **Open calls > Funding for research post as Postdoctoral Researcher**.

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 addition to salary costs, also include the necessary personal research costs in the estimated total costs.



Justify the project's estimated total costs by type of expenditure in the free-text fields on the tab *Funding for the project*. Itemise the research costs for each expenditure type.

Contacts

Division of Biosciences, Health and Environmental Research:

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- Science Adviser Laura Forsström, tel. +358 295 335 041
- Senior Science Adviser Aki Salo, tel. +358 295 335 104
- Science Adviser Vesa Yli-Pelkonen, tel. +358 295 335 095

Division of Social Sciences and Humanities Research:

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- Science Adviser Päivi Pihlaja, tel. +358 295 335 016
- Science Adviser Jussi Varkemaa, tel. +358 295 335 140

Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research:

- Science Adviser Maaria Lehtinen, tel. +358 295 335 061
- Senior Science Adviser Kati Sulonen, tel. +358 295 335 110

Research at EUI (www.eui.eu):

- Science Adviser Päivi Pihlaja, tel. +358 295 335 016

Research at IIASA (www.iiasa.ac.at):

- Science Adviser Joona Lehtomäki, tel. +358 295 335 121

3.3 FUNDING FOR RESEARCH POST AS CLINICAL RESEARCHER

Aim

The Academy of Finland funds part-time research by physicians and other researchers engaged in clinical practice. The aim is to promote clinical research careers in cooperation with, for example, university hospitals, and to encourage medical doctors working in clinical practice to engage in research so that they can continue pursuing their research career while in specialist training, alongside clinical practice.

Who is eligible to apply?

Those eligible to apply are medical doctors with a doctoral degree (DMedSc, DDS or DVM) working in clinical practice or other **healthcare professionals** with a doctoral degree engaged in clinical practice. Funding will not be granted to full-time university researchers.

Funding

The funding is granted towards salary costs to support **part-time research** (20–50% of working hours) by clinical researchers. In recent years, the funding of the Research Council for Health has corresponded to a monthly salary of 4,300 euros for doctoral degree holders and 5,000 euros for docents (max. six months per year). The funding period is four years. The applicant and the site of research must agree the salary based on the pay system at the site of research. They must also agree the working-



time arrangements in advance, particularly if the research and the clinical work will be conducted at different sites.

In addition to salary costs, the Academy may also provide funding for research costs. In recent years, the Research Council for Health has granted no more than 35 000 euros per year in funding for research costs. The Academy's contribution to funding for a project promoting a clinical research career comes to no more than 70% of the total project costs. The total cost estimate presented in the application must include the applicant's salary and research costs.

In the September 2017 call, the average amount of funding granted for up to four years was 239,000 euros per clinical researcher. The success rate was 26 per cent. Those who have received clinical researcher funding may have a concurrent project funded under the Academy Project funding scheme.

Funding period

Funding will be granted for **up to four years**, starting on 1 September 2019.

Parts of the application

Online form – includes, for instance, [the research plan](#) (for clinical researcher application) and [the list of publications](#).

Obligatory appendices

- [curriculum vitae](#)
- [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 committee on animal experimentation](#)
- [progress report](#) on all Academy-funded projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports

The technical instructions concerning the application will be supplemented in August so that they are ready when the call opens on 10 September. You can use the previously published guidelines to help you prepare your application before the call opens. Please check the updated guidelines on our website before filling in your application.

Restrictions

In the September 2018 call, funding can be granted to one and the same applicant only in one of the following funding opportunities:

- funding for research post as clinical researcher
- funding for research post as Academy Research Fellow
- funding for research post as Postdoctoral Researcher
- Academy Project funding (or consortium subproject).

If you do submit more than one application for any of these funding opportunities, or apply for funding from more than one of them, we will only review the first application to arrive.



How to apply

The non-negotiable deadline for applications is 1 October 2018 at 16.15 local Finnish time. Fill in the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls > Funding for research post as clinical researcher*.

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](#).

Use the same application to apply for funding for your salary and your research costs. Enter the monthly salary (excl. indirect employee costs) and the working hours to be used for research in the free-text field on the tab *Funding for the project*. Also justify the project's total costs (incl. estimated research costs). Describe the working-time arrangements that will be put in place to reconcile the research and the clinical work (on the tab *Research plan*, item 6).

On the tab *Clinical work* in the online form, briefly describe where you will perform the clinical work and what the work will entail. If needed, please contact the science advisers named below.

Contacts

- Science Adviser Sanna Marjavaara, tel. +358 295 335 070
- Science Adviser Sara Illman, tel. +358 295 335 119

3.4 FUNDING FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHER MOBILITY BASED ON BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Aim

The Academy of Finland's funding for bilateral research cooperation and researcher mobility supports the Academy's general science policy objectives. With this funding opportunity, we promote the international interaction and contacts of Finnish researchers as well as the internationalisation of Finnish research environments.

The mobility funding call is implemented with the following countries: **China, (incl. Taiwan), Germany, India, Japan and Russia**.

Who is eligible to apply?

The applicant is a researcher with at least a higher academic degree, but preference is given to researchers with a doctoral degree.

Grant or appropriation

The mobility funding is either a personal grant or a research grant (appropriation). *Personal grants* are paid directly to researchers, *research grants* via sites of research. The grant duration is 7–360 days. **The funding does not cover insurances**, so applicants must take out appropriate insurance for the grant period.

The funding is intended for the researcher's personal grant (incl. travel costs and costs of living), for inviting researchers to Finland and for arranging joint seminars (China, Japan). The more detailed funding conditions are determined keeping to the relevant agreement. The monthly grant amounts are presented in Appendices 2 B (Mobility to Finland) and 2 C (Mobility from Finland) of the September 2018 call text.



It is assumed that the applicants will also receive other salary during their visit. Applicants must clearly state in their applications if they will not be receiving other salary during their visit, or if they will be receiving only partial salary, and that they have therefore calculated the monthly grants according to the highest categories. In the case of China and India (DST), you apply for funding for travel costs only, since the Chinese funding agency and the DST cover the applicant's costs of living.

Funding period

The earliest start date for the funding period is 1 February 2019. Grants can be awarded for a maximum of twelve months over a two-year period.

How applications are reviewed

[The criteria used in reviewing applications for mobility funding](#) are available on the Academy's website.

3.4.1 MOBILITY FROM FINLAND

India

- a) Grants are awarded together with the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST) to researchers with a doctoral degree for short-term visits to conduct or prepare joint research at universities, research institutes and research centres in India during 2019. The Academy of Finland covers the applicant's travel costs and DST covers accommodation costs and a grant. The recommended duration of the visit is between two weeks and three months.
- b) Grants are awarded for biotechnological research and preparation of such research at universities and research institutes in India. The Academy of Finland's grant covers travel costs and costs of living in India. The grant duration is 7–360 days.

[Read more about these mobility grants on our website.](#)

Japan

- a) Grants are awarded for researchers with a doctoral degree for research at universities or research institutes in Japan. The grant covers travel costs and costs of living.
- b) JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for 12–24 months to Japan.

The Academy of Finland and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) have an agreement concerning JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship grants to Japan. Applications are submitted to the Academy so that the Academy will screen out the applicants and select a candidate for the JSPS. The JSPS will make the funding decision and be responsible for grant payment.

