



Ten (10) Doctoral Researcher Positions in the iCANDOC – National Doctoral Education Pilot Based on the Precision Cancer Medicine

In [the University of Turku](#), [the iCANDOC Doctoral Education Pilot](#) project is inviting applications for 10 fixed-term Doctoral Researcher positions from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2027 at [the Turku Doctoral Programme of Molecular Medicine](#) or [the Doctoral Programme of Clinical Research](#).

The three-year doctoral researcher positions are related to [the Doctoral Education Pilot](#), a programme funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture for the period 2024-2027 and implemented by Finnish universities.

The aim of the doctoral education pilot is to ensure the completion of the doctoral research during the three-year employment period. A doctoral degree provides the skills to work as an independent researcher or in demanding expert work in the academic or other working life sector.

The University of Helsinki's coordinated [iCANDOC doctoral education pilot in precision cancer medicine](#) is based on the [iCAN Digital Precision Cancer Medicine Flagship](#) of the Research Council of Finland. In the pilot, 152 PhDs will be trained in Finland over the next few years. It is a collaborative effort of 5 universities, HUS Helsinki University Hospital, 4 wellbeing services counties and industry together with third sector partners.

Precision cancer medicine, which approaches cancer and its disease mechanisms at the genetic and molecular level in combination of leveraging our national strengths: healthcare data registries and a digitized health system, is expected to provide solutions to defeat globally significant cancers. The aim is to produce breakthroughs in research that will improve both cancer treatments and the patients' quality of life.

Job description and applying for the position

The applicant must fill in the electronic application form in the TalentAdore-recruitment system within the application deadline period and submit the requested attachments to the application. The employment begins on 1.1.2025 or, if necessary, as agreed by mutual agreement. The funding is for three years (ending on 31.12.2027), which is the intended duration of the dissertation work.

The Doctoral Researcher's tasks include conducting their own doctoral research and completing doctoral courses. The doctoral researcher commits to conducting their research and doctoral studies in accordance with the iCANDOC doctoral training pilot and the rules of the doctoral programme.

Note! If the applicant does not have the right to study for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku, the right for a doctoral degree must be applied for in the separate [Studyinfo system](#) in autumn call 2024.

The right to study for a doctoral degree is a prerequisite for selection to the position.

A person who has already completed a doctoral degree or who has been granted the right to study for a doctoral degree before 1 November 2023 cannot be selected for an employment position as a doctoral researcher in the iCANDOC pilot project.

The Doctoral Researcher position requires residence in Finland and the place of work is Turku.



The application period starts on 28.8 and ends on 13.9.2024 at 16:00.

Further information and links to the application pages of the doctoral programs included in the iCANDOC doctoral education pilot at the University of Turku:

[The Turku Doctoral Programme of Molecular Medicine](#)

[The Doctoral Programme of Clinical Research](#)

Eligibility of the applicant:

- Applicant must hold the right to study for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku, which must have been granted no earlier than November 1, 2023. The eligibility requirements for doctoral researchers are specified in the University of Turku's regulations. You are required to have completed a relevant higher university degree or a university of applied sciences, or a relevant study programme abroad which in the awarding country gives eligibility for the corresponding level of higher education (Universities Act 558/2009, 37§). [How to Apply for Doctoral Training | University of Turku](#)
- You must fulfil [the University of Turku language skill requirements](#);
- The applicant must submit a feasible research plan which has been drawn up in cooperation with, and in agreement with, an experienced supervisor. Additionally, the research topic of the applicant's dissertation work, must fit the scope of the iCANDOC doctoral education pilot programme.

The applicant applies for a fixed-term doctoral researcher position under the iCANDOC doctoral education pilot project (and, if necessary, the right to study) through one of the selected doctoral programme: [the Turku Doctoral Programme of Molecular Medicine](#) or [the Doctoral Programme of Clinical Research](#).

In addition, if the applicant does not already have the right to study for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku, the applicant must apply for the right to study for a doctoral degree at the University of Turku during the application period in fall 2024 via the [Studyinfo.fi service](#) through the chosen doctoral programme (**The application period starts on 28.8 and ends on 13.9.2024 at 16:00**).

Our workplace values equality and diversity; therefore, we encourage qualified applicants from all backgrounds to apply for our open positions.

What we offer

We offer you responsible and interesting tasks and the opportunity to develop your skills in a dynamic and international environment. You will be supported by a professional and inspiring team and a group of experienced supervisors. In your work, you will become part of a wide network of doctoral researchers, researchers, and supervisors within the [iCANDOC doctoral education pilot in precision cancer medicine](#) and the [iCAN Digital Precision Cancer Medicine Flagship](#). We care about your well-being and the functionality of your everyday life through flexible working hours and our well-being services.



Read more about us on the website [Come Work with Us!](#), where you can find additional information about what the university offers its employees.

The European Commission has granted the University of Turku the right to use [the HR Excellence in Research](#) logo as a sign of the university's commitment to continuously improving the status and working conditions of researchers in line with the goals of the European Charter for Researchers.

