

## **University researcher (alternatively post-doctoral researcher) in psychology**

*Åbo Akademi University is inviting applications for a position as university researcher (alternatively post-doctoral researcher) in psychology to the research project BrainTrain. The employment is fixed-term for the period 1.2.2015-31.12.2016.*

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*The official advertisement in Swedish can be found [here](#).*

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Åbo Akademi University (ÅAU) is inviting applications for a position as university researcher (alternatively post-doctoral researcher) in psychology, to the research project BrainTrain. The employment is fixed-term for the period 1.2.2015-31.12.2016. The position is located in the Faculty of Arts, Psychology and Theology.

There is a possibility for an extension of the employment of 1-2 years. Any extension will, however, be dependent on the successful evaluation of the project's achievements and the possibility to acquire further funding.

The BrainTrain project studies working memory training, its cognitive and neural mechanisms, and the mental architecture of executive functions. The Department of Psychology at the Åbo Akademi University and its research partners, Center for Cognitive Neuroscience and the Turku Brain and Mind Center at the University of Turku, offer an active and inspiring research milieu with a wide range of neurocognitive research methodology (behavioral methods, fMRI, PET, EEG, TMS, DCS).

### **Qualification requirements**

For a position as university researcher, the qualification requirements are a PhD degree, extensive experience of research and pedagogical competence. International experience of research is considered to be a merit. As an alternative, a person who has recently received his/her PhD degree and has scientific qualifications and pedagogical competence can be considered for employment. However, the appointee will then have be titled post-doctoral researcher (in accordance with the Personnel Regulations of Åbo Akademi University). The period of employment is the same.

### **Work Tasks**

The task of the university researcher is to pursue independent research within the scope of the project. Additionally, the university researcher actively participates in development of the research field and to a less extent in teaching at the department on graduate and post graduate level. Participation in teaching and supervision is regulated

to a maximum of 1/3 of the working time for the university researcher (or a post-doctoral researcher). Teaching and supervision is conducted in Swedish and/or English.

### **Assessment**

When assessing the scientific competences, the scientific merits that the applicants have achieved in relation to the time period since receiving their PhD degrees will be taken into consideration. Methodological skills relevant to the research project, research experience and/or clinical skills are additionally assessed. These can include knowledge and skills within cognitive and/or neuropsychology, advanced statistical methods, expertise in brain imaging and brain stimulation methods, and experience in neuropsychological diagnostics. Further requirements are a documented success in scientific writing and publishing, good collaborative and supervisory skills, capacity for long-term independent scientific work, and a very good knowledge of both oral and written English.

The evaluation of the teaching skills is done in accordance with Rector's decision on pedagogical skills for teachers and researchers (20.6.2012)

### **Terms om employment**

The university researcher (alternatively post-doctoral researcher) follows the system of a total working time of 1600 h/year and the work tasks are specified in the annual work plan.

The salary for university researchers is based on levels 6-7 of the job demand level for teaching and research personnel in the salary system of Finnish universities, whilst the salary for post-doctoral researchers is based on levels 5-6. In addition, there is a salary component based on personal work performance. Please see the [salary chart for teaching and research staff](#).

A trial period applies to new employees.

### **Language**

The language of administration and teaching is Swedish at Åbo Akademi University. Language requirements at Åbo Akademi University are defined in 78 § of the Universities Act (558/2009) and in the Åbo Akademi University internal language instructions (accepted by the University Board on February 25, 2010).

### **Additional information**

For additional information about the positions, please contact project leader, Professor Matti Laine ([matti.laine@abo.fi](mailto:matti.laine@abo.fi)) and deputy project leader Docent Minna Lehtonen ([minna.lehtonen@abo.fi](mailto:minna.lehtonen@abo.fi)).

### **How to apply**

Interested applicants are asked to send an application that includes the following:

- An academic portfolio. Applicants are welcome to follow the recommended guidelines by the university:  
<http://web.abo.fi/personal/uniportfolj/composinganacademicportfolio.pdf>
- A copy of the PhD degree certificate
- A freely formulated description of merits for the specified duties (max. 2 pages)
- A short description of the applicant's current work (max. 1 page),
- Copies of five publications (max. 5) that the applicant would like to present in support of his/her competence for the aforementioned position.

During the recruitment process, interviews with the candidates can be initiated.

**Applications, with all enclosures, should be submitted by Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 3 p.m. (CET +1).** The applications are addressed to project leader, Professor Matti Laine and sent *either* electronically to the university registry on: [Registrar@abo.fi](mailto:Registrar@abo.fi) or by post to Åbo Akademi kansli, Registrator, Domkyrkotorget 3, 20500 Åbo, Finland. Please state "Application / BrainTrain: University researcher" in the subject field in the email or on the envelope.

**Åbo Akademi University is working for equal gender distribution in all staff categories, and therefore wishes to receive applications from both women and men.**