The most important part of the application is the JSPS application form, which must be appended to the application under *Research plan for mobility application* in the online services. Do not append any other research plans to the application. The [JSPS form is available online](#). See the JSPS website for [instructions](#) on how to fill in the form.

- c) Grants are awarded to Finnish researchers to cover costs related to participation in Finnish-Japanese seminars to be organised in Japan. In this way the Academy



works to support Finnish researchers' collaborative initiatives with Japanese researchers.

Please note that the seminar must have both a Finnish and a Japanese person responsible for the seminar, and both must submit an application to their own funding agency. NB! The JSPS deadline for Japanese applicants applying for funding to organise Finnish-Japanese seminars is **5 September 2018**. Read more at www.jsps.go.jp/english.

Finnish researchers can apply for personal grants to cover travel costs and costs of living. Grants cannot be applied for to cover seminar participation fees. The seminar dates must fall between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020.

In the Academy's online form under *Project title*, clearly indicate that it is a **Finnish-Japanese joint seminar**.

The Academy and the JSPS have agreed to fund no more than two joint seminars in Finland or Japan. The funding decisions will be made in January 2019.

[Read more about these mobility grants on our website.](#)

China and Taiwan

- a) Grants are awarded for travel costs related to research in life, natural and engineering sciences (incl. medicine) at universities and research institutes in China. Travel grants are available for 2019. The National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) covers the costs in China, so the applicant must make sure that the Chinese inviting party has an ongoing NSFC basic research grant. When planning the dates of the visit, please take into account that the Chinese inviting party must apply for a hosting grant from the NSFC to cover the applicant's accommodation costs and grant. The application must be submitted at least three months before the intended visit. The Academy of Finland's grant duration is no more than twelve months in total. This can be divided among several researchers.
- b) Grants are awarded for travel costs related to research in natural and engineering sciences at institutes of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). Travel grants are available for 2019. CAS covers the applicant's costs in China, so the applicant must make sure that the Chinese host has an ongoing CAS project during the visit. When planning the dates of the visit, please take into account that the Chinese inviting party must apply for a hosting grant from the CAS to cover the applicant's accommodation costs and grant. The application must be submitted at least three months before the intended visit. The Academy of Finland's grant duration is no more than twelve months in total. This can be divided among several researchers. Those who will work in libraries and archives will also need an invitation letter from the Chinese host.
- c) Grants are awarded for travel costs related to research in the humanities, culture studies, law, economics and social sciences at institutions of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS). Travel grants are available for 2019. The CASS covers the applicant's costs in China. The Academy of Finland's grant duration is no more than three months in total. This can be divided among several researchers. Those who will work in libraries and archives will also need an invitation letter from the Chinese host.



- d) Grants are awarded for participation in Finnish-Chinese seminars to be organised in China.

Finnish researchers can apply for personal grants to cover travel costs and costs of living. Grants cannot be applied for to cover seminar participation fees. In the Academy's online form under *Project title*, clearly indicate that it is a **Finnish-Chinese joint seminar**. With this funding opportunity, the Academy works to support Finnish researchers' collaborative initiatives with Chinese researchers.

- c) Grants are awarded for research at research institutes and universities in Taiwan. The Academy of Finland's grant covers travel costs and costs of living in Taiwan. The grant duration is 7–360 days.

[Read more about these mobility grants on our website.](#)

Germany

The research grants to support project cooperation between Finnish and German researchers are intended for Finnish research teams' travel costs and costs of living in Germany. Please note that the project must have both a Finnish and a Germany responsible person, both of whom must submit an application to their own funding agency. The deadline of the German funding agency Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD) for applications by German parties is **12 September 2018**.

The Academy of Finland and DAAD cover the travel costs and costs of living of the participating researchers of their own country in accordance with their own funding conditions. The Academy will cover the costs of living according to its own grant calculation model. Travel costs can also be funded.

Funding is available for 2019 and 2020. Projects whose funding period is about to end may apply for an extension for a third year, if there are justifiable grounds. The funding cannot be used for research costs or seminars. Collaborators whose two-year funding periods ends by 1 February 2019 may apply for another two-year funding period only if they adopt a new approach to the topic or a completely new topic.

It is recommended that the same number of researchers from institutions of both countries participate in the project. The duration of visits may be one week or a few months at a time.

The Finnish and German research teams will draft a joint research plan.

Guidelines on filling in the application form:

- The project PI is the applicant.
- Append to the application both your own CV and list of publications and the CV and list of publications of the German PI.
- Append to the application the CVs of those Finnish researcher for whose travel costs the funding will be used. You may combine the CVs into a single file together with the German PI's CV.
- Under the tab *Mobility*, list the Finnish researchers (enter N.N. if necessary) who will use the funding for travel.
- Append to the application a joint Finnish-German research plan that indicates the schedules of the visits as well as the name, institution and contact details of the German applicant.



The review form is available online. In the review of applications, focus will be placed on the following:

- the scientific quality of the project
- the scientific merits of the research teams
- the way in which the teams complement each other
- the added value of the cooperation
- participation of early-career researchers.

The funding decisions will be made in January 2019. The funding period is two years from the decision date, unless the decision states otherwise.

Russia

Grants are awarded for research at institutions of the Russian Academy of Sciences and at universities in Russia.

Applicants must have an invitation from the host institution (except in the case of archive and library work). The minimum duration of the visit is one week; the maximum duration is twelve months (over a 24-month period). The grant covers travel costs and costs of living.

[Read more about these mobility grants on our website.](#)

3.4.2 MOBILITY TO FINLAND

India

- a) Finnish researchers acting as hosts may apply for a grant to invite Indian researchers of biotechnology to Finland to conduct research. The Academy of Finland will cover the round trip from the place of residence in India to the destination in Finland and a grant. The maximum duration of the visit is one year. Applications must include a commitment by the site of research.
- b) Indian researchers with a doctoral degree in natural sciences and engineering may apply for funding from the Department of Science and Technology (DST) by 15 October 2018 to cover costs of visits to Finland.

[Read more about these mobility grants on our website.](#)

Japan

Heads of Finnish research teams can apply for funding to cover reasonable costs of organising Finnish-Japanese joint seminars in Finland.

In the Academy's online services under *Project title*, clearly indicate that it is a **Finnish-Japanese joint seminar**. Applications must include a commitment by the site of research.

As a rule, the funding has covered basic seminar costs (e.g. rents, coffee serving, printing and mailing). The funding cannot be used to cover travel costs of foreign researchers. The seminar dates must fall between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020.

The Academy and the JSPS have agreed to fund no more than two joint seminars in Finland or Japan. The funding decisions will be made in January 2019.

Please note that the seminar must have both a Finnish and a Japanese person responsible for the seminar, and both must submit an application to their own funding agency. NB! The JSPS deadline for Japanese applicants applying for funding to



participate in Finnish-Japanese seminars is **5 September 2018**. Read more at www.jsps.go.jp/english.

China and Taiwan

- a) Heads of Finnish research teams can apply for funding for 2019 to cover reasonable costs of organising Finnish-Chinese joint seminars in Finland.

In the Academy's online services under *Project title*, clearly indicate that it is a **Finnish-Chinese joint seminar**. Applications must include a commitment by the site of research.

- b) Finnish researchers acting as hosts may apply for a grant to invite Taiwanese researchers to Finland to conduct research.

