

September call 2016: what's new?

Summary of main points in the Academy of Finland's September call, 28.6.2016; summary as per situation on 31.8.2016. New entries have been added at the beginning of the summary and marked with *new*.

Research plan guidelines updated on 31.8.2016 *new*

The Vice President for Research has issued a decision concerning the new research plan guidelines. The guidelines are now available on the Academy's website. The structure of the guidelines has been updated (particularly section 3, on objectives and expected results), and new sections relevant for the September call have been added (sections 4 and 8 concerning data management, mobility, early-career researchers). Structure your research plan according to the guidelines.

Effects and impact in the Academy's core funding schemes *new*

Section 3 (Objectives and expected results) has been redrafted in the updated research plan guidelines. The new structure of the section provides a clearer guideline for how to explain the objectives of the project's research and its effects and impacts beyond academia. Effects and impact of research is not a separate criterion applied by the panel in the review, and no separate grade is awarded for it. Impacts beyond academia can be considered in specific disciplines or for specific projects as an aspect of the overall project. This applies to the Academy's core funding schemes.

Additional funding for early-career researchers *new*

Finland's Ministry of Finance proposes an additional funding allocation in the State budget for next year, of 30 million euros for early-career researchers. If the additional funding allocation is approved, the Academy will be allocating one-off funding to a total of 30 million euros to projects led by early-career applicants who have made rapid progress in their careers. The Academy will channel the additional funding into Academy Project and Postdoctoral Researcher funding in the September call. If you are in the target group and you are applying for the funding schemes in question, clearly state in your research plan on what grounds you consider yourself an early-career in your discipline and outline your career progress. Aside from that, the terms of the call text apply to all applications in both funding schemes. In judging rapid progress, career breaks are taken into account, as in Academy practice in general.

All appendices must be pdf files *new*

In the September call, you can only enclose appendices that are pdf files. The system will not accept any other file format, so convert all appendices to pdf files and make sure they are still legible after conversion.

New website on mobility requirement now up *new*

If you are applying for a position as Postdoctoral Researcher or Academy Research Fellow, please not our new website about the mobility requirements. The new website has detailed instructions on everything connected with the mobility requirement.

Research data in the research plan and in the data management plan *new*

As of the September call, there are two sections of the application that deal with data:

- section 4 of the research plan contains a description and justification of the material, its significance for the research project, how it is collected or obtained and used.
- the data management plan, a new appendix, describes data management, storage, access and rights.

Data management plan to be enclosed as DMPTuuli appendix or in free form *new*

See the section *The Academy requires adherence to open access practices*, in this summary, below, for more information on the new requirements. The data management plan can either be drafted in DMPTuuli or in a document following the instructions in the guidelines for the data management plan. A plan drafted in DMPTuuli is permitted to be more than 2 pages long, due to the formatting settings of the system.

You will need to register for user ID and password in order to use DMPTuuli. All applicants are required to submit a data management plan, so DMPTuuli may be quite busy at times: make sure you log on and draft your plan well in advance of the deadline.

DMPTuuli may contain internal instructions that apply to specific sites of research. The Academy's new instructions in DMPTuuli are also available on the [Academy website](#). The [Finnish Social Science Data Archive \(FSD\)](#) has also published on its website instructions and model plans that are useful in drafting the data management plan.

DMPTuuli enables the Academy to collect systematic data on researchers' cooperation partners.

Website updates and translation *new*

The Academy's website updates and the translations into English and Swedish are still not complete at the time the call opens, and we apologize for the inconvenience. If the information in the call text is different from that on the website, apply the information in the call text.

This year, English translations of the most important webpages will become available in the second week of September. Swedish translations will be provided subsequently.

The review guidelines, referred to in the call text, will be updated in early September.

Call closes last week of September

The deadline for the Academy of Finland's own calls is **Wednesday 28 September 2016** at 16.15. The one exception is the WiFiUS call, which closes on 17 October 2016. Calls for

Strategic Research Council matching funds are ongoing and have no closing dates: research organisations can submit applications as soon as the eligibility criteria are met. Please always check the deadline for your application in the relevant call text.

