

ACADEMY OF FINLAND

APRIL 2016 CALL

1–27 April 2016

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 are also committed to promoting equality in research and open science. We require that the researchers and sites of research we fund are committed to following the research-ethical guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity.

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



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AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE TO APPLYING

When?

The Academy of Finland has two main application rounds each year: September and April.

In September, for example, we invite applications in the following funding opportunities: Academy Project funding, targeted Academy Project funding and funding for research posts (i.e. Academy Professor, Academy Research Fellow, Postdoctoral Researcher and clinical researcher).

In April, for example, we invite applications within research programmes and for targeted Academy Project funding.

The deadlines of the following funding opportunities may differ from our main deadlines: research programmes, research infrastructures, two-stage calls and calls linked to international or national research collaboration

Please check the deadline for each call in the call text. We will not process applications that have not arrived by the deadline.

What?

A list of our funding opportunities is available on our website under [Our funding opportunities](#).

How?

We post open calls on our website under [Apply now](#). For detailed guidelines on how to apply, visit these sections on our website:

- 1) [call texts](#) for our main calls, describing all available funding opportunities
- 2) [guidelines on how to draft and submit applications](#)
- 3) [guidelines on how to draft appendices](#) (structure and length)
- 4) [programme memoranda](#) for our programmes
- 5) [how-to guide to our online services](#).

Also read our [step-by-step guide to applying](#), which is a brief summary of the most important steps you will need to follow to submit your application.

In connection with our main calls, we may also publish a “What’s new” summary describing any new and revised guidelines for that particular call.

We require that you carefully read the call text and the guidelines mentioned above before submitting your application.



1 GENERAL GUIDELINES

1.1 FOR APPLICANTS

Who is eligible to apply?

The applicant for Academy of Finland research funding (i.e. the principal investigator of a research project) must be a researcher at the professor or docent level or with a doctoral degree, unless the call text indicates otherwise. In some of our funding opportunities, the applicant is a university or a research institute.

We allocate funding on the basis of peer review to the best researchers and research teams and to the most promising young researchers to support them in carrying out scientifically ambitious projects. In principle, the projects we fund must benefit Finnish research and society or international collaboration.

Within the same application round, we will review only one application per applicant in one of the following funding opportunities:

- Academy Project funding (project PI)
- Academy Project funding (PI of consortium or consortium subproject)
- funding for research post as Postdoctoral Researcher
- funding for research post as Academy Research Fellow
- funding for clinical researchers.

However, if you do submit more than one application for one or several of the above funding opportunities, we will only review the first application to arrive. In the case of targeted Academy Project funding, this limitation will be indicated separately for each call.

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

An application consists of an online application and its appendices (usually a research plan, a curriculum vitae, etc.).

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:

- the research team's work (salaries)
- research costs
- travel
- national and international collaboration and mobility
- preparation of international projects
- publishing (e.g. open-access publishing using the golden route).



The funding can 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 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. costs for premises). Both types of costs are covered with the same percentage. Read more on our website under [Full cost model](#).

We require that the site of research (e.g. university department) 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.

In the application, give 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 and funding that will be provided by the site of research if the project is launched. The cost estimate must be realistic **and justified by type of expenditure in the research plan**.

Support to international researcher mobility

The Academy also funds international researcher mobility. *The mobility allowance, applied for as a research cost for the project* (e.g. Academy Projects, projects within research programmes, targeted projects, research costs in research posts), *no longer depends on the target country or the duration of the stay*.

We support international mobility:

- in research projects
 - **as a mobility allowance** for mobility from Finland as part of a project's research costs: researchers with dependants €1,500/month
 - researchers without dependants €1,050/month
 - **as grants** to non-EU researchers coming to Finland to work for periods shorter than a year.
- with our funding opportunity *International researcher mobility based on bilateral agreements* as research grants or personal grants.

Read more in Appendices 3 A–C of the call for applications (April 2016) and on our website under [Calculation of support to international researcher mobility](#).

In addition to this special funding, international researchers can be hired to work on Academy-funded research projects.

Salary costs of principal investigator

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, with certain limitations, be incorporated into the total project costs (see below).

NB! The key project funding included in the April 2016 call and the calls by the Strategic Research Council (SRC) follow different principles. Please see the relevant call texts for more information on those principles.

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. **The PI's tasks must be clearly described** in the research plan (section 6, *Implementation*). In the application, indicate the salary under *Project funding, Salaries*.

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 is 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).

The well-substantiated reasons and the PI's tasks must be clearly presented in the research plan (section 6, *Implementation*). In the application, indicate the salary under *Project funding, Salaries*.

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. These details must be accounted for at the application stage.

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

Individual project or consortium?

In calls that concern personal funding (e.g. funding for research post as Academy Research Fellow, Academy Professor or Postdoctoral Researcher, or funding for clinical researchers), researchers apply for funding independently **for themselves** and with their own research plan. In these cases, we treat each application as a separate application.



In calls that concern Academy Project funding, research programme funding and targeted funding, principal investigators apply for funding **for their research teams**. Any research collaboration is described in the research plan of each application. In these cases, we treat each application as a separate application.

In calls intended for research teams, funding may also be applied for by a **consortium composed of research projects**. A consortium is a fixed-term body of independent subprojects that work under a joint research plan with a view to generating greater scientific added value through systematic collaboration than through normal collaboration. The scientific added value of the consortium must be described in the research plan. The consortium subprojects may work at different sites (e.g. at different universities or at different departments of the same university) and vary in size. The consortium's cost estimate and funding plan must be as realistic as possible.

The Academy treats the consortium PI's and the subprojects' joint consortium application as one application and makes one decision on it. The funding, however, is granted to each subproject separately.

The technical process of submitting a consortium application changed in connection with the Academy's September 2015 call (see Appendix 5 of the April 2016 call for applications). The consortium application is submitted by the consortium PI only after all subprojects have completed their applications (i.e. tagged them as 'complete'). This procedure applies both to letters of intent (first call stage) and to full applications (second call stage). The PI must submit the consortium application by the set deadline. Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the deadline.

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

Read more under [Guidelines for consortium application](#) on our website.

When is an application reviewed, and when is it not?

Our funding is based on a scientific review of research plans and applicants. We mainly use foreign experts as reviewers. You have the right to submit your application in Finnish or Swedish, **but we ask you to submit it in English in order 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 hosted by the research councils](#) and [Research field classification](#) on our website.

Our review process is presented on our website under [How applications are reviewed](#) and [Guides for reviewers](#). The criteria applied in the review are presented under



[Review criteria](#). Please read these criteria and guidelines as well as any additional guidelines on [the research councils' pages](#).

Calls by the Strategic Research Council and the key project funding opportunity (April 2016) follow separate review principles.

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

Guidelines on required appendices

You can make your application easier to review by drafting the appendices according to the guidelines we have provided.

For guidelines on how to draft appendices, see [Appendices required](#) on our website (e.g. [Research plan guidelines](#), [Curriculum vitae guidelines](#) and [Guidelines for list of publications](#)).

Curriculum vitae

We ask that applicants draft their CV in accordance with the [guidelines of the Finnish Advisory Board on Research Integrity](#) and the [guidelines of the Academy](#), taking into account the nature of the call, the research career stage and the practices of the scientific discipline. The guidelines help in drafting a CV so that it presents the researcher's most important scientific merits briefly and concisely. We recommend that CVs be no more than four pages long.

Research plan

To ensure the uniformity and quality of reviews, applications must be comparable. The applicant's research plan should provide answers to [the questions raised in the review](#). Therefore, research plans should follow the structure provided.

Read more under [Research plan guidelines](#) on our website. Below you will find a description of some of the parts of the research plan.

Open science

We require that Academy-funded projects are committed to open access publishing. We also urge projects to make their research data and methods freely available. The application must include, as part of the research plan, both a publication plan and a data management plan. Read more in Appendix 4 (Open science) of the April 2016 call for applications.

Research ethics

The ethical issues of the research must always be described in the research plan; they are reviewed as part of the scientific review. The **ethical issues and duties** to be considered at the application stage are listed on our website under [Ethical guidelines](#). 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](#).

Mobility plan and partners, use of infrastructures

You must describe the mobility, the partners and the use research infrastructures both in the application (in detail) and in the research plan.

In the application under *Mobility*, describe how the project's researchers will be mobile in Finland and abroad during the funding period. The mobility must support the project. If applying for funding for a research post as Postdoctoral Researcher or Academy Research Fellow, also account for previous mobility (*Previous mobility*).