The Academy of Finland will cover the round trip from the place of residence in Taiwan to the destination in Finland and a grant. The maximum duration of the visit is one year. Applications must include a commitment by the site of research.

Russia

Grants are awarded for inviting Russian researchers to Finland.

Finnish researchers can apply for funds to invite Russian researchers to Finland to do research. The minimum duration of the visit is one week; the maximum duration is one year. The invitee is required to have earned at least a bachelor's degree in science. The invitation grant covers a round trip from Russia to Finland, travel costs in Finland related to the scientific programme of the visit and a grant for costs of living.

Appendices required

Append only the requested appendices to the application and make sure to draft them in line with [the Academy's appendix guidelines](#). Draft the appendices in English and append them to the application in the online services under *Appendices*. The only exception is the curriculum vitae, which is appended under *Personal data/CV*.

Personal travel

- invitation by the institution to be visited (no invitation letter is required from those who will do library and archive work, except in China)
- CV
- list of publications
- research plan, no more than five pages
- progress report

Grants for invitees

- curriculum vitae for the invitee, indicating date of birth, highest academic degree and previous visits to Finland on grants or other funding
- invitees' list of publications
- the inviting person's list of publications
- research plan, no more than five pages
- progress report

Arranging seminars



- list of publications
- research plan, including a short description of the research, a tentative seminar programme and an account of how the seminar ties in with the present research; in addition, a budget specification (rent for meeting premises, coffees, printing and mailing costs)

Participating in seminars

- list of publications
- research plan, including a short description of the research, a tentative seminar programme and an account of how the seminar ties in with the present research; in addition, a description of the applicant's role in the seminar (invited speaker, other speaker, participant)

How to apply

The non-negotiable deadline for applications is 1 October 2018 at 16.15 local Finnish time. Please note that the deadlines of some international funding agencies may expire earlier.

Fill in the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls > Mobility from Finland* or *Mobility to Finland*.

The grant amounts are presented in Appendices 2 B (Mobility to Finland) and 2 C (Mobility from Finland) of the September 2018 call text. Full costing is not applied to personal grants.

For more detailed, country-specific information, see [Funding for researcher mobility and seminars based on bilateral agreements](#) on our website.

Contacts

- Coordinator Kristiina Helansuo, tel. +358 295 335 022 (Japan, Russia, and China incl. Taiwan)
- Science Adviser Ulla Ellmén, tel. +358 295 335 011 (Germany, India, Japan, and China incl. Taiwan)



4. ORGANISATION-DRIVEN RESEARCH

4.1 SRC MATCHING FUNDS FOR HORIZON 2020

The Strategic Research Council (SRC) established within the Academy of Finland grants national matching funds to sites of research based on projects that have received funding under [the Societal Challenges priority of Horizon 2020](#), the EU the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

The aim of SRC matching funds is to encourage research organisations to participate in preparing projects for upcoming EU funding calls. Projects eligible to receive SRC matching funds must have received funding in 2015 or thereafter.

[The full application guidelines are available on our website.](#)

SRC matching funds can be applied for by research organisations. The application deadline is open-ended. The SRC will decide in November 2018 on applications submitted in [the Academy's online services](#) by 31 October 2018.

Contacts

- Finance Manager Sirpa Nummila (Division of Financial Services), tel. +358 295 335 081
- Senior Science Adviser Tiina Petänen (Division of Strategic Research), tel. +358 295 335 091



5. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS FOR SPORT SCIENCE PROJECT FUNDING FROM MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE

The Academy of Finland takes care of the review of the scientific quality of sport science project applications submitted to the Finnish Ministry of Education, Science and Culture. The Ministry makes the funding decisions and takes care of the payment of funds. The review cooperation concerns new applications for funding. Applications are submitted in the Academy's online services. We will forward the review reports to the Ministry.

The review of applications follows the Academy's practices and criteria. We mainly use foreign experts as reviewers. We ask you to submit your application in English to facilitate international peer review and ensure an equal and smooth processing of applications.

In addition to scientific quality, the review will focus on how the applications meet the policy lines indicated in the Ministry's application guidelines. This aspect will be assessed by the National Sports Council, which will then submit its statement to the Ministry.

The Ministry will make the funding decisions in spring 2019. The funding period can start as early as 1 January 2019. Due to the Ministry's decision schedule, however, the recommended start date is 1 April 2019.

Ministry policy

The Ministry is keen to fund research that is highly applicable. It supports research into themes defined in the sport sciences policy document drafted by the Ministry in cooperation with the National Sports Council's Sub-Committee for Sport Science. The themes are related to topical issues concerning the promotion of physical activity, access to physical activities and the special characteristics of sports culture. Research is also needed on cross-cutting elements of sports policy, such as the impacts and cross-administrative nature of the promotion of physical activity.

The Ministry's current policies as well as the eligible costs are presented in more detail in its [application guidelines](#).

The applicant is a site of research.

Restrictions

In accordance with the Finnish Act on Discretionary Government Transfers, a research project cannot receive simultaneous Ministry and Academy funding for the same purpose. Nevertheless, if applying for funding for different parts of a large-scale project simultaneously from both the Ministry and the Academy, the applicant must address the applications to both agencies and with different research plans.

How to apply

The non-negotiable deadline for applications is 1 October 2018 at 16.15 local Finnish time. Fill in the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select **Open calls > Sport science research funded by Ministry of Education, Science and Culture**.



Instructions on the various parts of the application and its appendices are available in the [Ministry's application guidelines](#) (to be updated before the call opens). Please note that the research plan (filled in on the online form) follows the guidelines for applications for Academy Project funding.

Contacts

- questions about the Ministry's funding (call objective, eligibility, restrictions, decisions, payment): Senior Adviser Kari Niemi-Nikkola, tel. +358 295 330 112, firstname.lastname(at)minedu.fi
- using the Academy's online services, simultaneous application: Science Adviser Vera Mikkilä, tel. +358 295 335 048, and Senior Science Adviser Aki Salo, tel. +358 295 335 104



6. ADVANCE INFORMATION ON CALLS

Calls by the Academy of Finland

Competitive funding to strengthen university research profiles (PROFI)

The fifth PROFI call concerning competitive funding to strengthen university research profiles will open in autumn 2018. Applications are invited **between 20 September and 15 November 2018** (TBC). [The call text will be posted on our website](#) approximately two months before the call opens.

Only universities are eligible to apply for PROFI funding.

Contacts:

- Riitta Maijala, Vice President for Research, tel. +358 295 335 002
- Anne Heinänen, Senior Science Counsel, tel. +358 295 335 021
- Outi Ala-Honkola, Science Adviser, tel. +358 295 335 029
- Helena Vänskä, Science Adviser, tel. +358 295 335 036

Calls by the Strategic Research Council

The Strategic Research Council (SRC) established within the Academy of Finland has started preparations to open new calls in early 2019. The SRC has proposed the following strategic research themes to the Finnish Government:

- Towards a sustainable, healthy and climate-neutral food system
- Innovative materials and services to promote resource wisdom and sustainable development
- The evolving role of public authority and the potential for steering society
- Culture in an increasingly technologically driven society.

The SRC has also proposed strengthening the ethical dimension in research as the cross-cutting priority of the 2019 themes. [Read more about the proposal on the Academy's website.](#)

Read more about the theme process and call preparations on [the SRC's web pages](#).

