



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DOCTORAL RESEARCHER POSITIONS AT THE  
UNIVERSITY OF TURKU GRADUATE SCHOOL, DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN LAW**

**Doctoral Programme in Law**

The Doctoral Programme in Law is responsible for the doctoral education in law as part of the University of Turku Graduate School (UTUGS). All fields of law are represented in the programme. The programme gives qualification for multidisciplinary doctoral dissertation research.

**APPLICATION PERIOD AND WHAT CAN BE APPLIED FOR**

During the application period 28 August – 13 September 2024, the Doctoral Programme in Law invites applications for:

- a) the right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Law, University of Turku, from 1 January 2025 onwards**
- b) fixed-term Doctoral Researcher positions under an employment contract**

The position of a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher is set to begin on 1 January 2025 at the earliest and for the duration of a maximum of four years. Duties other than those related to doctoral dissertation research, such as teaching duties, must be proportioned so as not to compromise the completion of the doctoral dissertation within the planned schedule. As a rule, up to 5% (a maximum of about 80 hrs per academic year) of the annual working time of the Doctoral Researcher can consist of teaching.

When determining the length of the employment contract, prior funding granted for pursuing a doctoral degree is taken into account. A person already awarded with a doctoral degree cannot be chosen as a Doctoral Researcher under an employment contract.

A salaried doctoral researcher position requires residence in Finland for the duration of the employment contract. The place of work is Turku. The University of Turku has flexible opportunities for remote work. The doctoral researcher works at the Faculty of Law.

The salary is based on the salary system of the university's teaching and research staff. It consists of a task-specific salary component and a personal performance salary component. The task-specific salary component of a Doctoral Researcher is at level 2–4, 2108,40–2628,85 €. The component based on personal performance is 6–50% of the task-specific salary. The task-specific salary component of a doctoral researcher is at level 2–4, depending the progress of the doctoral project. The personal performance component, added on top of the task-specific base salary is also paid. For a doctoral researcher, the salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will be approximately 2500–3300 €/month, depending on the progress of the doctoral project. The position has a probationary period of six months.

- c) both of the above mentioned (a and b).**

## Who may apply

### The right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Law can be applied for by

- persons who have completed a relevant Master's degree awarded by a university or a university of applied sciences, or a relevant study programme abroad which in the awarding country gives eligibility for the corresponding level of higher education (Universities Act 558/2009, 37§). The graduation of degree needs to be completed by the end of the application period.
- persons who in addition fulfil the University of Turku language skill requirements. [Link to language requirements in the web page of the university's graduate school](#)

### Salaried Doctoral Researcher positions can be applied for by

- persons who have an active right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Law, University of Turku, and who have not received full four years of funding for their doctoral research.
- persons who do not yet have a study right for a doctoral degree but have completed a Master's Degree, other applicable higher education degree or a corresponding international degree and whose degree and research plan are in accordance with the research areas included in the Doctoral Programme. A right to pursue for a doctoral degree is a prerequisite for an applicant to be chosen for a fixed-term doctoral researcher position under an employment contract. Therefore, the applicant for the salaried position who do not have the right to pursue a doctoral degree have to apply for it by filling in an electronic form in My Studyinfo service (for details, please, see section "How to apply the right to study for a doctoral degree").

Persons who already have a doctoral degree cannot apply for the fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position.

## HOW TO APPLY

**Please note, that when applying for both the right to study and a fixed-term doctoral researcher position, you will need to fill in the application with the required attachments to two separate online systems (see more information below).** The right to study for a doctoral degree is applied for by filling in an electronic form in the My Studyinfo service and the fixed-term doctoral researcher positions are applied for by filling in an electronic form in the University of Turku recruitment system (TalentAdore). For both applications you will need to attach the required additional documents (in pdf form). Application documents are specified below in section Attachments. All application documents must be written either in Finnish, Swedish or in English.

### How to apply the right to study for a doctoral degree

The right to study for a doctoral degree is applied for by filling in an electronic form in My Studyinfo service and attaching the required additional documents specified in Attachments section below. The form will be accessible as the application period begins on 28 August 2024 and closes at 4 pm (local time in Finland) on 13 September 2024. [Link to the University of Turku Graduate School web page, where the application form can be found.](#)



During one application round the applicant may apply to a maximum of two doctoral programmes at the University of Turku. You can only have one valid study right at a time for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku.

