

City of Helsinki Research Grants

Please fill in the application carefully and follow the instructions. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The research grants are intended for post-graduate students who already hold a master's degree or the equivalent and are working on a doctoral or licentiate thesis. Junior post doc researchers (people who have received their doctorate within the last five years) are also encouraged to apply.

A grant may only be awarded once to the same researcher in the same project.

Grants may be awarded for research focusing on:

- issues related to urbanisation and its effects,
- issues related to Helsinki's economy, vitality and/or business conditions,
- organisation and evaluation of services produced or ordered by the City of Helsinki,
- Helsinki's living environment, wellbeing, history, everyday life, and urban culture,
- issues related to Helsinki's internationalisation, and/or
- Helsinki's crisis resilience and preparedness for significant exterior changes.

The grants are awarded to individual researchers, not to research groups. A typical grant for an individual applicant would be from 2,000 to 8,000 euros. The grant does not provide funding for equipment purchases.

The applications will be evaluated on three criteria, which are of equal importance (1/3 of the points):

- 1) relevance for Helsinki. Relevance for Helsinki refers to how the research is connected to Helsinki or the operations of the City of Helsinki
- 2) scientific quality and
- 3) feasibility of the research plan

You must attach the following documents to the application:

- CV, detailing previous activities and degrees,
- research plan, maximum five pages.

References (if any) can be attached to the application. No other attachments will be taken into account.

The applicant must indicate what information is to be kept confidential, if any, and include it in separate attachments. The city will consider whether the information or documents considered confidential by the applicant should, in fact, be treated as confidential based on legislation. If the applicant does not indicate confidential information as stated above, the city may treat the applicant's application as public in its entirety.



Deliver the application to the City of Helsinki Registry:

Helsingin kaupungin kirjaamo

Tutkimusapurahat

PL 10

00099 HELSINGIN KAUPUNKI

(street address: Helsinki City Hall, Pohjoisesplanadi 11–13)

or by e-mail to:

helsinki.kirjaamo@hel.fi

by March 9th 2026, 23:59. Even applications sent by mail must arrive in the registry by the due time.

The grants will be awarded in June 2026. All applicants will be notified of the decision.

If you need more information about the grants, please contact Research Director Eero Aalto, tel. +358 9 310 35821, e-mail: eero.aalto@hel.fi.

Responsibilities of grant recipients

The recipient of a grant shall file a declaration of the use of the grant to the City of Helsinki after the research has been completed. If the research is not completed during the year following the year in which the grant was awarded, the applicant shall provide an explanation of how the research is progressing as well as a plan on how it will be completed. Grant recipients shall provide the final publication to the City of Helsinki.

Grants received for studies or scientific activity from municipalities are free of tax:

[Find out about the taxation of grants, scholarships and recognition awards](#)

Grant recipients should check with the insurance institution Mela whether they need to take out an insurance, [see Mela's instructions for grant recipients](#)



Grant Application 2026

Helsingin kaupungin kirjaamo
Tutkimusapurahat
PL 10
00099 HELSINGIN KAUPUNKI
(Street address: City Hall Pohjoisesplanadi 11–13)
helsinki.kirjaamo@hel.fi

1. Applicant information

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| Last name of applicant | First names of applicant |
| Personal identity number (both sections) | Degree and graduation year |
| Current post/position | |
| Employer | |
| Street address, postal code and city | |
| E-mail address | Telephone |
| Bank account number (IBAN) | |

2. Application information and requested grant amount

| | |
|--|--|
| Name of research | |
| Amount requested (EUR) | Is this a Licentiate thesis Doctoral thesis Postdoctoral research Something else, specify: |
| Organisation (such as university) where the research will be conducted | |
| Field of science | |

3. Detailed description and further information

Summary of research plan, max. 700 characters (a separate research plan of maximum 5 pages shall be attached to the application)

How the research is connected to Helsinki or the operations of the City of Helsinki, so-called relevance for Helsinki, max. 700 characters

The intended use for the grant, please itemise (cost, purpose of use, brief justification)

4. Recommendations and previous grants

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| References (whose letters of reference are attached to the application) |
| City of Helsinki Research Grants received previously (year, name of research, amount of grant) |
| Other funding obtained for this project within the past five years (year, amount, grant awarding organisation or funding source) |
| Unresolved grant applications related to the project |
| The decision may be sent in an electronic format Yes No |
| If awarded a grant, I give permission to publish my name on the City of Helsinki website Yes No |

| | |
|------|-----------|
| Date | Signature |
|------|-----------|