In addition (under *Partners*), describe how other Finnish or foreign researchers working with their own funding will contribute to the project.

Under *Research infrastructures*, describe which international and national infrastructures will be used and how this will be of benefit to the project.

Research infrastructures refer to a reserve of research materials, services, equipment and facilities enabling research and development as well as researcher training and development of research and innovation capacity. Read more about research infrastructures under [Research infrastructures](#) on our website.

1.2 FOR SITES OF RESEARCH

Terms and conditions of funding

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

The Academy allocates the funding to the researcher's host organisation. Grants for research abroad (mobility grants) may also be allocated directly to the researcher. Staff to be hired with Academy research funding must have an employment relationship with the site of research or the organisation receiving the funding.

Academy funding to organisations outside the central government (e.g. universities) is seen as a discretionary government transfer. Academy funding cannot be used for economic activity.

If the site of research is a research organisation, the funding is granted following the Finnish Act on Discretionary Government Transfers and the general conditions for funding by the Academy of Finland. Since the funding is allocated not to individual researchers but to their host organisations, the organisation – not the researcher – is 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. The host organisation receiving the transfer is permitted to use it solely to fund the research carried out by the PI named in the application.



In some funding opportunities, the funding recipient may be an organisation that engages in economic activity. In such cases, the funding will be granted in accordance with the EU's state aid rules, the de minimis regulation or the block exemption regulation.

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

Co-funding, full costing and additional cost model

Academy research funding is a form of **co-funding** in which the funds to finance the costs of a project come from at least two sources. When Academy funding is applied for, universities, research institutes and other research organisations commit to the co-funding by contributing their percentage of the costs. In calls by the Strategic Research Council and the key project funding opportunity (April 2016), exceptionally, the Academy's funding contribution is 100%.

In your application, you must include 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

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 course of the project (payment procedure). The percentage is applied to all project costs, that is, to both direct and indirect costs, including overheads.

Read more: [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 using 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%.

Commitment by site of research



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. After the call has closed, we will request the commitment by the site of research from the person indicated in the application. Read more on our website under [Commitment by site of research](#).

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.

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](#).

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



1.3 HOW APPLICATIONS ARE SUBMITTED AND BECOME PENDING, PUBLICITY AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

How applications are submitted and become pending

Applications for the Academy of Finland's April 2016 call can be drafted and submitted in the online services as of Friday 1 April 2016. The non-negotiable deadline for applications is Wednesday 27 April 2016 at 16.15, unless the call text indicates otherwise. Please note that consortium PIs can submit the consortium application only after all consortium subprojects have completed their applications. International calls may have other deadlines. To ensure smooth drafting and submission, please submit your application as early as possible.

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 indicate the 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. Nor will the system accept applications that lack obligatory details or appendices.

Append only the requested appendices to the application 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 the [How-to guide](#). If you run into problems in the online services at the time of submission, please contact us before the deadline (the contact persons are named in the call text), either by phone or via [Questions and feedback](#) on our website.

Supplementing the application

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 resubmit the revised application by the set deadline. The resubmitted application will replace the earlier version.

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 for your supplementary additions. The additions will be taken into account 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.



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.

Applications are public documents

Under the Finnish Act on the Openness of Government Activities, an application and its appendices are public information; confidential documents such as 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.

Public project description

The popular 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 brief summary of the key points of the research. Read more under [Public description of project](#) on our website.

If a project is granted funding, we will publish the description of the project on our website. The description is written by the applicant when drafting the application. **We cannot edit project descriptions – it is the applicants themselves who are responsible for the content, clarity and style of the descriptions.** The descriptions will remain accessible on our website for several years.

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.

1.4 INFORMATION ON DECISIONS

The dates for Academy funding decisions are posted on our website under [Funding decisions](#). You can also [search our decisions](#) for the funded projects, their public descriptions and the call-specific fact sheets.

Applicants 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. You can also read the conditions for the decision and read the expert reviews on your application, if such reviews have been drafted.

1.5 HOW TO RECEIVE THE 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, after which



the system will notify the funding to the finance administration of the site of research, whereupon the funds will be made available for use.

The funds can be paid only after both the applicant and the representative of the site of research have accepted them as received.



Funding open for application in April 2016:

2 FUNDING FOR RESEARCH

2.1 CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME 2018–2025, CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTENT

Aim

The aim of the Academy of Finland's CoE programmes is to strengthen Finnish research by raising its level, contributing to its regeneration and promoting its societal impact.

The CoE programmes contribute to the renewal of science by supplying new research teams, topics, methods and approaches. Thanks to the long-term funding provided in collaboration with CoE host organisations, the funding instrument effectively works as an incentive for risk-taking and new initiatives in research. CoEs should help implement the research strategies of their host organisations. In addition, they should effectively use and develop research infrastructures.

A Centre of Excellence is a research community that is already at rather than striving for the international cutting edge of research in its field. CoEs may consist of one or more research teams working closely together under one joint research plan.

The Academy of Finland selects CoEs to be funded based on international reviews and science policy objectives. The CoE term is eight years. There are three primary review criteria: scientific quality of the research plan, contribution to science renewal, and scientific impact.

The CoE call is open to all scientific disciplines.

Read more about the CoE review criteria on our website under [Centres of Excellence](#).

Funding

The CoE funding is divided into two periods: a five-year period and a three-year period. The centres will go through a full scientific evaluation after the first four years. The evaluation will determine the funding levels for the last three years. The Academy may decide to cease funding entirely after the first five years, if the CoE has failed to achieve the objectives set in the research plan.

The funding covers the research costs of the CoE. The funding is a joint undertaking between the Academy of Finland and the CoE host organisations (i.e. universities and research institutes).

The Academy has yet to decide the total funding amount for the 2018–2025 CoE programme. The programme's funding budget will be decided by the Board of the Academy of Finland in November 2016. In the first three-year period of the previous CoE programme (2014–2019), the Academy funded 15 CoEs with a total of 45 million euros.



Funding period

The first funding period has been set at 1 January 2018–31 December 2022.

Appendices

In the first stage of the CoE call, the letters of intent must include the following appendices:

- **plan of intent** for 2018–2025, with particular focus on the first five years; no more than six pages
- **curricula vitae** for the CoE director and team leaders; no more than four pages each
- **lists of publications** for the CoE director and team leaders; list no more than ten of the most important publications for the project; the publication lists may include links to longer lists.

Append only the requested appendices to the application and make sure to draft them in line with the Academy's guidelines, see [Appendices required](#) and [Application process](#) on our website.

Also make sure not to exceed the maximum length of appendices. 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*.

Please note

In this call, the cost estimate in accordance with the full cost model is drafted in a different way than in other calls:

- *In the cost estimate in the online services*, enter only the funding applied for from the Academy and the funding that comes from the sites of research (for the five-year term 2018–2022). The Academy's contribution to funding comes to no more than 70%. *In the plan of intent*, describe the project's total budget for eight years and specify the funding contributions of all other funding bodies.

How to apply

This call has two stages. The non-negotiable deadline for letters of intent is 27 April 2016 at 16.15. Draft the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls* > **Centre of Excellence Programme 2018–2025, letters of intent**.

If the research teams work at different sites of research, the application must be submitted as a consortium application. If the applicant is a consortium, see detailed guidelines on our website under [Guidelines for consortium application](#). The consortium PI can submit the application only after all consortium subprojects have tagged their applications as completed. Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the first-stage deadline has expired.

The decisions on the first call stage will be made in November 2016. Those selected to the second stage will be asked to submit full applications in the Academy's online



services by 18 January 2017 at 16.15. The non-negotiable call deadline also applies to consortia.

The CoEs to be included in the 2018–2025 programme will be decided and announced in June 2017.

Contacts

- [Centres of Excellence](#) on our website
- Science Adviser Maiju Gyran (Planning and Management Support Unit), tel. +358 295 335 015
- Project Officer Ritva Helle (Planning and Management Support Unit), tel. +358 295 335 023
- Science Adviser Timo Sareneva (Biosciences and Environment Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 106
- Science Adviser Riitta Launonen (Culture and Society Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 059
- Science Adviser Maaria Lehtinen (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 061
- Science Adviser Heikki Vilen (Health Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 135

2.2 ACADEMY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED CALLS

2.2.1 BIOFUTURE2025 ACADEMY PROGRAMME, CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTENT

A biobased economy is evolving and strengthening alongside the fossil-fuelled economy. This shift has major implications for society and culture. The Academy of Finland's BioFuture2025 Academy Programme is aimed at supporting the creation of a new knowledge base and at promoting major scientific breakthroughs through new ways of doing science. The programme will seek out the best ideas, identify new opportunities and support research exploring new avenues for significant advances in the bioeconomy field. Ultimately, the aim is to bring Finnish research to the international forefront by providing funding for ambitious and even risk-taking new research initiatives. Applications are invited from scientifically high-quality and ambitious projects that make use of interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approaches.

