



Call for Letters of Intent

The Doctoral Programme in Geosciences at the University of Helsinki – educating the next generation of top-level geoscientists.

The [Doctoral Programme in Geoscience \(Geodoc\)](#) is one of the seven doctoral programmes within the Doctoral School of Natural Sciences at the University of Helsinki. Geodoc is an international programme, educating currently ca. 60 doctoral candidates. The candidates come from all parts of the world (over one third from outside Finland) and their main subjects vary from geology to physical geography and from solid earth geophysics to archaeology.

The Doctoral Programme in Geosciences calls for

LETTERS OF INTENT FOR DOCTORAL STUDIES

in order to bring prospective doctoral candidates with strong academic record into contact with Geodoc supervisors.

The most impressive submitters of a Letter of Intent will be contacted and interviewed, after which supervisors may decide to help them in preparing a research proposal for the next call for university-funded positions in September 2022 or for external funding for doctoral studies.

N.B.: the possible mutual interest arising from the Letter of Intent does not guarantee the admission to pursue doctoral degree or work at the University of Helsinki.

The submitters of the Letters of Intent are expected to hold a second-cycle degree (e.g. Master's) or to presumably obtain such by the end of August 2022. Students interested in pursuing graduate studies after completion of Bachelor's thesis are encouraged to apply to our [Master's Programme in Geology and Geophysics](#) or [Master's Programme in Geography](#). These programmes have a strong record of preparing students for continuing directly to GeoDoc.

Please also check the [general rules of eligibility](#) for doctoral studies.

Submitting Letters of Intent

The Letters of Intent must be submitted electronically by filling in [this form](#). The call opens on 1.5.2022. Deadline for submitting the application is 31.5.2022, 23:59 EEST (UTC/GMT +3 hours).

The attachments listed below must be provided in one pdf-file in English, Finnish or Swedish. For the documents in other languages, translation to one of these languages must be included. The documents required in the attachment for the Letter of Intent:

- Scanned copy of second-cycle/Master's degree certificate (or confirmation for presumably obtaining such by the end of August 2022 by a thesis supervisor)



- Scanned copy of transcript of records including all passed course units, their completion dates, grades (including the grading scale of the institution) and credits awarded
- Curriculum vitae
- List of publications (if applicable)
- Motivation letter (max. 1 page)

In addition, a recommendation letter from applicant's MSc (or other thesis) supervisor is needed. Without a recommendation by the supervisor indicated in the electronic form the Letter of Intent is not considered. The recommendations are required by 5.6.2022 (more information in the electronic form).

General on doctoral studies at the University of Helsinki

At the University of Helsinki the right to pursue doctoral studies and having funding for the studies are two separate things.

The admission to pursue doctoral studies is given by the faculties of the University of Helsinki. The doctoral programmes recommend the admission of the best applicants to the faculties and are responsible for the doctoral education. The doctoral studies are designed to take four years. The admission to pursue doctoral studies does not imply funding.

Funding for a doctoral candidate may come from various sources, from the university, various projects and foundations. The main duties of a university funded doctoral candidate are to work on his or her own doctoral thesis and to complete postgraduate studies (minimum of 40 ECTS). The duties also include teaching and other tasks.

For further information on Geodoc

Please see the [programme's website](#).

In case of questions, please contact the coordinator of Geodoc by e-mail: geodoc-info@helsinki.fi