Contacts:

- Director Jussi Vauhkonen, tel. +358 395 335 114
- Science Adviser Joona Lehtomäki, tel. +358 295 335 121
- Science Adviser Milja Saari, tel. +358 295 335 123

Academy Programme: Environmental Health in a Changing Climate (working title)

The Board of the Academy of Finland has decided to start preparations for a new Academy Programme under the working title Environmental Health in a Changing Climate. The programme's call has been planned for April 2019.

Contacts:

- Programme Manager Tuula Aarnio, tel. +358 295 335 146



- www.aka.fi/ymparistoterveys > EN

Academy Programme: Molecular Regulatory Mechanisms of Life (working title)

The Board of the Academy of Finland has decided to start preparations for a new Academy Programme under the working title Molecular Regulatory Mechanisms of Life. The programme's call has been planned for April 2019.

Contacts:

- Programme Manager Nina Kaminen-Ahola, tel. +358 295 335 027
- www.aka.fi/mekanismit > EN

International calls co-funded by the Academy

The following is a list of upcoming international calls in which the Academy of Finland will participate as a funding partner. [Please visit our website for more upcoming calls.](#)

Always check the international application dates on the calls' own websites.

NordForsk: Joint Nordic-UK research programme on migration and integration

The call has two stages. Applicants must submit stage 1 proposals **no later than 15 November 2018**.

The programme welcomes proposals from all research disciplines and encourages interdisciplinary, intersectional and comparative (especially the Nordic countries and the UK) approaches to both integration and forced and voluntary migration. Applications must involve partners from at least three countries participating in the call. The call for proposals is available on NordForsk's website.

The Academy's Research Council for Culture and Society is prepared to co-fund the call with a maximum of 800,000 euros.

Contacts:

- Science Adviser Riitta Launonen, Division of Social Sciences and Humanities Research, tel. +358 295 335 059
- Senior Adviser Kaisa Vaahtera, NordForsk, tel. +47 911 48 694, [firstname.lastname\(at\)nordforsk.org](mailto:firstname.lastname(at)nordforsk.org)
- [call announcement on NordForsk's website](#)

NOP-HS funding for Nordic periodicals in the humanities and social sciences

Applications are invited **between 22 August and 25 September 2018**; the call closes at 14.00 local Swedish time.

NOP-HS, the Nordic Publishing Committee for Journals in the Humanities and Social Sciences, is a committee under NOS-HS. NOP-HS works to promote Nordic publishing activities in the humanities and the social sciences by providing funding to scientific peer-reviewed journals. Applications are submitted according to NOP-HS' guidelines through the Swedish Research Council's grant application and management system Prisma.

**Contacts:**

- NOS-HS Secretariat, Swedish Research Council, Kim von Hackwitz, nos-hs(at)vr.se
- Science Adviser Jussi Varkemaa (Division of Social Sciences and Humanities Research), tel. +358 295 335 140
- www.nos-hs.org/our-funding/journal-grants

CHIST-ERA call 2018: European Coordinated Research on Long-Term Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and ICT-Based Scientific Challenges

The call has two stages and will open in **October 2018** (TBC).

The Academy's Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering is prepared to fund successful Finnish research projects with a maximum of 1 million euros.

Funding is available for research under two themes: *Analog Computing for Artificial Intelligence* and *Intelligent Computation for Dynamic Networked Environments*.

The call guidelines will be posted on the CHIST-ERA website.

Contacts:

- Science Adviser Jukka Tanskanen, Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research, tel. +358 295 335 071
- www.chistera.eu
- <http://conference2018.chistera.eu>

Joint call within the Solar-Driven Chemistry (SDC) initiative

The call has two stages and will open in **December 2018** (TBC).

Funding is available for basic research in solar-driven chemistry. Applications must involve 2–4 parties from at least two countries.

The Academy's Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering plans to participate in the call.

The call guidelines will be posted on the SDC website.

Contacts:

- Science Adviser Jukka Tanskanen, Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research, tel. +358 295 335 071
- [Solar-Driven Chemistry: A Vision for Sustainable Chemistry Production \(White paper\)](#)

Trans-Atlantic Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities (T-AP): joint call on social innovation

The call has been planned for **January–February 2019**.



Funding will be available for social sciences and humanities research projects under the theme Social Innovation. Each project must involve research teams from at least three participating countries and include a trans-Atlantic dimension (teams from both sides of the Atlantic, either one from Europe and two from North/South America or vice versa). Funding partners (TBC): Germany, France, UK, Netherlands, Finland, Canada and the state of São Paulo, Brazil.

The Academy's Research Council for Culture and Society is prepared to fund Finnish subprojects that are successful in the call with a maximum of 700,000 euros in total.

The call dates will be confirmed during summer 2018. The call guidelines will be posted on the Trans-Atlantic Platform website.

Contacts:

- Science Adviser Satu Huuha-Cissokho (Division of Social Sciences and Humanities Research), tel. +358 295 335 075
- www.transatlanticplatform.com

Nordic NOS-HS workshops in the humanities and social sciences

The call for NOS-HS workshop grants is expected to open in **early 2019**.

The Joint Committee for the Nordic Research Councils in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NOS-HS) funds exploratory workshops in the humanities and social sciences. The workshops are designed for researchers at different career stages from at least three Nordic countries. The call text and dates will be announced in November 2018 on the NOS-HS website (TBC). Applications are submitted in the Academy's online services.

Contacts:

- NOS-HS Secretariat, Swedish Research Council, Kim von Hackwitz, nos-hs(at)vr.se
- Senior Science Adviser Päivi Messo, tel. +358 295 335 074
- NOS-HS website

Annual international calls

Always check the international application dates on the calls' own websites.

- European Research Council (ERC): call deadlines 2018–2019:
 - [Starting Grants](#) (ERC-2019-StG): 17 Oct 2018
 - [Synergy Grants](#) (ERC-2019-SyG): 8 Nov 2018
 - [Consolidator Grants](#) (ERC-2019-CoG): 7 Feb 2019
 - [Advanced Grants](#) (ERC-2019-AdG): 29 Aug 2019
 - [Proof of Concept Grants](#) (ERC-2019-PoC): 22 Jan 2019, 25 Apr 2019 and 19 Sep 2019.

Information about the ERC work programme 2019 and its call dates will be posted on the ERC website. For more information, please contact the national ERC contact points at the Academy: Science Adviser Annika Raitala, tel. +358 295 335 097, and Senior Science Adviser Hannele Lahtinen, tel. +358 295 335 055.



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- [NordForsk funding for joint Nordic research efforts](#)
 - Horizon 2020 calls and dates: [EUTI, the official information office for EU R&D in Finland](#)
 - [Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions](#)





7. APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: RESEARCH COUNCILS' POLICIES FOR PRESENT CALL, STATISTICS FROM PREVIOUS ROUND

The [Academy's criteria for funding decisions](#), as decided by the Academy Board, are presented on our website. The research councils' supplementary criteria and policies are also presented on our website. [The research councils' pages](#) also include information on funding decisions from previous rounds and on the review of applications. **Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application.**

The Academy of Finland will have three research councils as of 1 January 2019: the Research Council for Biosciences, Health and the Environment (RCBHE), the Research Council for Culture and Society (RCCS), and the Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering (RCNSE).