Funding will be granted to projects that address the programme's objectives:

- increase understanding of the societal and environmental challenges flowing from the transition to a bioeconomy
- create a new knowledge base for the emergence of an economy founded on sustainable biobased solutions
- develop and strengthen multi- and interdisciplinary research collaboration and foster new ways of doing science in the field of bioeconomy research.
- strengthen Finland's position as a world leader in sustainable bioeconomy
- promote interaction and exchange between decision-makers in society, business and industry representatives, and citizens with a view to putting new knowledge to the best possible use
- pool existing research capacities by promoting research collaboration and improving infrastructure utilisation



- advance the international networking of Finnish bioeconomy research.

The BioFuture2025 Academy Programme has two research themes:

- Smart biomass and high-value-added products, production technologies and services as part of the circular economy
- Impact of societal changes, values, ethics and behaviour on the use of biobased natural resources.

Funding will not be provided for research into energy, synthetic biology and sustainable use of aquatic resources, since these themes are currently the focus of other Academy Programmes. The BioFuture2025 Academy Programme will not fund themes related to water supply either.

The contents and goals of the programme are described in more detail in the programme memorandum.

Who is eligible to apply?

The funding can be applied for by individual research projects and consortia composed of two or several research teams.

Funding

The programme will provide research projects with funding for up to four years, starting on 1 January 2017. The Academy Board has preliminarily set the programme's funding budget at 15 million euros. The final budget will be confirmed in April 2016. Additional calls may be opened at a later stage.

Programme memorandum

The programme memorandum contains more details on the programme's background, aims, thematic areas and review criteria. It is available on our website at www.aka.fi/biofuture2025 > EN. Carefully reading through the memorandum ensures that you are able to submit a competitive application.

How to apply

The BioFuture2025 Academy Programme has a two-stage call. The non-negotiable deadline for letters of intent is 27 April 2016 at 16.15. Draft the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls* > **BioFuture2025, call for letters of intent**.

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](#).

The cost estimate must be realistic and justified by type of expenditure in the research plan.



If the applicant is a consortium, see detailed guidelines on our website under [Guidelines for consortium application](#). In contrast to earlier practice, all consortium subprojects must submit their own letters of intent.

Based on the plans of intent, the Academy will decide in June 2016 which projects will proceed to the second stage. Those selected to the second stage will be asked to submit full applications in the Academy's online services by 1 September 2016 at 16.15. 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 completed their applications. Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the first-stage deadline has expired.

Appendices

The required appendices are listed in Appendix 1 B of the April 2016 call for applications.

Contacts

- Programme Manager Tuula Aarnio (Academy Programme Unit), tel. +358 295 335 146
- Programme Manager Risto Vilkkö (Academy Programme Unit), tel. +358 295 335 136
- www.aka.fi/biofuture2025 > EN

2.2.2 HEALTH FROM COHORTS AND BIOBANKS (COHORT) ACADEMY PROGRAMME, CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTENT

COHORT is an Academy Programme that provides funding to new types of investigator-driven research projects that fall outside the scope of current Academy of Finland funding schemes. The pilot programme provides funding for projects that have both *concrete short-term goals for research integration* and *longer-term goals that require commitment on the part of the host organisation and that will facilitate the continuity of integration*.

The programme has three main objectives:

- The aim is to create greater cohesiveness and synergy among researcher-driven, multidisciplinary consortia working with the same sets of cohorts. In this programme, 'birth cohort' refers to a group of people born at a particular time or over a particular period of time. The pilot programme will contribute to regenerating research and to facilitating new research by bringing together existing lines of inquiry and by integrating different methodological approaches.
- The programme will enhance the impact of research by promoting more efficient and diverse research uses of birth cohorts, which will help produce new, comprehensive and increasingly applicable information.

The funding in this programme differs from normal project funding by the Academy of Finland. Rather than awarding funding to projects built around new research hypotheses, the purpose is to facilitate the integration of projects with basic funding



already in place. It is therefore essential that the projects to be funded secure their basic funding for the entire duration of the COHORT period, either with some other Academy funding or with other external funding. In their research plans, the applicants must describe not only their integration activities but also how they have funded their basic research activities.

Who is eligible to apply?

The funding can be applied for by consortia composed of two or several research teams.

Funding

Funding will be awarded for up to four years, starting on 1 January 2017. Academy funding for a single consortium is a maximum of 800,000 euros.

The Academy Board has preliminarily set the programme's funding budget at five million euros. The final budget will be confirmed in April 2016.

Programme memorandum

The programme memorandum contains more details on the programme's background, aims, thematic areas and review criteria. The most important decision criterion at the first call stage is the innovativeness of proposals regarding the integration of cohort research to achieve significant research results.

The programme memorandum is available on our website at www.aka.fi/cohort.> EN. Carefully reading through the memorandum ensures that you are able to submit a competitive application.

How to apply

The COHORT Academy Programme has a two-stage call. The non-negotiable deadline for letters of intent is 27 April 2016 at 16.15. Draft the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls* > **COHORT 2016, call for letters of intent**.

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](#). In contrast to earlier practice, all consortium subprojects must submit their own letters of intent.

Based on the plans of intent, the Academy will decide which projects will proceed to the second stage. The decision will be made by late June 2016. Those selected to the second stage will be asked to submit full applications in the Academy's online services by 21 September 2016 at 16.15. The non-negotiable call deadline also applies to consortia. At the second stage, please note that consortium PIs can submit the consortium application only after all consortium subprojects have completed their



applications. Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the first-stage deadline has expired.

Appendices

The required appendices are listed in Appendix 1 B of the April 2016 call for applications.

Contacts

- Programme Manager Jukka Reivinen (Academy Programme Unit), tel. +358 295 335 099
- Programme Manager Mikko Ylikangas (Academy Programme Unit), tel. +358 295 335 143
- Project Officer Hilla Lempiäinen (Academy Programme Unit), tel. +358 295 335 095
- www.aka.fi/cohort > EN

2.2.3 INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR JOINT PROJECTS WITHIN THE NEW ENERGY ACADEMY PROGRAMME: INNO INDIGO

Within the framework of the INDIGO Partnership Programme, an EU-India S&T joint call for proposals on biobased energy will be launched in April 2016. The call has two themes:

- Biofuels
- From Waste to Energy.

Applicant consortia have to consist of at least three partners: two from different European countries participating in the call, and one from India.

The applicants must be eligible according to their respective national or regional regulations. Countries likely to participate in the call are: India, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Portugal and possibly Austria. The list is not definitive. Until the launch of the call, some countries might be added or removed.

The Academy of Finland has preliminary earmarked 1.2 million euros for the call. This sum will be used to fund Finnish partners in 3–4 projects. The Academy's final funding contribution will be confirmed in April 2016.

All call documentation is available on the Inno Indigo website. (The Academy of Finland will not participate in the simultaneous innovation-related call on bioeconomy.)

How to apply

Please note the nonstandard application procedure. The call will open in April 2016 and close in July. The principal project coordinator must submit the application using the Inno Indigo online service.



At this stage, applications will not be submitted to the Academy of Finland. However, in terms of Finnish applicants, the call follows the Academy's guidelines on the eligibility of applicants and the funding principles applied to Academy Project funding. Full costing is also applied. (Read more in the Academy's [September 2015 call for applications](#) under Academy Project funding.) The funding plan should clearly show the total costs of the Finnish partner as well as the funding to be applied for from the Academy. The Academy's funding contribution comes to no more than 70% of the project's total costs.

The Academy will make the decisions on the funding for Finnish projects that have been successful in the call by the end of 2016.

Contacts

- Programme Manager Tuomas Katajarinne (Academy Programme Unit), tel. +358 295 335 067
- Science Adviser Hannele Lahtinen (Academy Programme Unit), tel. +358 295 335 055

2.3 TARGETED CALLS

2.3.1 KEY PROJECT FUNDING: FORGING AHEAD WITH RESEARCH

Aim

The Academy of Finland's key project funding scheme (*Forging ahead with Research*) is aimed at further increasing the societal impact of research. The funding, granted within a 'key project' of the Finnish Government's Programme and its strategic objective for knowledge and education, is targeted at ongoing, high-quality research and at promoting extensive utilisation of the results of that research.

