

# ask & apply

We start at 13.00



Suomen Akatemia  
Finlands Akademi  
Research Council of Finland

# Academy Professorship call

Tuesday 5 November at 13.00-14.00

Science Advisers Jan Bäckman & Aki Salo

## Some guidelines

1. First the presentation – then questions and discussion

The presentation takes 15 minutes and we have a plenty of time for questions and discussion

2. The webinar presentation will be recorded and made available online for two weeks – Q&A and discussion will not be recorded
3. You can write questions during the presentation on Q&A

# Ask & Apply webinars in 2024

1. What's new about the winter call?: **Tuesday 29 October at 13.00-14.00**
2. Academy Professor call: **Tuesday 5 November at 13.00-14.00**
3. Ask Me Anything – our science advisers answer your questions:  
**Tuesday 12 December at 13.00-14.00**

# Academy Professorship call timeline

1/2

13th Nov  
2024

- Call opens
- Writing of full applications (one stage call)

8th Jan  
2025

- Call closes
- Submission of full applications and appendices

Summer  
2025

- Based on individual reviews by winter call panel members applications selected for grant review panels

# Academy Professorship call timeline

2/2

Autumn  
2025

- Grant review panel meetings
- Review panel's summary assessment, rating and ranking

By the end  
of 2025

- Funding decisions

1st Jan  
2026

- Beginning of the funding period
- Will be granted for 6 years

# Aims of the Academy Professorship call

- The Academy Professorship call is aimed at internationally recognised high-quality researchers whose research contributes to scientific renewal, aims for scientific breakthroughs, and seeks solutions for the benefit of society
- In addition, the aim is to strengthen the applicant's capability to get international research funding

# New Academy Professorship funding scheme

- Funding period up to six years
- One funding decision only
- Full cost model, 70% RCF share / 30% own share
- Maximum RCF funding 2,4 M€ for six years -> realistic and well justified budget
- Funding can be applied for own salary (not compulsory to apply for own salary), to employ research team and research costs
- Applicant's merits of last 5-10 years, competence of the applicant, capabilities for reaching international forefront in their field very important
  - described in separate narrative CV (details in next slide)
- Calls for Academy Professorship are opened approximately every three years



# Narrative CV 'Merits and capabilities' appendix

- Word or Latex template with three headings should be used
- Maximum one page
- Narrative complements separate full CV and publication list
- Information for reviewers on applicant's capability to reach the international forefront in their field
- Instead of focusing on number of outputs, applicant should provide relevant information to give an overall picture of their research profile, and describe how international collaboration & networking, major international funding, sharing of data, development of methodologies & theories, academic leadership experience, various expert positions, promotion of scientific & societal impact will affect their capability to reach the international forefront in your field
- Structure:
  1. Describe your academic profile and merits from the **last 5-10 years**.
  2. Describe how you plan to reach the international forefront and strengthen the quality of research within your discipline in Finland and promote societal impact **during the funding period**.
  3. Describe your concrete plans to continue the top-quality international research and promote wide and versatile impact **after the funding period**.

# Restrictions in Academy Professorship call

- Not allowed to apply Academy Project and Academy Professorship at the same time in the winter call 2025, not either Clinical Researcher, nor Academy Research Fellow
- Ongoing funding for Academy Project or old-form five-year Academy Professorship are allowed
- New six-year Academy Professorship can be granted only once starting from this call

## Applicants are expected to...

- be internationally recognised, high-quality researchers (with evidence in CV and publication list) who can reach the international forefront in their field during the Academy Professorship funding period
- strengthen the quality of research within their disciplines in Finland
- be able to make wide and versatile impact during and after the funding period
- have concrete plans for active, top-level research even after the funding period

# Evaluation of the applications

- Two most important review questions:
  - Applicant's competence, capabilities, expertise -> suitability to the expectations of the call, i.e. capability to reach the international forefront in their field and make wide and versatile impact during and after the funding period, also ability to strengthen the quality of research within their disciplines in Finland
  - Scientific quality of the research plan
- Choose one winter call panel best suited for your application after careful consideration and reading of the descriptions of several panels in your field
  - Individual reviews written by winter call panel experts -> the best ~25% of applications selected for grant review panels
- Panel's summary review written by separate Academy Professorship grant review panels
- All the review questions available at <https://www.aka.fi/en/research-funding/peer-review-and-funding-decision/guides-for-reviewers/>

# Funding decisions

- Decisions are based on scientific reviews
- General subcommittee of RCF will make the selection of applications continuing to panel review phase in early summer 2025
- After the grant review panel meetings in autumn 2025 the best will be funded by the end of 2025 by general subcommittee
- The 6-year funding period will begin on 1st January 2026

# Questions?

- You can type your questions in the Q&A
- Contact our helpdesk at [www.aka.fi/feedback](http://www.aka.fi/feedback)
- Also see our FAQ page at [www.aka.fi/winter\\_call\\_2025\\_faq](http://www.aka.fi/winter_call_2025_faq)
- Subscribe our [newsletter](#)

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