The Research Council for Biosciences and Environment and the Research Council for Health will be dissolved at year-end 2018. They will merge to form a new research council, the Research Council for Biosciences, Health and the Environment, whose members will start their terms as of 1 January 2019. The Division of Biosciences, Health and Environmental Research, which supports the new research council at the Academy's Administration Office, will start operations on 1 August 2018.

The Research Council for Biosciences and Environment and the Research Council for Health have prepared joint funding criteria and policies concerning the September 2018 call to support the upcoming work of the new research council.

APPENDIX 1 A: INFORMATION ON ACADEMY PROJECT FUNDING, BY RESEARCH COUNCIL

Policies concerning size of Academy Projects in September 2018 call

The policy prepared for *the Research Council for Biosciences, Health and the Environment* states that an Academy Project will typically be granted 500,000 euros for four years, and a consortium subproject a maximum of 300,000 euros for four years.

The Research Council for Culture and Society decides the level of funding separately each year based on its funding capacity. In recent years, the Research Council's funding has amounted to 480,000 euros for four years. Consortium subprojects have received a maximum of 280,000 euros.

The Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering plans to grant a maximum of 600,000 euros per four-year Academy Project and no more than 1,000,000 euros per consortium. The Research Council plans to grant a maximum of 400,000 euros per consortium subproject (100,000 euros per year).

[Read more about the research councils' policies on our website](#). Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application. The research councils' pages also include information on funding decisions from previous rounds and on the review of applications.



Statistics from September 2017 round of Academy Project funding

Research council	Applications		Funding (in euros)	
	No. of applications (consortia counted as one application)	Success rate (%)	Funding granted, spring 2018	Average funding (by subproject)
Biosciences and Environment	215	16	18 100 000	500 000
Culture and Society	355	15	24 400 000	407 000
Natural Sciences and Engineering	598	15	39 470 000	449 000
Health	186	21	15 997 000	381 000

The table shows the Academy of Finland's contribution to the funding of the projects' total costs. The Academy's contribution comes to no more than 70% of the total project costs. The sums have been rounded to the nearest thousand. Subprojects in consortium applications have been counted as separate funding decisions.

APPENDIX 1 B: ACADEMY RESEARCH FELLOW FUNDING IN SEPTEMBER 2017 CALL, BY RESEARCH COUNCIL

Research council	Academy Research Fellow applications, Sep 2017	
	Applications for salary funding	Success rate, spring 2018 (%)
Biosciences and Environment	95	12
Culture and Society	155	14
Natural Sciences and Engineering	182	12
Health	78	14

Over the five-year term 2019–2023, the salary grant amounts to 434 485 euros per Academy Research Fellow. The grant includes fixed indirect employee costs and an overheads percentage in accordance with the additional cost model. In spring 2018, funding was granted for a total of 64 new research posts as Academy Research Fellow.



APPENDIX 1 C: POLICIES CONCERNING FUNDING OF RESEARCH COSTS OF ACADEMY RESEARCH FELLOWS

After receiving five-year Academy Research Fellow salary funding, the researchers concerned can also be granted funding for research costs. This funding is granted in two parts: first for three years and then for the remaining period. We will invite applications separately for this funding. However, a preliminary research cost calculation must be presented in the research plan when applying for salary funding.

The policy prepared for the *Research Council for Biosciences, Health and the Environment* states that the Research Council would, at its own discretion, provide sufficient funds to cover the research costs during the first years of the Academy Research Fellow funding period. The funding for new Academy Research Fellows is a maximum of 100,000 euros per year for the entire term (500,000 euros/5 years).

The Research Council for Culture and Society only grants funding for necessary research costs. The Research Council grants research cost funding to hire other researchers only if the project has justifiably and for research-related reasons required additional researchers.-Academy Research Fellows may also be granted project funding under the Academy Project funding scheme.

The Research Council for Natural Sciences and Engineering grants 350,000 euros per five years in funding for Academy Research Fellow research costs. The funding will be granted in two parts: for the first three years a maximum of 210,000 euros and for the last two years a maximum of 140,000 euros. Academy Research Fellows may also be granted project funding under the Academy Project funding scheme.

[Read more about the research councils' policies on our website.](#) Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application. The research councils' pages also include information on funding decisions from previous rounds and on the review of applications.

APPENDIX 1 D: POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER FUNDING IN SEPTEMBER 2017 CALL, BY RESEARCH COUNCIL

Research council	Applications, Sep 2017		Funding (in euros)	
	Number of applications	Success rate (%)	Funding granted, spring 2018	Average funding
Biosciences and Environment	131	12	4 300 000	270 000
Culture and Society	260	12	9 000 000	290 000
Natural Sciences and Engineering	268	14	9 480 000	256 000
Health	120	10	3 309 000	276 000



The Academy's contribution to funding comes to no more than 70% of the project's total costs. The sums have been rounded to the nearest thousand. The funding granted includes both salary and personal research costs.

[Read more about the research councils' policies on our website.](#) Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application. The research councils' pages also include information on funding decisions from previous rounds and on the review of applications.



APPENDIX 2: CALCULATION OF SUPPORT TO INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHER MOBILITY 2018–2019

The Academy of Finland funds international researcher mobility:

- in research projects
 - **as a mobility allowance** for mobility from Finland as part of a project's (research projects, research posts) research costs (see Appendix 2 A of the September 2018 call text)
 - **as grants** to non-EU researchers coming to Finland on employment contracts shorter than a year (see Appendix 2 B of the September 2018 call text)
- with the funding opportunity [International researcher mobility based on bilateral agreements](#) as research grants or personal grants (see Appendices 2 B and 2 C of the September 2018 call text).

APPENDIX 2 A: CALCULATION OF MOBILITY ALLOWANCE IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

The mobility allowance in research projects depends neither on the target country nor on the duration of the stay. It is a taxable benefit and indirect employee costs will be deducted from it.

researchers without dependent children: €1,050/month

researchers with dependent children: €1,500/month

The mobility allowance is **applied for as a research cost for implementing the research plan** and as part of the original application of the project (e.g. Academy Projects, Academy Programmes and research posts). The recommended amount should be enough to cover the costs of higher living expenses from living abroad.

The mobility allowance is applied for on the tab *Cost estimate* under *Other costs*. Ticket costs for travel abroad are entered under *Travel costs*. If researchers and their families stay abroad for at least six months, funding can also be applied for to cover family travel costs.

The amounts are recommendations by the Academy and form the basis of the funding decision.

APPENDIX 2 B: CALCULATION OF GRANTS TO FOREIGN RESEARCHERS WORKING IN FINLAND

This table is used both for applications for funding of projects' and researchers' research costs and in the funding opportunity *Funding for international researcher mobility based on bilateral agreements (Mobility to Finland)*.

Short-term visits:

Grants with compensation for accommodation €80–185/day (incl. personal grant €39 and maximum compensation for accommodation €147)



Visits longer than one month, including compensation for accommodation:	
Master's degree or equivalent	1,600–1,800 euros/month
PhD or equivalent	1,800–2,500 euros/month
Professor	2,500–4,100 euros/month

A particularly outstanding visiting professor may be awarded a larger grant than indicated above.