The university offers excellent support and orientation for international hires. Please learn more about Finnish culture and relocation to Finland:

- [City of Turku](#),
- [Welcome visitor](#),
- [Career in Southwest Finland](#),
- [International House of Turku](#)
- Working culture: infoFinland.fi
- [This is Finland](#)
- [Careers in Southwest Finland](#)
- [Finland - a superpower of education and innovations | University of Turku \(utu.fi\)](#)

Salary and probationary period

Salary is determined in accordance with the University salary system for teaching and research personnel. It consists of a task-specific salary component and a personal performance salary component. The task-specific salary component of a Doctoral Researcher is at levels 2–4, depending on the progress of the doctoral project. The personal performance component, which is added to the task-specific base salary, is also paid. For a doctoral researcher, the salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and will be approximately 2400–3300 €/month, depending on the progress of the doctoral project.

The position has a probationary period of 6 months.

The positions are intended for full-time doctoral dissertation research and postgraduate studies. The employment contract is based on a total working time of 1612 hours per year, which gives the Doctoral Researcher freedom to plan their working hours.

How to apply

Please submit your application through our electronic recruitment TalentAdore system by 13 September 2024 at 16:00 p.m. (EEST)). A link to the application form can be found on the university's website during the application period at the beginning of the advertisement ("[Apply for this job](#)").

The applicant must deliver all required documents by the end of the application period. Any late submissions will not be processed and application documents will not be returned.

In addition, please note that, if necessary, the right to study for a doctoral degree can be applied for by filling in a separate electronic application form in [Studyinfo](#) and submitting the required attachments.



The autumn application period opens at the beginning of the application period 28.8.2024 and closes on 13.9.2024 at 16.00 (Finnish time).

The application form cannot be saved as a draft. However, after submitting, you can return to edit your application via the link you receive by email. The application can be edited until the application deadline. You have 6 hours to complete your application before the timeout.

Application and accompanying documents are written in English and send all attachments in the form of a PDF file.

Applications must be prepared in accordance with the instructions of the selected doctoral programme and in the application form must be attached:

- 1. Research plan**
- 2. CV of the applicant including the list of publications**
- 3. CV from one supervisor (max 2 pages) and the list of publications 2022-2024**
- 4. Motivation letter**
- 5. Any other documents relevant to fulfilling the requirements of the position.** Please read carefully sections: Prerequisites for admission and Proof of language skills see: [How to Apply for Doctoral Training \(see before applying -section\)](#)

More detailed instructions on how to prepare the application and the required attachments can be found in accordance with the application instructions for the selected doctoral programme (see below):

[The Turku Doctoral Programme of Molecular Medicine](#)

[The Doctoral Programme of Clinical Research](#)

Decisions and assessment of applications

Applicants are selected for interviews based on evaluation by the steering committee of the doctoral programme. In addition, the opinions of national and/or international experts may be requested on the applications. The selected applicants will be invited to interviews by email. The iCANDOC pilot project's selection group makes the final selections based on the assessment summary and interview.

The research plans attached to the applications may be checked with the *Turnitin OriginalityCheck* plagiarism detection software in accordance with the University of Turku quality assurance system. When evaluating applications for the iCANDOC doctoral education pilot project, special attention will be paid to the quality and implementation conditions of the research plan, as well as to the supervisor's experience, studies already completed, the applicant's research merits, and ability and motivation to complete the doctoral degree. In addition, the applicant's research topic must fit the profile of the pilot program.

Decisions regarding doctoral researchers will be made at 1.11.2024 and the selected applicants will be informed of the decisions without delay.

In addition to the above-mentioned criteria, the eligibility criteria of the applicant and the fulfilment of the selection criteria of the faculty's right to complete a doctoral degree are taken into account when assessing applications for the right to study.



Further information

For further information regarding the iCANDOC - Doctoral Researcher positions, please contact professor Panu Jaakola (panjaa@utu.fi).

For information related to the application process, please contact iCANDOC ja TuDMM coordinator Verna Louhivuori (vtlouh@utu.fi).

For information related to the right to study for a doctoral degree in the Faculty of Medicine, please contact Chief Academic Officer Outi Irjala (outi.irjala@utu.fi).

[The iCAN – Digital Precision Cancer Medicine project](#) is one of [the Academy of Finland's flagships of research](#), dedicated to solving various cancer challenges through significant research discoveries and innovations. Its aim is to identify new treatment targets by combining molecular profiling data of cancerous tumors and other patient health information. The founding partners of the project are the University of Helsinki and HUS Helsinki University Hospital, and it involves all five regional cancer centers of the [Finnish Cancer Centre FICAN](#) in cooperation with regional biobanks.

[The University of Turku](#) is an inspiring and international academic community of 25 000 students and staff in Southwest Finland. We build a sustainable future through multidisciplinary research, education, and collaboration. With us, your work will have a significant impact and relevance in the changing world.

[See our open vacancies.](#)



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