The funding can support researchers in pilot projects where they put research results to the test in practical situations, for instance. It can also be used to develop new operational models to satisfy the needs of business and industry, public administration and the nonprofit sector. Another goal of the funding scheme is to support international and cross-organisational researcher mobility as well as researchers' work in organisations that utilise research results. The idea is to boost knowledge and know-how by active interaction between research and the people who utilise the results of research. The open-themed call is open to all scientific disciplines.

The funding is especially geared towards early-career researchers whose projects have been highly rated in and funded through previously organised peer reviews by the Academy of Finland, equivalent foreign funding agencies or other international funders. The funding cannot, however, overlap with previously funded, ongoing research. Instead, the funding should support opportunities to utilise and make the most of previously funded research. The funding opportunity is especially geared towards early-career researchers and towards promoting their opportunities to conduct research and utilise research results. The total funding budget is 30 million euros.



The call is part of the Academy of Finland's collaboration with Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation, which is aimed at contributing to the implementation of the Government's key project. The key project is aimed at strengthening the cooperation between higher education institutions and business life to bring innovations to the market. More information on Tekes' own key project activities is available on Tekes' website.

Who is eligible to apply?

The funding can be applied for by principal investigators of projects that have been or are running between 1 January 2015 and 27 April 2016.

Provided that the above requirement is met, the funding can be applied for by the following researchers:

1. Academy-funded Academy Research Fellows or Postdoctoral Researchers (regardless of the issue date of the doctoral degree certificate)

or

2. Researchers with no more than 14 years since PhD completion (latest degree; degree certificate issued between 27 Apr 2002 and 27 Apr 2016) and who meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - 2.1 Project PI or consortium subproject PI with funding from one the following Academy-funded or Academy-reviewed funding schemes:
 - Academy Project funding, targeted Academy Project funding and project within Academy Programme
 - funding for research post as Academy Professor
 - Centre of Excellence funding
 - funding by the Strategic Research Council
 - international project funding (excl. mobility grants)
 - funding for development research
 - funding for clinical researchers
 - funding for sport sciences
 - 2.2 Project PI, coordinator or subproject PI with a project reviewed and funded under EU Framework Programmes (FP7 or Horizon 2020)
 - 2.3 Project PI with internationally peer-reviewed project funding awarded by a foreign or international public funding agency (e.g. ERC, NIH or Swedish Research Council)

The Academy of Finland's funding is granted to Finnish sites of research.

Consortia cannot apply for funding in this call. Applicants can only submit one application to this call. If a researcher submits more than one application in the capacity of principal investigator, we will only review the first application to arrive.

Funding



The total funding budget for this call is some 30 million euros.

In this funding scheme, in contrast to other Academy funding schemes, the Academy's funding contribution comes to 100%. The funding is granted under the full cost model, but host organisations need not contribute to the costs with their own percentage.

The funding, granted for two-year projects, will amount to a maximum of 300,000 euros per project. The funding period is 1 October 2016–30 September 2018.

In accordance with the Government's draft budget, the research utilisation funded under the key project funding scheme should primarily be carried out in 2018.

Applicants must draft their cost estimates as follows: 7% of the total project costs must be realised during 1 October–31 December 2016, 27% during 1 January–31 December 2017 and 66% during 1 January–30 September 2018.

The annual instalments are based on strict terms stated in the Government's draft budget concerning the Academy of Finland's key project funding.

What does the funding cover?

The funding is granted under the Academy of Finland's general funding conditions supplemented with exceptions and specifications specific to this call.

In addition to the activities mentioned above (under Aim), the funding can be applied for to cover the following costs (provided that they will not arise from economic activity):

- PI's salary; the salary cannot overlap with other salary paid from funding by the Academy of Finland
- impact and interaction activities, such as development of new operational methods for research utilisation
- making research data freely available
- market or patent surveys, other equivalent proof-of-concept activities, experimentation and pilot projects
- commercialisation preparation (not actual commercialisation or commercialisation activities that will benefit only one company).

According to the Academy of Finland's general conditions for funding, the key project funding cannot be used for economic activity. Economic activity is defined as all activity where goods or services are offered on an open market regardless of whether profits are pursued or generated.

The results of the funded projects must be made public upon project completion and the funding recipient must make sure that the results are disseminated actively and widely according to nondiscriminatory policy.

Sales and marketing costs or costs of setting up a business company do not count as eligible costs. Protection of IPRs is not an eligible cost either.



Review and funding decisions

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

The review process and criteria are described in more detail in Appendix 2 C of the April 2016 call for applications. The funding decisions will be made by a subcommittee appointed by the Academy Board. In its decision-making, the subcommittee will take into consideration science policy objectives such as supporting early-career researchers.

The funding decisions will be made in September 2016.

Reporting

The projects must collect extensive data on their research and on the promotion of research utilisation during the funding period. The data can consist of indicators, portfolios and impact stories, for instance. The Academy will monitor the progress of the funded projects during the funding period. Upon completion in 2018, the projects must submit research reports to the Academy. The projects will be incorporated into the Academy's audit programme.

Appendices

Append only the requested appendices to the application and make sure to draft them in line with the Academy's guidelines. The guidelines on appendices and the research and utilisation plan are available in Appendices 2 A and 2 B of the April 2016 call for applications.

All other appendices are drafted following [the Academy's general guidelines for appendices](#).

How to apply

The non-negotiable deadline is 27 April 2016 at 16.15. Draft the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select Open calls > **Key project funding "Forging ahead with research"**.

Because of the terms stated in the State Budget, applicants must draft their cost estimates as follows: 7% of the total project costs must be realised during 1 October–31 December 2016, 27% during 1 January–31 December 2017 and 66% during 1 January–30 September 2018.

Contacts

- Science Adviser Erja Hänninen (Strategic Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 153
Science Adviser Tiina Jokela (Strategic Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 046
Senior Science Adviser Jaana Roos (Academy Programme Unit), tel. +358 295 335 151
- www.aka.fi/keyproject



2.3.2 ANTARCTIC RESEARCH

Aim

The Academy of Finland has decided to open a targeted call within Antarctic research. The aim is to generate internationally significant new breakthroughs in Antarctic research. The call will be targeted at all relevant areas of Antarctic research. The research may be global or circumpolar, focusing on both Polar Regions, but it must be research that cannot be conducted without Antarctic data. In accordance with [Finland's Antarctic Research Strategy](#) (2014), the funding will support interactive and multidisciplinary research.

Finland joined the Antarctic Treaty in 1984 and established the Aboa research station in 1988. Finland is a consultative member of the Antarctic Treaty, which requires significant scientific research activities in Antarctica. With this funding opportunity, the Academy of Finland contributes to the funding of Antarctic research projects.

The Academy's general review criteria are applied in the review of applications. In addition, the funding decisions will take into account how well the proposed project supports Finland's Antarctic Research Strategy and how feasible the project is in terms of logistics (see Special terms below). These factors will be analysed in cooperation with the Coordination Committee for Antarctic Research appointed by the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and the Finnish Antarctic Research Programme FINNARP, which operates under the Finnish Meteorological Institute.

Special terms

Only projects that involve international collaboration are eligible to receive funding. The collaboration must be described in the research plan and a statement by the foreign partner must be appended to the application.

If the project involves fieldwork in Antarctica, you must include a tentative *fieldwork plan* in your research plan. When drafting the fieldwork plan, get in touch with Antarctic Logistics at the Finnish Meteorological Institute to explore the possibilities to implement the project logistically. As a rule, Antarctic Logistics is responsible for the travel costs to Aboa and for transports from there to fieldwork sites. If the research requires work at a station of some other country or from a research vessel, such arrangements are normally taken care of by Antarctic Logistics.

In accordance with the Finnish Act on the Environmental Protection of Antarctica, research activities in Antarctica require a permit. The permit is issued by the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment of Lapland. Antarctic Logistics is responsible for acquiring this permit on the basis of information it has received from the projects. If the project works from a foreign research vessel or station, the principal investigator must make sure that the vessel or station operator has acquired a permit from a competent authority in accordance with the Antarctic Treaty.

Funding



The Academy is prepared to fund Antarctic research projects with a total of two million euros.

