Academy of Finland

Application review form
2018 Postdoctoral Researcher

Panel/Name of reviewer: 
Name of applicant: 
Title of proposed project: 
Application number: 

Please also write comments (not only numerical ratings) to each of the following sub-items.

The numerical evaluation of the sub-items and final rating is made with ratings ranging from 1 (poor) to 6 (outstanding).

1 = poor, 2 = fair, 3 = good, 4 = very good, 5 = excellent, 6 = outstanding

The aim of the Academy of Finland’s funding for research posts as Postdoctoral Researcher is to support the most promising researchers who have recently earned their doctorate (PhD completion 0–4 years ago, or no more than eight years ago, provided that the doctoral degree has been obtained simultaneously with medical specialist training) 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. The funding period is 36 months.

Quality of research plan

1 Scientific quality and innovativeness of research plan 
Sub-rating (1–6):
Guiding questions: How significant is the project scientifically? Are the objectives and hypotheses appropriately presented? To what extent are the objectives ambitious and beyond the state of the art (e.g. novel concepts and approaches or development across disciplines)? How high is the potential for breakthroughs or exceptionally significant outcomes?

2 Implementation of research plan 
Sub-rating (1–6):
Guiding questions: Is the research plan feasible (bearing in mind the extent to which the proposed research may include high risks)? Are the research methods and materials appropriate? Are the human resources and management of the proposed plan appropriate and well planned? Does the research environment support the project, including appropriate research infrastructures? How well does the applicant acknowledge potential scientific or methodological problem areas, and how does the applicant consider alternative approaches?

3 Responsible science (no numerical rating)
Guiding questions: Are there any ethical issues involved and, if so, how are they taken into account? What is the intended level of open access to research results? Does the data management plan responsibly support the reuse of research data? How does the project promote equality and non-discrimination within itself or in society at large?

Competence of applicant, quality of research collaborations

4 Competence and expertise of applicant 
Sub-rating (1–6):
Guiding questions: What are the personal merits and scientific expertise of the applicant? Are they appropriate and sufficient for the proposed project? Does the research plan advance the applicant’s professional competence and independence?

5 Research team, significance of research collaborations 
Sub-rating (1–6):
Guiding questions: Does the research team bring complementary expertise to the project? How does the national and/or international research collaboration contribute to the success of the project?
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6 Researcher mobility  
Sub-rating (1–6):  
Guiding question: How does the planned mobility support the research plan? Does the receiving organisation stand out in the respective field of research? Is the length of the mobility period appropriate and is its timing right for the project?

7 Main strengths and weaknesses of project, additional comments and suggestions (no numerical rating)  
Please give an overall assessment for the application including lists of strengths and weaknesses as well as any additional comments.

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

Comments:

8 Final rating  
Final rating (1–6):  
Please note that the final rating should not be a mathematical average of the sub-ratings.