

ÅAU doctoral research grants spring 2024 (announcement 27.12.2023-23.1.2024)

Evaluation process and criteria

- The applications are evaluated for each faculty by [grant committee of the Strategic Council for Research \(FoR\)](#) at Åbo Akademi University.
- The evaluators do not assess any applicant which they supervise or any projects in which they are involved.
- The research plan is evaluated according to the following criteria: academic quality (scale 1-6) and feasibility (within the allotted time) (scale 0-2)
- Academic quality
 - 1 = Poor: Very few strengths and several major weaknesses
 - 2 = Fair: Some strengths, but at least one major weakness or a number of minor weaknesses.
 - 3 = Good: Some strengths and some weaknesses
 - 4 = Very good: Strong plan with minor weaknesses
 - 5 = Excellent: Very strong plan with negligible weaknesses
 - 6 = Outstanding: Exceptionally strong plan with negligible weaknesses
- Feasibility (within the allotted time)
 - 0 = Not feasible
 - 1 = Partially feasible
 - 2 = Feasible
- If the research plan is evaluated as *Not feasible*, the academic quality will be evaluated as 0. If the research plan is evaluated as *Partially feasible* or *Feasible*, the academic quality will be evaluated on the scale 1-6.
- Doctoral students who have already received funding for 48 months (or more) are not entitled to apply for a grant in this specific announcement
- Previously received funding for the doctoral studies will be considered; if a doctoral research grant is awarded, the total received funding can amount to a maximum of 48 months.

Decision process

- The evaluators grade each application individually, without discussing the grades with other evaluators. The grades are sent to Research Services, where an overall average/total points will be calculated for each applicant.
- Based on the average/total points, a list in order of preference will be sent to the evaluators, who make a decision proposal for the research grants per faculty.
- The final granting decision will be confirmed at the FoR meeting on February 29, 2024, after which all applicants receive notice of the result via email.