Funding period

The funding period is 1 January 2017–31 December 2020.

Appendices

The required appendices are listed in Appendix 1 A of the April 2016 call for applications.

The research plan must include a tentative fieldwork plan (see Special terms above). The application must also include the following appendices:

- statement by the foreign partner confirming the collaboration described in the research plan and the commitment by the partner (e.g. description of the partner's own funding)
- curriculum vitae for the foreign partner
- list of publications by the foreign partner
- invitation by any third party (foreign university, research institute or Antarctic programme), if the work or part of it will be conducted on a foreign research station or vessel.

How to apply

The non-negotiable deadline for applications is 27 April 2016 at 16.15. The deadline also applies to consortia. Draft the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls* > **Antarctic research**.

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](#). Please note that consortium PIs can submit the consortium application only after all consortium subprojects have completed their applications. The non-negotiable call deadline also applies to consortia. Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the deadline has expired.

Contacts

- Science Adviser Hanna Katriina Pikkarainen (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 079
- Senior Science Adviser Jussi Lindström (Biosciences and Environment Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 065
- Science Adviser Elina Pajula (Health Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 103
- Senior Science Adviser Päivi Messo (Culture and Society Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 074
- Manager Mika Kalakoski (Finnish Meteorological Institute, Antarctic Logistics), tel. +358 295 396 457, [mika.kalakoski\(at\)fmi.fi](mailto:mika.kalakoski@fmi.fi)



2.3.3 ICT 2023 PROGRAMME: SIXTH THEMATIC CALL, AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS AND THE AUGMENTED HUMAN

The Academy of Finland and Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation, 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 broad-based application of ICT through collaboration between universities, research institutes, business companies and funding agencies. The programme is based on the report *21 Paths to a Frictionless Finland* by the ICT 2015 Working Group.

The Academy and Tekes have agreed to open parallel calls under the programme's themes. The main theme of the sixth thematic call is **Autonomous systems and the augmented human**.

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. Tekes will launch a parallel call for business companies under the same theme and with the same deadline. More information on that call is available on Tekes' website.

Besides scientific quality, the review of applications will focus on the following aspects:

- international cooperation
- business collaboration
- cross-sectoral mobility by leading-edge researchers
- use of universities' and research institutes' own resources to carry out research.

Who is eligible to apply?

Academy funding can be applied for by individual research projects and consortia composed of two or several research teams. Applicants can submit only one application to this call.

Funding period

The funding is granted for two years. As a rule, the funding period will start on 1 January 2017. The Academy's preliminary funding budget is a total of five million euros.

Memorandum

The memorandum of the thematic call contains more detailed information on the call's backgrounds, aims, thematic areas and review criteria. The memorandum will be available on our website at www.aka.fi/ict2023 > EN by the launch of the call at the latest. Carefully reading through the memorandum ensures that you are able to submit a competitive application.



Appendices

The required appendices are listed in Appendix 1 A of the April 2016 call for applications. In addition, applicants must append to their application a collaboration plan if the project involves collaboration with companies. See the memorandum for guidelines on how to draft the collaboration plan.

How to apply

This call is a single-stage call. The non-negotiable deadline is 27 April 2016 at 16.15. Draft the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls* > **ICT 2023: Autonomous systems and the augmented human**.

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](#). Please note that consortium PIs can submit the consortium application only after all consortium subprojects have completed their applications. The non-negotiable call deadline also applies to consortia. Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the deadline has expired. If the consortium includes business companies, see the specific guidelines in the call memorandum.

Contacts

- Senior Science Adviser Juha Latikka (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 058
- www.aka.fi/ict2023 > EN



3. FUNDING FOR RESEARCHERS

3.1 FUNDING TO NSF GRADUATE FELLOWS FOR RESEARCH IN FINLAND

Aim

The US National Science Foundation (NSF) awards Graduate Research Fellow (GRF) grants to talented US researchers working on their doctoral thesis for research spells in Finland or some other country included in the Graduate Research Opportunities Worldwide (GROW) programme. The NSF and the Academy of Finland have agreed that Graduate Research Fellows can come to work on a research team of an Academy-funded Centre of Excellence, an Academy Professor or an Academy Research Fellow. Funding can be applied for from the Academy for grants to be paid to Graduate Research Fellows coming to Finland.

Who is eligible to apply?

The funding is applied for by the Academy Professor, the Academy Research Fellow or the Centre of Excellence receiving the Graduate Research Fellow.

Funding

The funding comes to a maximum of 1,700 euros a month. The site of research will allocate the funding as a grant to cover the Graduate Research Fellow's accommodation and other living costs in Finland.

Funding period

The funding period will start between 1 June and 1 December 2016. Grants can be awarded for a maximum of twelve months over a two-year period. The funding decisions will be made in May 2016.

Appendices

- invitation by the host to the Graduate Research Fellow
- curriculum vitae for the Graduate Research Fellow
- GRF research plan jointly drafted by the Graduate Research Fellow and the Finnish host

How to apply

The funding does not include any overheads. The non-negotiable deadline is 27 April 2016 at 16.15. Draft the application in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls* > **NSF Graduate Research Fellows**.

Contacts

- Coordinator Kristiina Helansuo (Culture and Society Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 022
- Senior Science Adviser Tiina Jokela (Strategic Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 046



4. FUNDING FOR RESEARCH ENVIRONMENTS

4.1 FIRI 2016 CALL FOR RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

Aim

The Academy of Finland provides funding for the acquisition, establishment or strengthening of nationally significant research infrastructures that promote scientific research. Research infrastructures refer to a reserve of research facilities, equipment, data and services enabling research and development, promoting research collaboration and reinforcing research and innovation capacity. Research infrastructures may be based at a single location (single-sited), scattered across numerous sites and organisations (distributed), or provided via a virtual platform (virtual).

Research infrastructure projects applying for funding must meet the criteria set for nationally significant research infrastructures. The criteria are available in [Finland's Strategy and Roadmap for Research Infrastructures 2014–2020](#).

The aim of the Academy's research infrastructure call is to upgrade the quality and improve the renewal, competitiveness and interdisciplinary approach of Finnish research. Another aim is to increase the appeal of Finnish research environments and boost the national and international collaboration of Finnish universities, research teams and researchers. The aim is also to support researcher training and the creation and application of scientific knowledge and intellectual capital. Funding needs arising from memberships in national and international research infrastructures (e.g. membership fees) will also be taken into account in the call.

In April 2016, the Academy will open three FIRI calls targeted at different groups of research infrastructures:

- 1. Call for invited applicants: research infrastructures where Finland is a member state**
- 2. Call for research infrastructures included in Finland's research infrastructure roadmap**
- 3. Call for new research infrastructure initiatives and/or non-roadmap infrastructures**

Each of these calls has specific guidelines concerning eligibility, funding and funding period. See pages 33–34 of the Academy of Finland's April 2016 call for applications for the guidelines on the review, appendices and submission.

The Academy will not open calls for roadmap infrastructures or new infrastructure initiatives in 2017. The next call will open in April 2018. In 2017–2018, the costs related to state memberships will be funded on a case-by-case basis, if necessary.

Funding

The applicant is a university or some other research organisation. Joint projects of several organisations must have one responsible party; the mutual responsibilities of the parties as regards activities and financial matters are presented in the joint action plan.

The funding is primarily allocated to investment costs (acquisition of equipment and systems and creation of services) at the construction phase and to significant



upgrading of existing infrastructures. The equipment must be incorporated into an existing or upcoming national or international research infrastructure that is open to use by the scientific community. Permanent operating expenses should mainly be covered by funding from the host organisations. Funding for salary costs is granted only in special cases, however, taking into account research-field-specific differences. The costs must be justified in the application. The Academy does not fund operating costs of research infrastructures.

In multi-site joint projects, the parties must conclude a written agreement on the use, ownership and location of the research infrastructure, even for the time after the funding period.

Any infrastructure acquired with Academy funding will remain in the ownership and possession of the site of research. The parties can, however, mutually agree in writing on other arrangements. The Academy must be notified of such agreements at the application stage.

The Academy's funding contribution comes to no more than 70% of the total costs of the acquisition, establishment or strengthening of a research infrastructure. No advances are paid from infrastructure funding.

If applicants have ongoing Academy funding for research infrastructures, they can be granted funding for the same infrastructure only for very special reasons. The need for concurrent funding must be justified in the action plan.