The following guidelines apply to the funding **in research projects**:

- Grants can be awarded to non-EU researchers for a maximum of one year's research spell in Finland. Grants are not paid to EU citizens working in Finland. While working in Finland, they must have an employment relationship to the site of research.
- The grant is applied for on the tab *Cost estimate* under *Other costs*. Travel costs are entered under *Travel costs*.

The following guidelines apply to the funding **for mobility to Finland**:

- Grants can be awarded to non-EU researchers for a maximum of one year's research spell in Finland.
- Travel costs are entered under *Travel costs* on the tab *Cost estimate*.

The grant sums take into account the grantee's obligation to take out pension, accident and life insurance. For more information, see [Grant and scholarship recipients](#) on the Farmers' Social Insurance Institution's website.

We recommend that the grantee and the site of research consult the tax administration concerning any tax consequences possibly arising from the payment of the grant.

APPENDIX 2 C: CALCULATION OF GRANTS FOR RESEARCHER MOBILITY (FROM FINLAND) BASED ON INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

The Academy of Finland's funding opportunity *Funding for international researcher mobility based on bilateral agreements* is open for application each year in September. The funding, awarded as personal grants, is based on the international agreements signed by the Academy. **The special conditions and additional information concerning this funding opportunity are listed in the latest September call text.**

Country or region	Researchers without any grant or salary, €/month	Researchers with grant or partial salary, €/month	Researchers with full salary, €/month
South Africa	2,000	1,200–1,700	1,000–1,200
India	2,000	1,200–1,700	1,000–1,200
Italy	2,300	1,600–2,000	1,000–1,400



Japan	2,800	1,900–2,500	1,300–1,700
China	2,300	1,600–2,000	1,000–1,400
Germany	2,000	1,200–1,700	1,000–1,200
Taiwan	2,000	1,200–1,700	1,000–1,200
USA	2,300	1,600–2,000	1,000–1,400
Russia (Moscow)	2,800	1,900–2,500	1,300–1,700
Russia (other)	2,000	1,200–1,700	1,000–1,200
Others	1,000–2,300	500–1,700	300–1,000

When determining the grant amount, the sum may be increased as follows:

- by 15% if the researcher holds a doctorate and receives no other salary or fee
- by 20% if the researcher has dependent children
- by a maximum of 20% if the local cost of living is exceptionally high and the researcher receives no other salary or fee.

Exceptional fluctuations in currency exchange rates can be taken into account in determining the grant amount.

Grants for mobility from Finland are intended to cover accommodation and other costs of living in the target country. Funding can also be applied for to cover travel costs (entered under *Travel costs* on the tab Cost estimate). If researchers and their families stay abroad for at least six months, funding can also be applied for to cover family travel costs.

The full cost model is not applied to this funding. Depending on the agreement, the funding is paid either as a grant directly into the researcher's own bank account, or as a research grant via the financial administration of the site of research.

The grant sums take into account the grantee's obligation to take out pension, accident and life insurance. For more information, see [Grant and scholarship recipients](#) on the Farmers' Social Insurance Institution's website. For more information on grant taxation, see [the Finnish Tax Administration's website](#) (in Finnish) and their Memorandum of 27 Jan 2010, [New Universities Act and international situations](#) (in Finnish).



APPENDIX 3: OPEN SCIENCE: OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING AND OPEN DATA

The Academy is committed to promoting and implementing Finland's national [Open Science and Research Roadmap 2014–2017](#). The goal is to make research publications, data and material, metadata and methods widely available for reuse. The principles of open science must be pursued with due attention to good scientific practice and law.

We require that Academy-funded projects commit to **open access publishing**.

We also require that principal investigators of Academy-funded research projects see to that the projects' **data are stored and made available** through major national or international archives or storage services that are important in the fields concerned. The degrees of data openness may justifiably vary, ranging from fully open to strictly confidential.

Scientific publications and research data produced with funding from the Academy of Finland or by using Academy-funded research infrastructures must always indicate that the research has been conducted with funding from the Academy of Finland. The Academy's grant number(s) must also be mentioned.

Open access publishing: the research plan must include a publication plan

The research plan included in the application must include a publication plan that has been drafted taking into account the Academy of Finland's open access requirement. The requirement particularly concerns peer-reviewed articles, but the Academy also recommends open access for other types of publications.

Researchers can publish their scientific articles following either green or gold open access. Academy funding can be used to cover research costs related to scientific publishing using the golden route. Academy research funding may also be used to cover costs of so-called hybrid open access publishing.

Green open access means that researchers publish their articles in traditional subscription-based scientific journals and store parallel copies of the articles in machine-readable format in online open access repositories or databases. The Academy allows for an embargo period following the practices of international funders. The embargo is usually no more than six months, except in the humanities and social sciences where it is no more than twelve months. We encourage researchers to store the final, peer-reviewed and edited version of their articles. If this is not possible due to the publishing contract, the articles may be stored as pre-print manuscripts.

Gold open access means that a publication is immediately provided in open access mode through a high-quality open access publication channel, that is, an **open access journal**. In this case, the publisher is responsible for providing the article in open access mode immediately. The publisher may charge an open access fee (article processing charge). This fee may be included in the research costs of the project.

Hybrid open access publishing is also allowed. Hybrid open access refers to a combination of subscription-based and free-of-charge publishing. This means that the



author pays a fee (**article processing charge**) determined by the publisher to make the article freely available. Otherwise the journal is only available to readers who have paid the **subscription fee**. In these cases, the publisher may collect money from both the authors and the readers. The Academy is keen to emphasise that hybrid open access is only a temporary solution and part of the transition towards full open access publishing.

Academy funding is available for research costs arising from publishing of research results following gold or hybrid open access.

Open data: data management plan

We require that principal investigators of Academy-funded research projects see to that the projects' data are stored and made available through major national or international archives or storage services that are important in the fields concerned. The degrees of data openness may justifiably vary, ranging from fully open to strictly confidential. The research project concerned and the publisher of the data must ensure that publishing the data will not be in breach of the Finnish Act on the Openness of Government Activities, the Finnish Personal Data Act or the Finnish Copyright Act. When making data openly available, the parties involved must also consider licensing issues.

Data produced with Academy funding must be made freely available as soon as possible after the research results have been published, via key national or international repositories in the researcher's own field. Sites of research must therefore provide researchers with the necessary guidance and ensure that they have access to suitable storage infrastructure.

If the research data cannot be made openly available, the metadata must be stored in a Finnish or international data finder.

The costs associated with storing and sharing research data are regarded as overheads for the project's host organisation, but they may also be legitimately accepted as research costs to be covered with Academy research funding.

Data management, listing and archiving services are provided by, for instance

- [the Finnish Social Science Data Archive \(FSD\)](#), which also accepts data from the humanities and health sciences, for instance
- [the FIN-CLARIN consortium](#) (language resources)
- [services by the Open Science and Research Initiative](#)
 - AVAA open data publishing portal
 - Etsin research data finder (e.g. storing of metadata)
 - IDA research data storage service
- [CERN's Zenodo service](#)
- [the EUDAT data infrastructure](#).

The Academy of Finland requires that applications to be submitted to the Academy include a data management plan for the research project or research infrastructure concerned. Append the data management plan to the application as a separate appendix (see Appendix 4 of the September 2018 call text).

