

Tervetuloa Profi 8 -hakuinfoon

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Research Council
of Finland

Profiloitumisrahoituksen kehittäminen

- Hakua uudistettiin vuonna 2020 yhteistyössä yliopistojen kanssa (Profi 6)
 - Haku joka toinen vuosi, 100 M€ / hakukierros
 - Rahoituskausi 4 v → 6 v
 - Profiloitumisaloille omat erillisarvosanat
 - Työnjaon ja yhteistyön erillisarvosanat pois
 - Yliopistot eivät enää kuvaa hakemuksissa poisvalintoja
 - painopiste konkreettiseen toimien kuvaamiseen profiloitumisen tavoitteiden saavuttamiseksi
 - Mahdollisuus kommentoida paneelilausuntoja arvioinnin jälkeen (ns. Rebuttal-prosessi)



Rahoituskaudet

Rahoituskaudet																	
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
Profi1	50 M€																
Profi2		50 M€															
Profi3			50 M€														
Profi4				50 M€													
Profi5					50 M€												
Profi6*							100 M€										
Profi7*									100 M€								
Profi8*											100 M€						

	Nelivuotinen rahoitus		
	Voimassaoleva rahoitus		
	Profi haku 2024		
*	Uudistettu, kuusivuotinen rahoitus		

Profi 8 call info
6.5.2024
Profi team



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- Profi 8 dates
- Application
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Profi 8 dates

- Call text published 2.5.2024
- Test call open 2.5.2024
- **Info session 6.5.2024**
- Call open 15.5. – 12.6.2024

- Panel meeting including interviews 16. – 18.9.2024 - online

- Rebuttal period 23. – 27.9.2024

- Decisions due December 2024 and January 2025



Background

- The aim is to support and speed up the strategic profiling of Finnish universities in order to improve the quality of research.
- The funding is fixed-term.
- Another aim is to contribute to intensifying strategic cooperation between Finnish universities and with universities of applied sciences, research institutes, hospital districts and other relevant actors, and to clarifying the responsibilities between these actors.
- Funding can be applied for in one or several profiling areas. The area may:
 - continue the previously planned development of a profiling area
 - be completely new
 - combine old profiling areas.
- One application per university
 - Consortium applications cannot be submitted in this call



Key concepts

A **profiling area** is a research area or a thematic research module that a university intends to develop according to its strategy. It is a carefully chosen part of the research conducted at the university.

Profiling areas can be:

- existing high-quality research areas or thematic research modules
- emerging fields or thematic research modules with potential to reach top level research
- new fields or thematic research modules with a great deal of potential.

A **profiling measure** is an action that a university aims to carry out to develop a chosen profiling area. Universities may start several measures to advance the same area.



Funding to be applied for and funding period

- Academy prepared to provide total of €100m in funding
 - Parliament has allocated €50m to the call in the 2024 budget
 - The funding for 2025 depends on Parliament's decision to allocate the necessary funds to it in the 2025 budget
- Earliest possible start of funding period 1 Jan 2025; ends no later than 31 Dec 2030
- The call is implemented following the full cost model.
 - The Academy's funding contribution is 100%
- The funding is granted to support the profiling measures specified in the action plan included in the application.
- The Academy will not make advance payments on the funding.
- Funding for an initiated Profi area or measure may be continued by another Profi funding decision.



Funding - annual instalments in the application

- In its budget proposal, the Academy will provide the Ministry with an estimate of how the Profi funding is likely to be distributed in the government budget to the appropriations of different years.
 - 10% in 2025, 20% in 2026, 20% in 2027, 20% in 2028, 20% in 2029 and 10% in 2030
- We recommend the above distribution
- Overlaps in funding periods:

Funding periods							
	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Profi 6							
Profi 7							
Profi 8							

Submission and publicity

- Applications can be drafted and submitted starting on 15 May 2024. The deadline is 12 June 2024.
- Applicants can practice drafting the application in a test call, which is open from 2 May to 14 May.
 - Anyone with an account in the Academy's online services can use the test call
- The aim is to check, correct and supplement the applications by 20 June.
- The application becomes a public document after the funding decision has been made.



Parts of the application (in the online services)

- Personal details
- Site of research
- Keywords (250 character) (new!)
- Funding for the project
- Summary
 - max. 2,500 characters
 - Tabular estimate of funding for the profiling areas
- Action plan of up to 30 pages, depending on the number of profiling areas
 - Max 5 pages for description of strategy
 - Max 6 pages for each profiling area (individual ones can vary)
 - Write the action plan on our template (PDF Format - new!)
- Authorisation
- Submit application



Action plan template

5 pages

2 Brief description of key contents in the university's strategy that is of importance for the research

3 Description of the profiling area for which funding will be applied (*profiling area 1*)

6 pages / each

3.1 Justifications for why the area is of strategic importance

3.2 Actions, resources, schedules, follow-up, risk management

3.3 Standard of research

3.4 National and international cooperation

3.5 Societal impact

4 Description of the profiling area for which funding will be applied (*profiling area 2, if applicable*)

4.1,2,3,4,5 as above

5 Description of the profiling area for which funding will be applied (*profiling area 3, if applicable*)

5.1,2,3,4,5 as above

6 Description of the profiling area for which funding will be applied (*profiling area 4, if applicable*)

6.1,2,3,4,5 as above



Review - panel of experts

- Composed of international experts, online meeting 16. - 18.9.2024
- Focused on the action plan's
 - significance, especially in terms of implementing the university's strategy
 - concreteness, e.g. how objectives will be reached, schedules, resources
 - realistic measures, also as regards raising the standard of science
- The review form helps in drafting the application
- Panel meeting + interviews with university representatives
- The panel
 - prepares a final review summary for each application
 - gives an overall rating + a rating for each profiling area to support the university's decision-making
 - ranks the applications
- The review is based on the application and the interview



Rebuttal

- The universities are given opportunity to comment on the panel's review (23.-27.9.)
 - They can point out **factual errors or misunderstandings**
 - The idea is **not** to write a statement of defence
 - No more than **2 pages!**
 - The comments are public information
- Examples:
 - "It was argued that the current international presence of the team is not strong. We note that this statement is false, as shown in the application e.g. Fig. x"
 - "It was noted that the profiling area is missing an expert in the field of xx. Professors yy and zz are both experts in the areas, and the research teams have a long track record in the field."
 - "...does not mention at all European infrastructure XX... - We connect to XX through *"the Finnish infrastructure"*."
 - ""The number of females in leading positions is scarce." On the contrary, 30% are female (page xx)."



Decisions

- The General Subcommittee makes decisions in December 2024 and January 2025
- The Subcommittee takes into account
 - the panel review reports
 - rebuttals
 - relationship between the funding applied for, the planned profiling measures and the university's research funding as a whole
 - university's interim and final reports on previously funded profiling measures



Profi 8 - TO DO

- Test call open 2.-14.5.2024:
 - **Let us know if you have questions or if there are any problems with the application form**
- Call open 15.5. - 12.6.2024
 - **We recommend to submit the application before 12.6.**
 - **We will inform you 17.6. at the latest if the application needs to be supplemented by 20.6.**
- Submit Profi 5 final reports by 1.6.2024
- Panel meeting including interviews 16. - 18.9.2024
 - **Please let us know by 17.5. if some time / day is not convenient for you → profi@aka.fi**
 - **We will ask you in August who will represent you in the interview (max. 5 persons)**
- Rebuttal period 23. - 27.9.2024
 - **Save the date in your calendar**

Thank you!

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