Funding and funding period

Call 1: Targeted call for invited applicants

Call 1 under the FIRI 2016 call provides funding for coordination activities within ESFRI research infrastructures.

The funding period will start on 1 January 2017 at the earliest. It ends no later than at the end of the first five-year term of the membership agreement of each research infrastructure.

Calls 2 and 3: Roadmap research infrastructures and new initiatives

The Academy is prepared to fund research infrastructures included in Finland's roadmap (Call 2) and new research infrastructure initiatives (Call 3) with a total of some 28 million euros.

The recommended minimum limit for the Academy's contribution in an individual application is 400,000 euros. Correspondingly, the recommended minimum limit for the Academy's contribution to a consortium subproject is 200,000 euros and 600,000 euros in the case of the whole consortium.

Funding is available for the activities mentioned under section Funding above.

The funding period (Call 2) will start on 1 January 2017 at the earliest and end no later than 31 December 2021.



The funding period for Call 3 will start on 1 January 2017 at the earliest and end no later than 31 December 2019.

1. Call for invited applicants: research infrastructures where Finland is a member state

ESFRI (European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures) is a strategic forum established by the European Commission and EU Member States with a view to improving cross-border research integration and competitiveness in Europe. Large-scale, multinational research infrastructures are complex structures and their administration is challenging. To harmonise judicial practices, ESFRI has established various legal frameworks for research infrastructures, such as ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium).

Research infrastructure membership agreements entail economic obligations for each member country. The adoption of treaties and committing to them for five years, as a rule, requires careful consideration from the participating countries.

The Academy of Finland's call for research infrastructures where Finland is a member state is targeted at those ESFRI research infrastructures on which the Finnish Research Infrastructure Committee has:

- made a binding decision on membership/hosting preparations, or
- issued a recommendation on membership to the appropriate ministry.

The funding is intended to cover the coordination costs relating to membership obligations.

Who is eligible to apply?

This call is for invited applicants only. Applications may be submitted by host organisations for the Finnish coordination of ESFRI research infrastructures. The Academy will notify eligible organisations by the end of March 2016.

2. Call for research infrastructures included in Finland's research infrastructure roadmap

[Finland's roadmap for national research infrastructures](#) is a plan for key research infrastructures in Finland under development over the next 10–15 years. The plan also concerns a major upgrade of existing research infrastructures. The 2014–2020 roadmap contains 31 research infrastructures. There are a set of key criteria for inclusion in the roadmap: the importance to the Finnish scientific community and to the research strategies of host organisations, the scope of the user community, the need for funding, and the long-term commitment by funding bodies. When making funding decisions related to roadmap research infrastructures, the Academy of Finland takes into account infrastructure development needs.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applications may be submitted by those host organisations of research infrastructures that are mentioned in Table 3 (p. 14) and Table 5 (p. 18) of Finland's roadmap.



3. Call for new research infrastructure initiatives and/or non-roadmap infrastructures

A high-quality, state-of-the-art research infrastructure is an absolute requirement for cutting-edge research. The systematic development of research infrastructures and the launching of new initiatives are of crucial importance to the advancement of science in all disciplines.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applications can be submitted by host organisations of research infrastructures.

Review of applications, how to apply and guidelines on appendices

How applications are reviewed

In deciding on research infrastructure funding, the Academy of Finland will (in addition to its general funding principles) take into account the following:

- national and international scientific significance and added value of the research infrastructure
- the project's links to the research strategy of the host organisation/s and the commitment by the organisation/s to the project
- links to projects that have been presented in [Finland's strategy and roadmap 2014–2020](#) or [ESFRI's 2016 strategy report on research infrastructures](#)
- openness in the use of the infrastructure.

Attention will also be paid to the following:

- systematic and broad utilisation of the infrastructure
- quality and scope of potential user community
- technological and other advancement of the infrastructure
- economic capacity and stability of the infrastructure during its lifespan.

In the call for research infrastructures where Finland is a member state (invited applicants only), focus will also be on:

- significance of the membership to Finnish science
- significance of the membership to the internationalisation of Finnish science.

How to apply

Please note the nonstandard call schedule. The non-negotiable deadline for applications is **16 May 2016 at 16.15**. The deadline also applies to consortia. Draft the applications in [the Academy's online services](#). Select *Open calls* >

- **FIRI 2016: State membership infrastructures**
- **FIRI 2016: Finland's roadmap infrastructures**
- **FIRI 2016: new infrastructure initiatives, non-roadmap infrastructures**

Please make sure you select the correct call.



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](#). Please note that consortium PIs can submit the consortium application only after all consortium subprojects have completed their applications. The non-negotiable call deadline also applies to consortia. Consortium compositions cannot be changed after the deadline has expired.

Please note: In the FIRI 2016 call, a 'consortium' refers only to those research infrastructure subprojects that are applying for funding in the call. Other possible networks of the research infrastructure are described in the action plan and on the online application under *Partners*.

Appendices

Obligatory appendices:

- [action plan](#), no more than 15 pages; in the calls for roadmap infrastructures and new initiatives, the plan must also include a plan for the acquisition of equipment curriculum vitae for the PI (coordinator) of the project, no more than four pages
- list of publications by the PI (coordinator) of the project
- progress report on all Academy-funded research projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports
- prioritisation list: in the calls for roadmap infrastructures and new initiatives, the university or research institute must prioritise its applicant infrastructures in order of preference; the list is provided either with this appendix at the application stage or with a separate, updated appendix after the applications have been submitted.

Case-specific appendices:

- statement by an ethics committee or the Committee on Animal Experimentation; the ethical aspects must always be specified in the research plan

Contacts

- Senior Science Adviser Merja Särkioja (Planning and Management Support Unit), tel. +358 295 335 111
- Project Officer Ritva Helle (Planning and Management Support Unit), tel. +358 295 335 023
- www.aka.fi/en > Research & science policy > Research infrastructures

4.2 SRC MATCHING FUNDS FOR HORIZON 2020 (OPEN-ENDED)

The Strategic Research Council (SRC) at the Academy of Finland grants national matching funds to research organisations for projects that have received funding under the Societal Challenges priority of Horizon 2020, the EU 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.



In 2016, the SRC's matching funds budget has been set at some four million euros.

SRC matching funds can be applied for by sites of research. The application deadline is open-ended. The minimum amount to be applied for is 10,000 euros.

The SRC will make the funding decisions on 13 June and 12 December 2016. In June 2016, the SRC will decide on all applications that have been submitted by 31 May. Applications submitted by 30 November will be decided on in December 2016. The matching funds are granted according to a reimbursement rate decided by the SRC.

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

Contacts

- Senior Science Adviser Kyösti Lempa (Strategic Research Unit), tel. +358 295 335 144
- Finance Manager Sirpa Nummila (Finance Unit), tel. +358 295 335 081



APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 A: APPENDICES TO APPLICATION

The appendices listed below are required when an application concerns the following funding opportunities:

- Academy Project funding
- targeted Academy Project funding
- funding for research posts as Academy Research Fellow or Postdoctoral Researcher
- funding for clinical researchers
- Academy Programmes (second application stage)
- funding for research post as Academy Professor (second application stage).

In targeted Academy Project funding, other appendices may also be requested. These guidelines do not apply to calls by the Strategic Research Council.

Append only the requested appendices to the application and make sure to draft them in line with the Academy's guidelines, see [Appendices required](#) on our website. Also make sure not to exceed the maximum length of appendices.

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*.

1. Research post or individual project applications

Obligatory appendices:

- research plan, no more than twelve pages
- CV for the applicant, no more than four pages (recommendation)
- list of publications by the applicant; clearly indicate the ten most important publications for the research plan
- Finnish degree certificate or English-language degree certificate of a doctoral degree obtained abroad (only in applications for funding for research posts as Academy Research Fellow or Postdoctoral Researcher)

Case-specific appendices:

- invitation by foreign university or research institute, if the research or part of it will be conducted abroad
- statement by an ethics committee or the Committee on Animal Experimentation; the ethical aspects must always be specified in the research plan
- progress report on all Academy-funded research projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports

2. Consortium applications

All consortium parties (consortium PI and subproject PIs) will draft their own applications, applying for funding only for their own research teams.



The various parts of the consortium application will be combined into a single consortium (created by the consortium PI) in the Academy's online services.