[More information on open science is available on our website.](#)



APPENDIX 4: DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

As open as possible, as closed as necessary

A separate, obligatory appendix to the application is the data management plan, in which you describe how you manage your research data during the project and make them available after the research project has been completed. Even if your project will not produce data to be stored or if you will use existing, openly available data, you should still append a data management plan to your application. In the appendix, describe your data management as briefly as possible. Answer the questions concisely and where applicable.

Draft the plan according to the structure below. If you want, you can use the data management planning tool DMPTuuli. The structure and contents of the appendix are the same regardless of which method you choose.

More guidelines on the details to be described in the plan are available in DMPTuuli and on the Academy of Finland's website. Both sources include the same additional guidelines. DMPTuuli also contains university-specific guidelines. The Finnish Social Science Data Archive (FSD) has also drafted its own comprehensive guidelines on and templates for data management plans.

Learn more:

- www.dmpetuuli.fi
- [detailed Academy data management plan guidelines and best practices in DMPTuuli](#)
- [Finnish Social Science Data Archive: data management guidelines](#)
- [Office of the Data Protection Ombudsman](#)

Structure of data management plan

On the first page of the plan, write the applicant's (the PI's) name, research topic and application number. Also remember to date the plan. The plan should not be longer than 1–2 pages. Plans drafted with DMPTuuli are slightly longer than this, because of differences in text layout.

1. General description of data

What types of data (e.g. qualitative, quantitative, measurements) will the project collect or use? The data may be either new data or openly available data. What are the file formats of the data? How will the consistency and quality of data be controlled?

The data content is described in more detail in the research plan.

2. Ethical and legal compliance

How will ethical issues concerning data storage (e.g. sensitive personal information, third-party access to data) be taken into account? How will copyright and IPR issues be managed?

Please note that the ethical issues that concern data collection and research implementation are described in the research plan.



3. Documentation and metadata

How will you document your data to make them findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable for you and others? What kinds of metadata standards, README files or other documentation will you use to help others understand and use your data?

4. Storage and backup during the research project

How will the data be stored and backed up during the whole life cycle of the research project (e.g. access to data)?

5. Opening, publishing and archiving the data after the research project

How and when will the data be made available for reuse by other researchers? With what party (data archive, storage service, etc.) will you collaborate to manage the data and make them available? What resources will enable data sharing and long-term preservation?

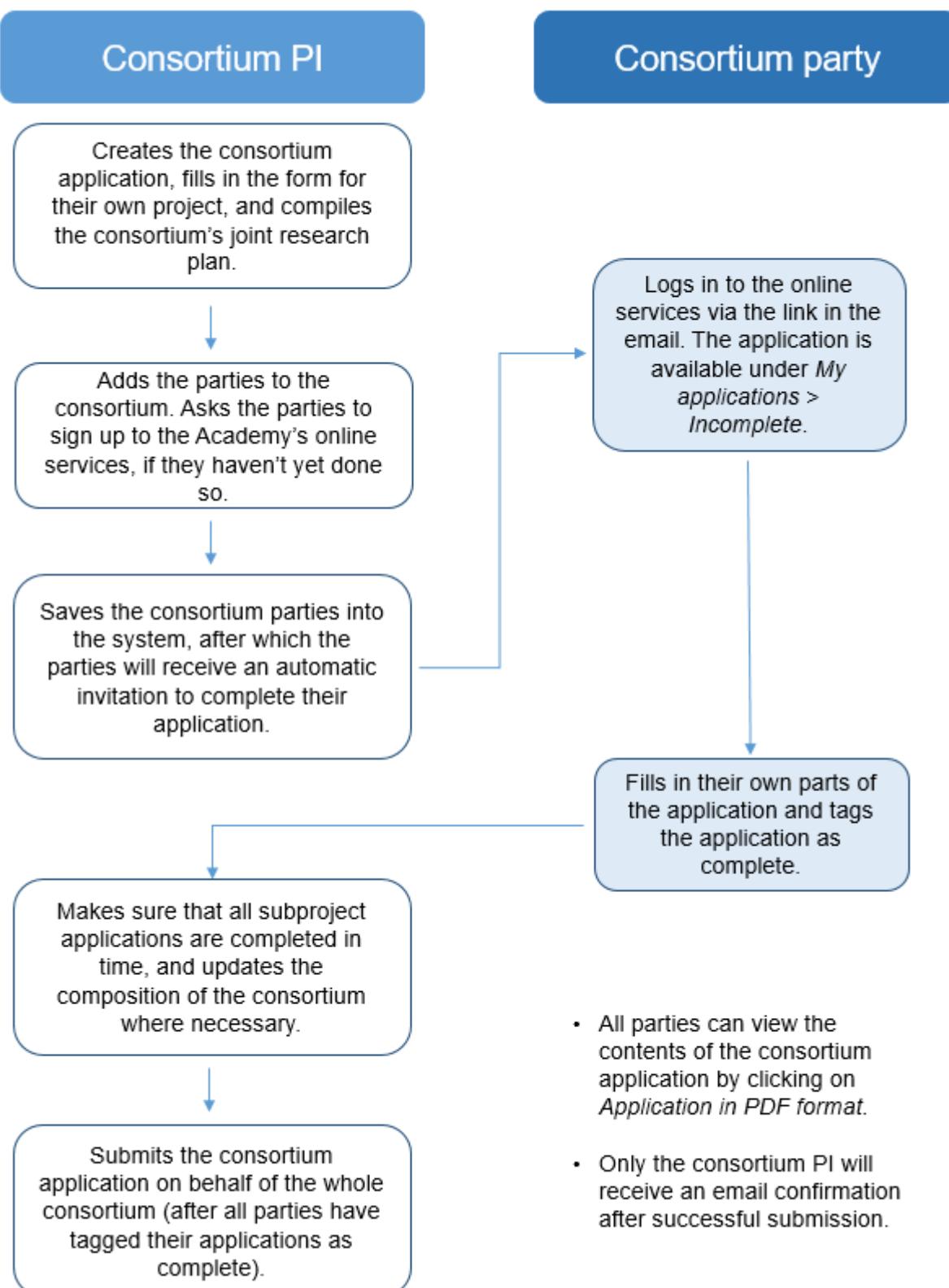
If the data cannot be made available for reuse, please describe where and how the metadata will be available.

For each of these sections, we have posted the detailed Academy's guidelines and tips for best practices in DMPTuuli on our website: [detailed Academy data management plan guidelines and best practices in DMPTuuli](#)





APPENDIX 5: HOW TO SUBMIT A CONSORTIUM APPLICATION (FIRST AND SECOND CALL STAGE)



- All parties can view the contents of the consortium application by clicking on *Application in PDF format*.
- Only the consortium PI will receive an email confirmation after successful submission.



APPENDIX 6: MOBILITY OF ACADEMY RESEARCH FELLOW AND POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER APPLICANTS 2018

The Academy's aim

Researchers need a wide range of experience from working in different research environments to be able to increase their independence. By working in different kinds of research groups or in other research-related positions, researchers can further **strengthen their personal networks** and improve their chances of securing research positions or other expert tasks. For today's researchers, it is also important to be able to **acquire new methodological skills and adopt new means of communicating with people** with different backgrounds.

Wide-ranging expertise can help to **increase the impact of research and promote science renewal**, which are among the Academy of Finland's most important strategic objectives in addition to improving scientific quality.

