Academy of Finland information meeting on key project funding, 15 March 2016

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Objectives for the Academy of Finland’s key project funding scheme “Forging ahead with research”

15 March 2016

Executive Director Riitta Maijala
Academy’s key project funding budget: €30 million

The funding is based on the Finnish Government’s Programme and its strategic objective for knowledge and education, which includes a ‘key project’ aimed at strengthening cooperation between higher education institutions and business life.

• “To achieve competence-based growth and create centres of excellence of international standing and to uphold the standard of quality and impact of research, appropriations for research by the Academy of Finland subject to open tendering will be increased.”

• The Academy’s 2016 budget for key project funding is 30 million euros
  • 2 million euros in 2016, 8 million euros in 2017 and 20 million euros in 2018
Key project activities by Tekes

Innovation Scout

More effective research commercialisation, quicker results

Funding to improve innovation and commercialisation know-how among researchers and research organisations.
2015: €5 million, 2016: €5 million
www.tekes.fi/innovationscout

Challenge Finland

Funding competition for research organisations and business companies seeking commercialisable solutions to major problems; aims to effectively combine top Finnish research with private-sector R&D.
2016: €5 million, 2017: €10 million, 2018: €15 million
www.tekes.fi/challengefinland.fi

Research Benefit

Funding to help business companies utilise nearly completed research results; funding provided to parallel research and research utilisation by companies and research organisations.
2016: €4 million, 2017: €10 million, 2018: €10 million
www.tekes.fi/researchbenefit
Promotion of research and research utilisation in Academy and Tekes funding instruments
Dialogue between research and utilisation

Scientific research

Individual results
Interaction
Skilled people

Research utilisation

Time
Antimalarial medication: Tu Youyu (Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Beijing) won the 2015 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

Sweet wormwood (Artemisia annua)

Discovery of Artemisinin 1972

Discovery of dihydroartemisinin 1973

Synthesis of artemisinin 1983

Old literature

Clinical trials 1973–1978

Approval of medication 1982

Approval of medication 1992

Kristian Peters, 16 Sep 2007, CC 3.0
Key goals for the Academy’s key project funding

• Discovering new ideas that can be utilised
  • Funding for utilisation ideas that emerge from high-quality research by early-career researchers

• Supporting different opportunities to utilise research results
  • Open-themed call, open to all scientific disciplines

• Encouraging encounters to promote knowledge and know-how
  • Support to mobility and to collaboration between researchers and end-users and beneficiaries of research
## Programme for information meeting

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>12.30</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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<td>13.00</td>
<td>Opening remarks, objectives for funding scheme</td>
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<td><em>Executive Director Riitta Maijala, Academy of Finland</em></td>
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<td>13.15</td>
<td>Research on early child development: scientific and societal impact</td>
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<td><em>Jukka Leppänen, PhD, University of Tampere</em></td>
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<td>Interactive action research: Do researchers have what it takes?</td>
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<td><em>Academy Research Fellow Irmeli Mustalahti, University of Eastern Finland</em></td>
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<td>13.45</td>
<td>How to apply</td>
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<td><em>Senior Science Advisers Tiina Jokela and Jaana Roos, Academy of Finland</em></td>
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<td>14.00</td>
<td>Q&amp;A</td>
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<td><em>Executive Director Riitta Maijala, Academy of Finland</em></td>
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<td>14.30</td>
<td>Clinic</td>
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<td><em>Q&amp;A with the Academy’s science advisers</em></td>
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<td>15.00</td>
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Academy of Finland information meeting on key project funding

Paasitorni

Tiina Jokela and Jaana Roos

15 March 2016
Academy of Finland key project funding: “Forging ahead with Research”

- Call open 1–27 April 2016
- Call text available at [www.aka.fi/en/funding/apply-now](http://www.aka.fi/en/funding/apply-now)
- Read more about the scheme at [www.aka.fi/keyproject](http://www.aka.fi/keyproject)
Academy’s key project funding budget: €30 million

Researchers who have or who have recently received funding from the Academy or an equivalent international funder

