

During 2020, the Sakari Alhopuro Foundation will be awarding grants to **researchers who have completed a doctorate in medicine or the natural sciences** as a means of providing them with the opportunity to continue to pursue high-level research. Applicants must have completed their doctorate less than **7 years prior to application**. Any interruptions in studies caused by child care leave, conscript service, illness or specialist training are acceptable exclusions.

Grants are awarded for research projects and/or as personal work grants. The total sum of the grant can be a maximum of EUR 60,000. In order to receive a project grant, the researcher must have access to a location where the research can be conducted. Project grants can include a university or research institute's so-called overhead expense share, which can be a maximum of 7.5 per cent. The application must include the contact information of a competent representative of the research institution that has issued the relevant work permit. A personal research work grant is funding intended for the personal use of the researcher, and it can be no greater than the maximum tax-free artist grant. In 2019, the total amount of the annual artist grant was EUR 20,728.44.

As part of the process of assessing research projects, the focus will be placed on the research topic, past research, the research plan and the researcher's possibilities to conduct the research. The financial plan must be detailed and explained. It is possible to get continued funding as well, but such decisions are always made separately. Funding can also be granted for research work conducted abroad or continued research upon returning to Finland. The application must include the contact information of a competent representative of the research institution that has issued the invite or relevant work permit (*see above*).

The Foundation reserves the right to use external experts for the purpose of assessing the grant applications. The Foundation's decisions and the names of the experts will not be public information. The Foundation can, if necessary, request additional information from the applicant before making its final decision.

In the application, applicants shall include information about any activities conducted up until the present date and details concerning no more than **10 of their most important scientific publications**. A **five-page research plan** shall be submitted with the application.

The application period for grants is February. The application shall be submitted electronically. Grant recipients will be notified of the decision by e-mail. Grant recipients will be published on the Foundation's website by the end of May following the application period.