Call for Academy Professors postponed until April 2017

The Academy is in the process of remodelling the Academy Professor funding scheme in cooperation with stakeholder groups during autumn 2016. The plan is to invite applications in the April 2017 call.

Mobility requirement for posts as Postdoctoral Researcher and Academy Research Fellow

The Academy encourages researcher mobility and requires mobility of all applicants to posts of Postdoctoral Researcher and Academy Research Fellow. You will be considered to have met this mobility requirement if you are applying for funding in a research environment other than the one where you researched your doctorate. If you are applying for funding in the same research environment where you researched your doctorate, you will be required to provide proof that you have worked somewhere else for a period of at least six months after completing your PhD.

‘Research environment’ refers to a research team or community. Since there may be several different research environments at one and the same site of research (university, research institute), it is often possible to change research environments within the same site.

In the September 2016 call, we will exceptionally also take into account work to be conducted between 29 September 2016 and 31 March 2017 that can be proven with a written invitation. The invitation must be presented to us before the call closes.

The mobility requirement question on the application form has been revised and now presents alternative response options: you are asked to indicate whether you are moving to a new research environment or whether you have worked somewhere else for six months. In addition, you are requested to provide more detailed information under *Previous mobility*.

Detailed instructions on everything connected with the mobility requirement have been compiled on a new website published on 31 August 2016. Please read the instructions carefully *new*

The Academy requires adherence to open access practices

As before, it is required that all Academy-funded projects adhere to the principle of open access publishing. As of the September 2016 call, the requirement of open access will also be extended to research data and methods. However, degrees of data openness may justifiably vary, ranging from open access to strictly confidential. The principles of open science must be pursued with due attention to research ethics and law. All results produced with funding from the Academy of Finland must be made public.

Describe the **publication plan** for the results of your project as part of your research plan. As of the September 2016 call, applications must also include a separate **data management**

plan. Prepare this plan as applicable according to your data sources. Instructions for drafting a data management plan are attached as Appendix 5 of the call text.

You can apply separately for funding to cover the costs from the open publication of research results under *Funding for the project/Services* in the online application form. Specify the relevant publications in the research plan under *Implementation/Publication plan* and the relevant costs under *Implementation/Budget*.

For further information on open science, open access publishing and their definitions, on the opening up of research data and recommended archives, see Appendix 4 of the call text.

Funding for clinical researchers not limited to medical doctors

As of the September 2016 call, funding for clinical researchers is no longer limited to medical doctors, but also open to application from other healthcare professionals with a doctoral degree and engaged in clinical practice.

Time since PhD completion: new rules

The Academy's September 2016 call closes on the last Wednesday of September. The closing date varies from year to year. For this reason some applicants for research posts as Postdoctoral Researcher and Academy Research Fellow may have been left by the wayside, as one of the eligibility criteria is time since PhD completion. In the September 2016 call, new rules will be applied to calculating eligibility from the date of PhD graduation: the degree certificate of applicants to posts of Postdoctoral Researcher shall have been issued between 27 Sep 2012 and 30 Sep 2016, and the degree certificate of applicants to posts of Academy Research Fellow between 27 Sep 2007 and 30 Sep 2013.

Reminder about Appendix materials

Do not attach any appendices to the application other than those specifically requested. This applies to letters of recommendation and transcripts of study records, for instance. Appendices must not be longer than specified in the guidelines. The appendices will be forwarded to the reviewer as is, so give special attention to appearance and readability (font size, margins). Please check the instructions for appendices on the [Academy's website](#).

Step-by-step guide to applying

A summary of the [key steps in preparing a funding application](#) is provided on the Academy website. Please read these instructions carefully. Also note that you will need to read the guidelines in the most recent call text, the instructions for the relevant call, and the online instructions concerning the submission of appendices for this call.