Targeted call for projects of a high scientific quality

- Support to utilisation
- Impact
- Experimentation
- Mobility
- Pilot projects
- Networks
- Collaboration
Academy key project funding in 2016

• Up to 300,000 euros

• Funding period 1 Oct 2016–30 Sep 2018

• Draft the cost estimate as follows:
  • 1 Oct–31 Dec 2016: 7%
  • 1 Jan–31 Dec 2017: 27%
  • 1 Jan–30 Sep 2018: 66%

Example of project funding plan: relationship between key project funding and other funding
Special characteristics of the funding

- The Academy’s funding contribution comes to 100%.
- The funding is granted under the full cost model, but organisations need not contribute to the costs with their own funding.
- The funding is granted to Finnish sites of research.
- Consortia cannot apply.
- We will accept only one application per researcher.
Who can apply?

Have you had or do you still have research funding during the period 1 Jan 2015–27 Apr 2016?

Do you have Academy funding for a research post as Postdoctoral Researcher or Academy Research Fellow?

OK
Who can apply?

Have you had or do you still have research funding during the period 1 Jan 2015–27 Apr 2016?

Are you a researcher with no more than 14 years since PhD completion on 27 Apr 2016?

Academy funding or Funding from international or foreign public funding agency or Funding from EU Framework Programmes

OK
What does the funding cover?

Key project funding from the Academy

Research and research utilisation
- Experimentation, pilot projects
- Collaboration and networking
- National and international mobility, e.g. work at research-utilising organisation

Ongoing, high-quality research and its results
What does the funding cover?

- Salary of principal investigator (if necessary)
- Costs of impact and interaction activities
- Costs of open access activities
- Market and patent surveys, other equivalent proof-of-concept activities, experimentation and pilot projects
- Costs of preparations for commercialisation (not actual commercialisation or preparation that benefits only one company)
What does the funding not cover?

Sales and marketing costs, costs of setting up a business

Protection of IPRs

Economic activity, regardless of whether profits are pursued or generated

The results of the projects must be made public after project completion
Promotion of research utilisation, examples

- A research team collaborates with a university hospital to develop care practices, for instance.
- A research team develops technology aiming at new applications.
- A researcher is preparing to conduct drug molecule tests or modelling.
- A research team promotes the transition to a circular economy through experimentation.
- A researcher collaborates with schools within a pilot project or trial to, for instance, develop learning environments and methods.
- A researcher collaborates with an environmental organisation to identify new, environmentally-friendly processes or consumption habits.
- A researcher implements a pilot project in collaboration with an international partner (e.g. UN, WHO) to promote cross-border knowledge transfer.
Review of applications, funding decisions

- Applications will be reviewed by panels consisting of both Finnish and foreign experts in science and in the utilisation of research results.

- See the call text for a description of the review process.

- The funding decisions will be made by a subcommittee appointed by the Academy Board.

- The funding decisions will be made in September 2016
Review criteria

- potential for application, impact in society
- supporting research by early-career researchers
- promoting researcher mobility
- feasibility, innovativeness and impact of the research plan
- quality and scope of potential end-user community
- new collaborative structures and networks
- support by site of research for commercialisation and other utilisation of research
Reporting

• The progress of the funded projects will be monitored during the funding period.

• Projects must collect versatile data on the research and the utilisation during the funding period using
  • indicators
  • portfolios
  • impact stories

• Upon project completion in 2018, projects must deliver a research report to the Academy
Survey for applicants

- Are you planning to apply for key project funding from the Academy?

- Please briefly describe your upcoming application through our online survey; the survey is open until **21 March 2016**.

- We will use the survey results to assemble the review panels.

- The survey responses will not influence the review.

- Read more at [www.aka.fi/keyproject](http://www.aka.fi/keyproject)
Call schedule

- 15 March: Information meeting at Paasitorni, Helsinki
- 21 March: Survey closes
- 27 April: Call closing date
- September 2016: Funding decisions

Read more at www.aka.fi/keyproject
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