Appendices:

The consortium PI must append the following appendices to their application:

- research plan for the consortium, [drafted in line with Academy guidelines](#), no more than 15 pages
- statement by an ethics committee or the Committee on Animal Experimentation (if needed in a consortium subproject); the ethical aspects must always be specified in the research plan

The consortium PI and the subproject PIs will append the following appendices to their own applications, as necessary:

Obligatory appendices:

- CV for the applicant, no more than four pages (recommendation)
- list of publications by the applicant; for each subproject PI, clearly indicate the ten most important publications for the application

Case-specific appendices:

- progress report on all Academy-funded research projects for which the applicant has not submitted final reports
- invitation by foreign university or research institute, if the research or part of it will be conducted abroad; if necessary, several invitations combined into the same appendix

For detailed guidelines, see [Guidelines for consortium application](#) on our website.



APPENDIX 1 B: APPENDICES TO LETTER OF INTENT

The appendices listed below are required when an application is submitted for the first stage of two-stage calls:

- funding for research post as Academy Professor (first application stage)
- Academy Programmes (first application stage).

Append only the requested appendices to the application and make sure to draft them in line with the Academy's guidelines, see [Appendices required](#) on our website. Also make sure not to exceed the maximum length of appendices. 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*.

1. Letter of intent by Academy Professor applicant or by principal investigator of individual project in an Academy programme

- plan of intent, no more than four pages
- curriculum vitae for PI, no more than four pages (recommendation)
- list of publications by PI; clearly indicate the ten most important publications for the research plan

2. Letter of intent by Academy Programme consortium or CoE programme consortium

All consortium parties (consortium PI and subproject PIs) will draft their own applications, applying for funding only for their own research teams. The various parts of the consortium application will be combined into a single consortium (created by the consortium PI) in the Academy's online services.

A consortium has one joint appendix to be appended to the consortium PI's application:

- joint plan of intent for the consortium, no more than six pages

The consortium PI and the subproject PIs will append the following obligatory appendices to their own applications:

- CV for the applicant, no more than four pages (recommendation)
- list of publications by the applicant; for each subproject PI, clearly indicate the ten most important publications for the consortium

For detailed guidelines, see [Guidelines for consortium application](#) on our website.



APPENDIX 1 C: APPENDICES IN INTERNATIONAL CALLS FOR JOINT PROJECTS

When an application is submitted within an international call for joint projects (which includes collaboration between Finnish and foreign research teams), it must include the appendices listed below. Here, a Finnish research team refers to a team based at a Finnish site of research.

Append only the requested appendices to the application and make sure to draft them in line with the Academy's guidelines, see [Appendices required](#) on our website. Also make sure not to exceed the maximum length of appendices. Draft the appendices in English and append them to the application in the online services under *Appendices*. The only exception is the Finnish PI's curriculum vitae, which is appended under *Personal data/CV*.

In some international calls, we may also request other appendices, or the content of the requested appendices may differ from that indicated in the guidelines below. Any exceptions are mentioned in the call text under *Appendices*.

1. Application by a foreign research team and a Finnish research team

Obligatory appendices:

- research plan, no more than 15 pages, including:
 - a clear description of the proposed research and research collaboration (distribution of work and methods of implementation) and the added value to be expected from the collaboration
 - a joint budget, including separate budgets for both parties
 - a justification for the funding applied for
 - a description of any researcher training to be carried out within the project
 - a mobility plan detailing the project's national and international mobility plans during the funding period; describing the involvement of foreign researchers in the project; and explaining other ways in which the project transcends international, national, institutional and public/private sector boundaries
- curricula vitae for the Finnish applicant and the foreign partner; the CV for the Finnish applicant (no more than four pages) is appended under *Personal data/CV*
- lists of publications by the Finnish applicant and the foreign partner; in both lists, clearly indicate the ten most important publications for the research plan

Case-specific appendices:

- invitation by foreign university or research institute, if the research or part of it will be conducted abroad
- statement by an ethics committee or the Committee on Animal Experimentation; the ethical aspects must always be specified in the research plan
- progress report on all Academy-funded research projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports
- any other appendices indicated in the call text under *Appendices*

2. Application by a foreign research team AND a consortium of two or several Finnish research teams



In international calls for joint projects, applicants can consider submitting a consortium application only if their research team working in Finland, **in addition to** a foreign partner, has close collaboration with at least one other team working in Finland. As a rule, the Academy of Finland funds research at Finnish sites of research, while the foreign funding agency funds research in its own country. In principle, foreign applicants are not regarded as consortium parties but as partners, who will submit their own application to the agency in their own country.

For detailed guidelines, see [Guidelines for consortium application](#) on our website.

In addition, the following guidelines are applied to **consortium applications in international calls**:

Consortium PIs also append to their application **the curriculum vitae for and the list of publications by the foreign applicant**. Foreign applicants must clearly indicate the ten most important publications for the research plan. Foreign parties will not submit subproject applications.

The research plan must include **both a joint cost estimate for the project and separate cost estimates for all parties**.



APPENDIX 2 A: APPENDICES TO APPLICATION FOR KEY PROJECT FUNDING

Obligatory appendices:

- research and utilisation plan, no more than *ten pages* in total
- CV for the applicant, no more than *four pages*
- list of publications by the applicant; clearly indicate only *the ten most important publications for the project*; the list may include links to longer publication lists

Case-specific appendices:

- letter of commitment, by which the organisation utilising the research results confirms its commitment to the project
- funding decision by foreign or international funder, no more than ten pages
- statement by an ethics committee; the ethical aspects must always be specified in the plan
- invitation by foreign university or research institute, if part of the work will be conducted abroad in the form of researcher mobility

Make sure not to exceed the maximum length of appendices. 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*.



APPENDIX 2 B: RESEARCH AND UTILISATION PLAN IN APPLICATION FOR KEY PROJECT FUNDING

To ensure the uniformity and quality of reviews, applications must be comparable and follow the structure defined for research and utilisation plans (see below). The research and utilisation plan must not exceed ten pages.

The plan must describe the project's objectives for the two-year funding period 1 October 2016–20 September 2018. It must also detail an action plan where most of the work will be carried out during 2018.

The research and utilisation plan will be reviewed by international experts and must include the following information:

- 1 Principal investigator of project, site of research, project title
- 2 Project summary
 - brief summary (or abstract) describing the idea behind the plan and how it matches the objectives of the call, including how the research and utilisation will be promoted and what results are expected
 - research promotion, promotion of research utilisation and expected results
- 3 Brief description of the project on which the application is based; the project must be headed by the applicant and funded by the Academy of Finland or an equivalent foreign/international funding agency
 - project, funding agency, funding period
 - the results on which the proposed utilisation is based
- 4 Objectives for research and research utilisation
 - societal, social, economic and/or scientific objectives, for instance
- 5 Implementation
 - collaborative partners, partners in terms of utilisation
 - key measures (e.g. experimentation, pilot projects) in terms of the research, the mobilisation of results and the utilisation of research
 - utilisation methods, impact mechanisms and processes, incl. interaction plan
 - plan for researcher mobility
 - description of how the research organisation will support the promotion of research utilisation
 - description of agreement procedure for IPRs
- 6 Expected results and impact
 - results and impacts to be expected from research utilisation
 - possible scientific results
- 7 Cost estimate
 - cost estimate (incl. justifications) for the funding period 1 Oct 2016–30 Sep 2018
 - draft the cost estimate as follows: 7% of the total project costs for the two-year period must be realised during 1 October–31 December 2016, 27% during 1 January–31 December 2017 and 66% during 1 January–30 September 2018.
- 8 Research ethics
 - description of ethical issues (e.g. ethical governance procedures, informed consent, anonymity of subjects) concerning the chosen topic, methods and data, as well as any research permits or information on pending permit applications
- 9 Key literature or bibliography



APPENDIX 2 C: REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS FOR KEY PROJECT FUNDING

Applications will be reviewed in panels consisting of both Finnish and foreign experts in science and the further utilisation of research results. The panels will draft a review report on and give a rating for each application. A subcommittee appointed by the Board of the Academy of Finland will make the funding decisions taking into consideration the panel reports.

Applications will be reviewed under the following criteria:

- utilisation potential and 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 research utilisation.



APPENDIX 3: CALCULATION OF SUPPORT TO INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHER MOBILITY 2015–2016

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 3 A of the April 2016 call for applications)
 - **as grants** to non-EU researchers coming to Finland on employment contracts shorter than a year (see Appendix 3 B of the April 2016 call for applications)
- with our funding opportunity [International researcher mobility based on bilateral agreements](#) as research grants or personal grants (see Appendices 3 B and 3 C of the April 2016 call for applications).