Applications that arrive after the application period has ended will not be processed. When the application period has ended, you cannot change the doctoral programme you are applying for, or any other information.

In My Studyinfo service, you can only apply for right to study a doctoral degree. If you also want to apply for a fixed-term doctoral researcher position under an employment contract, you must apply for that position separately (for details, please, see section “How to apply the fixed-term doctoral researcher position under an employment contract”).

### **How to apply the fixed-term doctoral researcher position under an employment contract**

The fixed-term doctoral researcher position under an employment contract is applied for by filling in an electronic form in the University of Turku recruitment system (TalentAdore) and attaching the required additional documents specified in Attachments section below. The form will be accessible as the application period begins on 28 August 2024 and closes at 4 pm (local time in Finland) on 13 September 2024.

The positions are announced at the beginning of the application period in the Open Vacancies at the University of Turku website and on the website of the Graduate School. [Link to the University of Turku Graduate School web page, where the application form can be found.](#)

Applications that arrive after the application period has ended will not be processed. When the application period has ended, you cannot change the doctoral programme you are applying for, or any other information.

A person selected for the position is required to have an active right to study in the Doctoral Programme in Law. If you have not yet been granted a right to study, you must apply for a right to pursue a doctoral degree in the Doctoral Programme in Law by filling in an electronic form in My Studyinfo service (for details, please, see section “How to apply the right to study for a doctoral degree”).

## **ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS**

The Dean of the Faculty of Law makes the decision of granting **a right to study for the doctoral degree** based on the proposals of the board of the doctoral programme. When considering the applicant's capability to complete the degree, the following criteria are taken into consideration:

- academic attractiveness, importance and feasibility of the research plan,
- sufficiently wide-ranging knowledge of the research on the applicant's field manifested in the research plan and methodological approach,
- possible publications,
- the merits and grade of the Master's thesis and possible postgraduate degree thesis in Law and
- previous studies in law, their content and level if the applicant has a degree other than a Master of Laws degree,
- connection between the research project and the faculty's focus in research,
- other merits such as relevant professional experience



A person applying for the right to study for a doctoral degree **must find a supervisor** for their thesis before submitting their application. At least one supervisor must be employed by the Faculty of Law at the University of Turku. The applicant must contact a potential supervisor directly in order to arrange the supervision. The applicant should acquaint themselves with the research profiles of the teaching staff of the faculty and consider if their research plan fits adequately the research profile of a staff member. The contact information of the staff can be found on the web site of the faculty: <https://www.utu.fi/en/university/faculty-of-law/contact>

All applicants will be personally informed about the decisions by the end of November 2024.

An admitted applicant has to notify the University of Turku of their acceptance of the study place by 13 December 2024 at 3:00 pm (local time in Finland) according to the instructions given in the admission notification. If the admitted applicant does not give the notification by the end of the allotted time period mentioned above, the applicant forfeits the study place. A person admitted to more than one university or polytechnic degree programme only notifies the one educational institution at which they choose to accept the study place. Notification, i.e. accepting a study place, is binding and may not be cancelled or changed later. According to Finnish university legislation, an applicant may accept only one study place leading to a higher education degree in Finland during one academic term (autumn term 1 Aug – 31 Dec or spring term 1 Jan – 31 Jul). This rule applies to all higher education, i.e. Bachelor's and Master's level degrees awarded by Finnish universities of applied sciences, Bachelor's and Master's degrees awarded by Finnish universities, and Licentiate and Doctoral degrees awarded by Finnish universities. This regulation is not applied to study rights received in transfer student selections, from the Åland University of Applied Sciences, from the Police University College, and from institutions of higher education outside Finland.

The applicants who have completed their prior degree in a country other than Finland and who are granted a study right in this call, need to deliver either the original degree certificates or certified copies of the original degree certificates and their translations to the University of Turku, as instructed in the admission notification, on 7 March 2025 at the latest. If the admitted applicant does not deliver the required certificates (in a paper form) by the deadline, they forfeit the study right. [Link to instructions on providing original educational documents and country-specific requirements.](#)

If an applicant is dissatisfied with the result of the student selection (right to study for a doctoral degree), they has the right to submit an application for the rectification of the decision to the Faculty of Humanities within 14 days of the official publishing of the results. Contact and further information: [lawpostgraduate@utu.fi](mailto:lawpostgraduate@utu.fi)

The Dean of the Faculty of Law makes the decision of **the fixed-term doctoral researcher positions** based on the proposals of the board of the doctoral programme. The essential criteria of evaluation for the fixed-term positions of a doctoral researcher are:

1. The quality and feasibility of the research plan,
2. Applicant's eligibility for postgraduate studies (academic performance, possible scientific merits, the progress of studies and research to the current date)

The final selection is based on comprehensive evaluation of applications (not on a single criterion) as the applicants can be at different stages of their doctoral dissertation process. Most qualified candidates may be interviewed.