The Academy encourages international researcher mobility. Our funding can be used within the limits of the funding period for research spells abroad and for returning to Finland. International mobility is of particular importance to early-career researchers in improving the quality of their research and supporting their career development.

[In assessing the scientific merits of a funding application](#), the reviewers consider the international and national collaborative contacts and research mobility presented in the application.

Academy Research Fellow and Postdoctoral Researcher applicants: specify your international and national mobility in three sections of the form:

1) Mobility as an eligibility requirement

In this section, we assess your eligibility to apply for funding. You are eligible to apply only if you meet our mobility requirement (see Mobility as an eligibility requirement below).

This information is entered on the online form (name of tab TBC).

If you are eligible to apply based on the above item:

2) Previous mobility as a merit

Enter information on your research visits in connection with your research. We will use this information to assess your experience as a researcher.

This information is entered on the tab Mobility.

3) Planned mobility linked to implementing the research project

Enter information on your planned research visits during the project and how these mobility periods will benefit your research. We will use this information to assess your application.

This information is entered on the tab Mobility.



1) Mobility as an eligibility requirement

Mobility since PhD completion is required from applicants for funding for a research post as Postdoctoral Researcher or Academy Research Fellow.

If the application concerns **the same research environment** where the applicant worked while completing their doctoral degree, the applicant must give an account of at least six months of research experience from abroad or elsewhere in Finland **since PhD completion (and before the call deadline expires)**. See more guidelines below.

The mobility requirement is met if **you apply for funding for a research post to a research environment other than the one in which you worked while completing your doctoral thesis**. Our funding is paid via a site of research based in Finland. See more guidelines below.

To whom does the mobility requirement apply?

The requirement applies to everyone who applies for the Academy's funding for a research post as Academy Research Fellow or Postdoctoral Researcher. The requirement does not apply to postdoctoral researchers hired with other Academy funding (such as those hired within Academy Projects).

If a researcher applies for the funding to the same research environment, they must account for experience of another environment after PhD completion. In this case, the applicant must – before the call deadline of 1 October 2018 – have at least six months of research experience from another research environment or research-supporting experience from another sector since PhD completion.

In very exceptional cases, the Academy may make an exception for individual applicants. For instance, an exception can be made in the case of severe illness (either the applicant's or a close relative's) that significantly impedes the applicant's mobility. In these exceptional situations, applicants must get in touch with the contact person at the Academy before submitting the application. The contact persons are named in the call text.

What counts as a different research environment?

Here, 'research environment' refers to the local research community or group in which the researcher works. The research environment is often located within a single site of research (usually a university or research institute), but it may also extend to several organisations. There may be several different research environments at one and the same site of research.

If an applicant changes research environments within the same site, we require **a distinct change of work environment**, so that it justifiably promotes the Academy's objectives for the mobility (see *The Academy's aim* above). *Applicants must provide a concrete justification for the change of work environment and for meeting the Academy's objectives on the online application form.*

Changing the name of the research unit or merging to units does not count as a change of research environment.

Our funding is paid via a site of research (usually a university or research institute) based in Finland. Academy-funded researchers may also spend time working abroad



during their funding period. Planned mobility is taken into account in reviewing the research plan but not in determining eligibility.

Read more about the research councils' policies on our website. Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application.

What does 'working elsewhere' mean?

The key criterion is that if the applicant will continue at their former site of research and not change research environments, they must have gained **experience also from outside their current research environment** before the call deadline expires. The **post-PhD experience** may have been gained in Finland or abroad.

The six-month requirement may be fulfilled by, for instance, working in another field's research team, institute or association, in administration, the business sector or an occupation that is legitimately linked to the proposed research or that contributes to promoting the research career.

Work somewhere else can also refer to working on a grant or through some other arrangement in some other environment than the physical research environment that the application concerns. For example, applicants may have worked at a foreign university with funding from their own university. Working in a collegium of researchers may also be eligible as work somewhere else if the researcher in question has changed work communities.

Must the applicant have had an employment contract to the organisation at which the work experience was gained?

No, that is not a requirement. This means that working on a grant, for instance, may count towards the required six months. The funding source of the six-month work period is irrelevant.

When must the six months have been completed?

The required mobility period of at least six months must have been completed **after the PhD certificate was issued and by 1 October 2018**.

The work may have been performed over several spells. However, the two longest spells must equal at least six months.

Part-time employment will count towards the required mobility period of six months. For example, if the researcher has worked on a 50 per cent contract, the total work period must cover twelve months.

Planned mobility is not included in the assessment of the applicant's eligibility. Planned mobility is assessed as part of the research plan.

How do I enter information on the mobility requirement on the online application form?

Information on the mobility requirement is entered under a tab in the online form. The guidelines on how to fill in the form are still being finalised and will be ready when the call opens.



The information you provide on this tab forms a whole based on which we can assess whether you meet the mobility requirement. You will need to fill in all obligatory fields on this page to submit your application.

The tab structure is as follows:

- 1) Tick the box. The tab includes a question where you must select one of two alternatives: you are either changing research environment now, or you have acquired experience of another environment after PhD completion. You can also select both alternatives.
- 2) Table. The tab also holds a table, where you enter the mobility needed to fulfil the mobility requirement (dates, any additional information). You can add several separate periods to the table, so that they add up to the six months required. If you completed the required mobility in the form of several separate periods, the two longest periods should add up to a minimum of six months.
- 3) Free-text field for justifications. Justify how you meet the mobility requirement (change of research environment or six months of experience from elsewhere). Provide a brief and concrete justification for the benefit from changing environments (no more than 1,000 characters).

2) Previous mobility as a merit

We will consider your previous mobility when assessing your experience as a researcher.

On the tab *Mobility* of the online form, under *Previous mobility*, list your mobility after completing your PhD.

Only include your most important mobility spells (at least five working days, or 0.25 months) in months. The limit is the same as the one set in the data collection on universities applied by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture.

Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application. For more information on the policies of the Academy's research councils, see [Research councils](#) on our website.

3) Planned mobility linked to implementing the research project

The Academy of Finland encourages Academy-funded researchers to be internationally mobile during their research project. The planned mobility must support the implementation of the research plan.

On the tab *Mobility* of the online form, under *Planned mobility*, list the mobility you have planned for the funding period.

Only include your most important mobility spells (at least five working days, or 0.25 months) in months.

Be sure to familiarise yourself with the principles of the research council to which you will submit your application. For more information on the policies of the Academy's research councils, see [Research councils](#) on our website.



About this document

This call for applications is based on a document that presents the criteria for research funding decisions by the Academy of Finland and that is approved by the Academy Board. The calls that will open in September 2018 come under the criteria adopted on 18 April 2018. [The document is available on our website](#) (in Finnish).

The call for applications has been prepared by an internal working group responsible for communication on the Academy's funding calls. Riitta Maijala, Vice President for Research, approved the Finnish-language call for applications on 25 June 2018.

NB! If any questions arise concerning the accuracy of information presented in the translated version of the call for applications, please refer to the official Finnish version.

All other September 2018 guidelines yet to be finalised will be prepared by a new core team responsible for funding calls and applicant support (as of 1 August 2018).

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More information	Contacts listed in this call for applications (firstname.lastname@aka.fi)
Questions and feedback	Get in touch via Questions and feedback on our website