APPENDIX 3 A: CALCULATION OF MOBILITY ALLOWANCE IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

The mobility allowance, applied for as a research cost, *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 dependants: €1,050/month

researchers with dependants: €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, research programmes and research posts). The recommended amount should be enough to cover the costs of higher living expenses from living abroad.

The allowance is applied for in the online services under *Other costs*. Travel 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 3 B: CALCULATION OF GRANTS TO FOREIGN RESEARCHERS WORKING IN FINLAND

This table is used both for applications for funding of research costs of projects and researchers 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. While working in Finland, they must have an employment relationship. Grants are applied for in the Academy's online services 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*.

The grants awarded 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 3 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 personal grants are 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 for applications.**

Country or region	Researchers without any grant or salary, €/month	Researchers with grant or partial salary, €/month	Researchers with full salary, €/month
China	2,300	1,600–2,000	1,000–1,400
Germany	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
Russia (Moscow)	2,800	1,900–2,500	1,300–1,700
Russia (other)	2,000	1,200–1,700	1,000–1,200
South Africa	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
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 minor dependants
- 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 living costs in the target country. Funding can also be applied for to cover travel costs (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 full cost model is not applied to this funding. Depending on the agreement, the funding is paid either as a grant directly to the researcher's own bank account, or as a research grant via the financial administration of the site of research.

The grants awarded 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 4: OPEN SCIENCE – OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING AND OPEN DATA

One of the Academy of Finland's science policy objectives is to promote open science. The Academy is also committed to promoting the practices outlined in [the Open Science and Research Roadmap 2014–2017](#) and to considering open science promotion in providing funding for research projects.

We require that Academy-funded projects are committed to open access publishing. We also urge projects to make their research data and methods freely available. The goal is to make research publications, data and material, metadata and methods widely available for further use. If researchers follow the principles of open science, they must do so with due consideration of research ethics and the judicial environment.

Open access publishing

The Academy of Finland is keen to stress the importance of quality in scientific publishing. We require that Academy-funded researchers make sure that publications produced with Academy funding are made openly available, where possible, by storing *parallel copies* in machine-readable formats in suitable repositories or databases. The publications should be available free of charge.

Articles can also be published in open access publication series, whereby the publisher is responsible for making the articles openly available. We recommend that researchers publish articles following either green or gold open access.

Green open access means that researchers publish their articles in traditional subscription-based scientific journals and deposit parallel copies in online open access repositories. The Academy does allow for an embargo period following the practices of international funders. The embargo is no more than six months, except in the humanities and social sciences where it is no more than twelve months¹.

Gold open access means that a publication is immediately provided in open access mode by the scientific publisher. In this case, the publisher may charge an open access fee (article processing charge). This fee may be included in the research costs of the project. A parallel copy of the article should also be deposited in an open access repository.

The Academy does not recommend that researchers publish their work in *hybrid* open access journals. Hybrid journals may charge both an open access fee and a subscription fee.

Academy funding is also available for research costs arising from publishing of research results. This funding is applied for on the online form under *Funding for the project/Services* and justified in the research plan.

Open data

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. The plan should describe the following:

¹ [European Commission background note on open access to publications and data in Horizon 2020](#)



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- how the project proposes to obtain and use its research data
 - how the rights of ownership and usage to the data used and generated by the project are distributed
 - how the data produced will be stored and subsequently made available
 - how the data will be made available to other researchers both during the project and after the project has ended.

We recommend that principal investigators of Academy-funded research projects also store their research data and make them available through major national or international archives or storage services that are important in their own fields, such as:

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

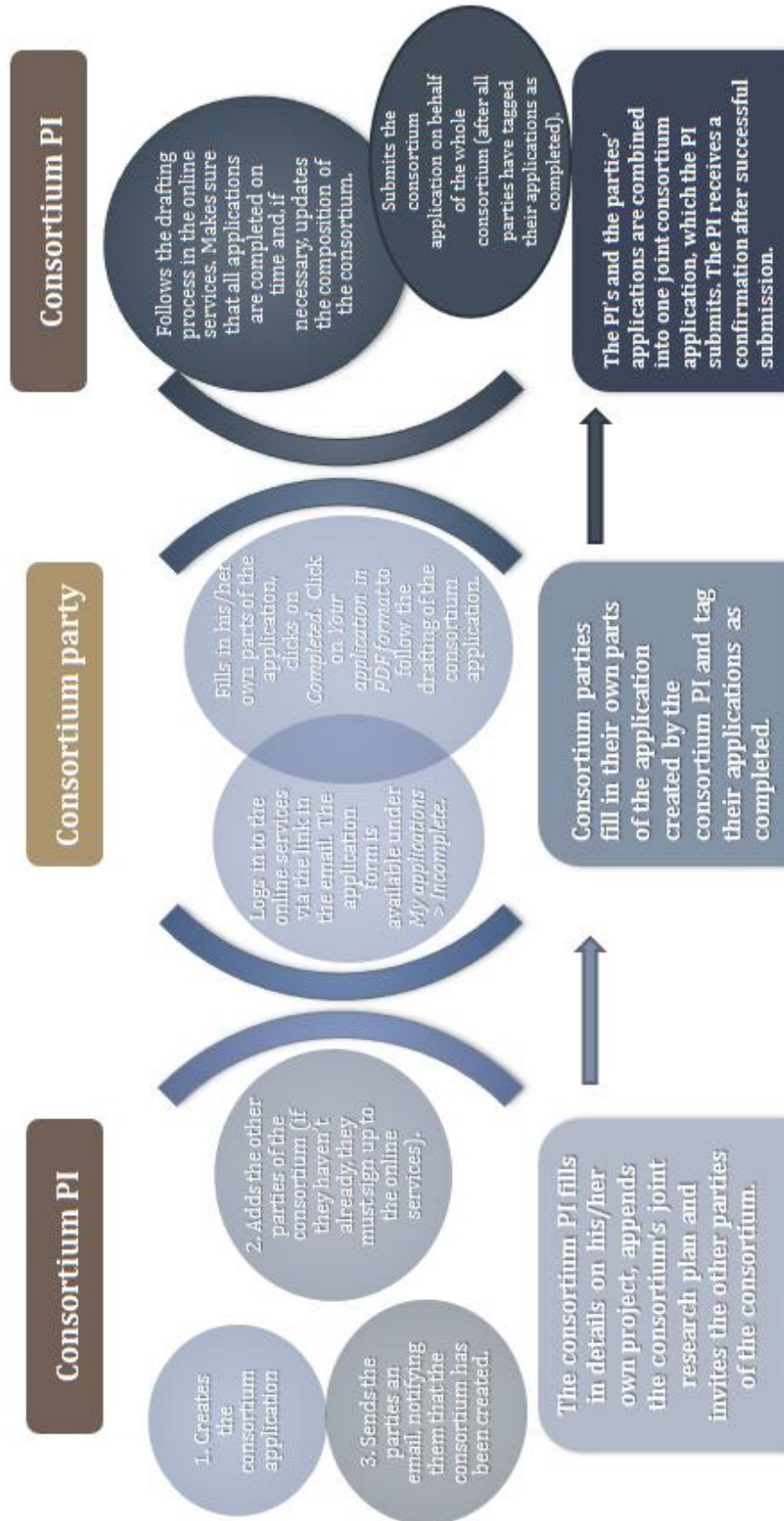
More information on open science

- [Open Science and Research Initiative](#), e.g. the [Open Science and Research Handbook](#)
- [Open Science and Research Roadmap 2014–2017](#)
- [Finnish Social Science Data Archive \(FSD\)](#)
- [FSD data management guidelines](#)
- [Publication Forum's classification of scientific publication channels](#)



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

How to submit a consortium application in the Academy's online services





About this call for applications

This call for applications is based on the criteria for research funding decisions by the Academy of Finland that are annually approved by the Academy Board. The calls that will open in April 2016 come under the criteria adopted on 14 December 2015. The document is available [on our website](#) (in Finnish only).

The call for applications is prepared by a working group responsible for communication on the Academy's funding calls. Vice President for Research Marja Makarow approved the Finnish-language call for applications on 11 March 2016.

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.

The Academy's next main call will open in September 2016. By the end of April, the Academy Board will decide on the types of funding schemes to be included in that call. The call for applications (in Finnish, Swedish and English) will be posted on our website in July-August. Applications can be submitted between 1 and 28 September 2016 (TBC).

How to contact us

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