

Finland Distinguished Professor Programme, second stage of call

The goal of the Finland Distinguished Professor (FiDiPro) funding programme is to strengthen scientific knowledge and know-how in Finland, add a more international element to the Finnish research system, generate added value into the national innovation system and support research-driven profiling of universities and research institutes.

The Board of the Academy of Finland will decide in June 2012 on the projects selected for the programme.

Decisions on the resources, tasks and responsibilities of FiDiPro research projects shall be made jointly by the Academy, the host university or research institute and any other funding bodies involved.

The visiting FiDiPro researcher will be based at a Finnish university or research institute. The researcher shall also be in an employment relationship to that university or research institute. The researcher may work abroad for no more than half of the funding period. Besides the FiDiPro researcher's salary expenses and travel and other costs, the Academy funding may also be used towards setting up a research team.

The Academy's funding is awarded for 2–5 years. The funding period can start 1 September 2012 at the earliest. A condition for the payment of funding is that the university or research institute receiving the funding and the invitee have in advance agreed in writing that the ownership rights to any patentable inventions emerging during the employment relationship are transferred to the employing Finnish university or research institute

The research plan shall be at a sufficient level of detail so that its significance can be assessed in terms of the research system, the promotion of research and the competence of the proposed candidate. Universities and research institutes applying for funding are expected to contribute financially towards the researcher's salary and research costs as well as to provide other practical assistance. The site of research shall also provide the researcher with the basis facilities for research.

Appendices to full application

Obligatory appendices:

- research plan, no more than twelve pages
- curriculum vitae for candidate, no more than four pages
- list of publications by candidate (clearly indicate the ten most important publications in terms of the research plan).

Case-specific appendices:

- statement by an ethics committee or the Committee on Animal Experimentation (if relevant). The ethical aspects shall always be specified in the research plan.
- statement by a Strategic Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation, confirming that the applicant is affiliated with the Strategic Centre and justifying the significance of the project for the Centre's operations
- progress report on all Academy-funded research projects headed by the applicant that have not submitted final reports.

How to apply

The applicant for FiDiPro funding is a university or research institute. The full application is submitted in the Academy's online services by the Finnish contact person indicated in the application, who shall agree with the university rector or the research institute's director that he or she can be indicated as the issuer of the signature. After the deadline has expired, the Academy will send a request for signature (i.e. commitment by the site of research) by email to the person indicated in the application. The signature is submitted in the Academy's online services with a function tailor-made for this purpose.

In this call, the costs of a research project are calculated according to the full cost model. Applications shall be written so as to ensure that the Academy's contribution to funding comes to no more than 80% of the estimated total costs of the project. See guidelines on how to enter the costs in the application on the Academy's website under [Full cost model](#).

The FiDiPro call has two stages. The first stage (for letters of intent) closed 30 September 2011. On the basis of the letters of intent, the Board of the Academy decided (13 December 2011) on the projects that proceeded to this second stage.

Projects that have gone through to the second stage shall submit a full application in the Academy's online services no later than 31 January 2012 at 16.15. The full application shall include a research plan as well as the candidate's curriculum vitae and list of publications.

Applicants can suggest reviewers for their proposed projects. The reviewers shall be international experts with the qualifications of a professor and shall have no joint research activities or other affiliations with the candidate. Suggestions on suitable reviewers can be emailed to hannele.kurki@aka.fi.

The application shall be drafted in accordance with the Academy's guidelines, see [How to apply](#) on the Academy's website.

The call deadline is non-negotiable. Applications are drafted in the Academy's online services, select Open calls > FiDiPro call, full applications.

More information

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