When determining the length of the employment contract, the stage of the doctoral research and prior funding granted for pursuing a doctoral degree is taken into account. As a rule, the



doctoral programme offers funding only to applicants who have not yet received funding for four year full-time work.

All applicants will be personally informed about the decisions. The names of the applicants who have been selected for the fixed-term doctoral researcher position under employment contract will be announced on the website of the doctoral programme by the end of November 2024.

## APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Applicants must prepare and attach the following documents to the application form according to the instructions on filling in the application form. All application documents must be written either in Finnish, Swedish or in English.

Please see instructions on the required documents at:

<https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/doctoral-programme-in-law/admission> > Description of the application documents

## ATTACHMENTS 1, Applying for a right to study for a doctoral degree at the Faculty of Law

1. A research plan for a doctoral dissertation in accordance with the guidelines of the Faculty of Law. The maximum length of a research plan should not be exceeded. By attaching the research plan to the application form, the applicant gives permission to check the research plan with Turnitin OriginalityCheck software (a system for electronic plagiarism detection). The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to assist in the preparation of the research plan should be indicated in the research plan.
2. CV and List of publications (CV according to guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board of Research Integrity, [http://www.tenk.fi/sites/tenk.fi/files/CV\\_english\\_270613.pdf](http://www.tenk.fi/sites/tenk.fi/files/CV_english_270613.pdf))
3. An agreement from the person or persons proposed to act as a supervisor to the applicant. The supervisor should send the agreement directly to the doctoral programme at [lawpostgraduate@utu.fi](mailto:lawpostgraduate@utu.fi)
4. Degree certificates and transcripts of study records
  - A. If the applicant has completed the former degree(s) which make them eligible for doctoral studies at a university in Finland, the degree certificates, the transcripts of study records and other educational documents which may be of relevance in the student selection must be attached to the electronic application form.
  - B. If the applicant has completed the former degree(s) which make them eligible for doctoral studies at a university abroad (i.e. outside Finland), they must attach the following items to the electronic application form:
    - scanned original degree certificates (in the same language as the degree was completed in)
    - scanned original transcripts of study records (in the same language as the degree was completed in)
    - scanned other original educational documents which may be of relevance in the student selection



- If the original degree certificates and other educational documents are not written in English, Finnish or Swedish, official translations to one of these languages must also be submitted. An official translation here refers to a translation of the educational documents issued by the awarding institution or a translation made by an authorized translator. A transcript in English can be replaced by a Diploma Supplement awarded by a European educational institution if it contains the information about completed courses and other study attainments.

#### 5. Verification of language proficiency

The University of Turku follows the Rector's decision (15 Aug 2019) on the means of verifying one's language proficiency. See the language requirements on the webpage of the university's graduate school: <https://www.utu.fi/en/research/utugs/how-to-apply/language>

- If the applicant is required to prove their language proficiency with the language test, a scanned certificate of a completed language test must be attached to the application

#### 6. Copy of a valid passport

A copy of valid passport or official identification card with photo and information on citizenship. If applicant has a Finnish personal identity code and they have entered it on the application form, they do not need to attach a copy of their passport

### **ATTACHMENTS 2, Applying for a fixed-term Doctoral Researcher position**

1. A research plan for a doctoral dissertation in accordance with the guidelines of the Faculty of Law
2. CV and List of publications (CV according to guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board of Research Integrity, [http://www.tenk.fi/sites/tenk.fi/files/CV\\_english\\_270613.pdf](http://www.tenk.fi/sites/tenk.fi/files/CV_english_270613.pdf))
3. Degree certificate
4. transcript of study records

The application form and the attachments must be delivered by the application deadline.  
*Applications that arrive after the deadline will not be processed.*

#### **Further information**

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