

Doctoral Researcher to conduct research on developing  
educational practices and partnerships in interdisciplinary  
education  
Aalto University

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Posted Oct. 13, 2025, set to expire Feb. 12, 2026

**Job Title** Doctoral Researcher to conduct research on  
developing educational practices and partnerships in  
interdisciplinary education

**Department** T213 Built Environment

**Institution** Aalto University  
, , Finland

**Date Posted** Oct. 13, 2025

**Application Deadline** Open until filled

**Position Start Date** Available immediately

**Job Categories** Professional Staff

**Academic Field(s)** Education - General

**Job Website** [https://aalto.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/aalto/job/Otaniemi-Espoo-Finland/Doctoral-Researcher-to-conduct-research-on-developing-educational-practices-and-partnerships-in-interdisciplinary-education\\_R44488-5](https://aalto.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/aalto/job/Otaniemi-Espoo-Finland/Doctoral-Researcher-to-conduct-research-on-developing-educational-practices-and-partnerships-in-interdisciplinary-education_R44488-5)

**Apply By Email**

**Job Description**

Aalto University is where science and art meet technology and business. We shape a sustainable future by making research breakthroughs in and across our disciplines, sparking the game changers of tomorrow and creating novel solutions to major global challenges. Our community is made up of 120 nationalities, 14 000 students, 400 professors and close to 5000 faculty and staff working on our dynamic campus in Espoo, Greater Helsinki, Finland. Diversity is part of who we are, and we actively work to ensure our community's diversity and inclusiveness. This is why we warmly encourage qualified candidates from all backgrounds to join our community.

Are you eager to turn educational research into practice and drive meaningful change in higher

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education?

We are looking for a Doctoral Researcher to conduct research on developing educational practices and partnerships in interdisciplinary education.

[url=https://www.aalto.fi/en/aalto-university/engineering-education-research]Engineering Education Research Group (EERG) at Department of Built Environment, Aalto School of Engineering invites applications for a position of a Doctoral Researcher (D. Sc. in Tech.) to join the InnoWAT project on renewing engineering education through problem-based learning (PBL), mentoring, and international collaboration.

InnoWAT (2025-2029) is a project led by EERG and Distinguished Professor Olli Varis, implemented through Aalto University's [url=https://www.aalto.fi/en/sgt-programme/]Sustainable Global Technologies Programme, and funded by The Land and Water Technology Foundation (Maa- ja vesitekniikan tuki ry). It advances teaching, research, and impact in interdisciplinary engineering education. The project will produce research on teachers' professional competence development and guidance practices in PBL and co-develop models that can be scaled in engineering education. It also implements new courses and collaborative teaching formats that connect students, mentors, and international partners in addressing global sustainability challenges. The project is implemented in close collaboration with the teaching faculty of [url=https://www.aalto.fi/en/study-options/water-and-environmental-engineering-master-of-science-technology]Water and Environmental Engineering (WAT) Master's Programme with potential for wider collaboration in Aalto and other universities.

The applicant for doctoral studies must satisfy the admission requirements of Aalto University, please see [url=https://www.aalto.fi/en/study-options/aalto-doctoral-programme-in-engineering#11-how-to-apply-]Aalto Doctoral Programme in Engineering - How to apply. Do note that the applicants are not expected to apply to the Aalto doctoral programme at this point - only the successful candidate will do this at the next application window.

#### Your role and goals

The doctoral researcher will explore interdisciplinary environments, with a particular interest in how teaching, collaboration, and support structures are designed and experienced by students, teachers, and other actors. The research may focus on mentoring practices, stakeholder engagement, or other dimensions of teaching and learning that shape competence development in complex, real-world settings. The aim is to produce both theoretical insights and practical contributions to support the development of interdisciplinary engineering education at Aalto and beyond.

More specifically, as the doctoral researcher, you will: \* Conduct research on PBL courses by utilizing

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mixed methods approaches (combining, e.g., interviews, diaries, surveys, course materials, longitudinal studies) \* Publish findings in international education journals and contribute to practitioner-oriented outputs (e.g., mentor training materials) \* Collaborate closely with teachers, students, and international partners of WAT Master's Programme and SGT Programme \* Participate in course implementation, teaching activities, and mobility activities through SGT Programme and EERG.

The final research focus and methodological design will be determined jointly between the doctoral candidate and the supervisory team, in a way that supports the candidate's professional development and aligns with InnoWAT's goals.

Your experience and ambitions \* A master's degree in a relevant field (e.g. education/learning sciences, higher education, engineering/technology education, educational psychology, social or management sciences, engineering fields, interdisciplinary education, or related) \* Strong qualitative research skills and openness to or experience with mixed methods and action research is an advantage \* Interest in PBL, interdisciplinary collaboration, sustainability education, and higher education development \* Ability to work both independently and in diverse teams, and to build networks across disciplines and contexts \* Excellent written and verbal communication in English \* Experience with education development or multistakeholder collaboration is an asset.

What we offer \* A full-time, fixed-term doctoral researcher position (expected duration: 4 years). The expected starting date is by the 1st of January 2026. \* Supervision in an interdisciplinary research group, with diverse opportunities to learn new research methods, network, and get support on career planning. \* Opportunities to engage in international collaboration, including with partners in Europe, Africa, and Latin America. \* Salary according to the Finnish university salary system (starting at 2960 €/month, increasing with progress). The contract includes occupational healthcare, and Finland offers a comprehensive social security system. \* A vibrant and inclusive research environment, with support for doctoral training and participation in international conferences.

We value work-life balance and well-being in all aspects of life. The primary workplace is located at the Otaniemi Campus in Espoo, Finland. Life on the revitalized campus is vibrant, and features stunning architecture, tranquil nature, and a variety of cafes, restaurants, and services, all complemented by excellent public transportation connections.

#### How to apply

To apply for the position, please submit the following documents as a single pdf file using the link "Apply Now". Application materials should be submitted in English. \* Motivation letter (max 2 pages: describe your motivation, scientific interests and career goals, and mention your earliest possible starting date) \* Curriculum Vitae (CV), including previous experience, relevant skills for the position,

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and list of publications (if any). You may, if you wish, follow the CV guidelines by the Finnish National Board on Research Integrity ([url=https://www.tenk.fi/en/template-researchers-curriculum-vitae]TENK) \*  
Highest degree certificate and transcripts of studies (with clear explanation on the grading scale) \*  
Contact details (affiliation, email, telephone) of two references.

Please note: Aalto University's employees should apply for the position via our internal HR system Workday (Internal Jobs) by using their existing Workday user account (not via the external webpage for open positions). If you are a student or visitor at Aalto University, please apply with your personal email address (not aalto.fi) via [url=https://www.aalto.fi/en/careers-at-aalto]Aalto University open positions.

The call is open until November 15th 2025, but we will start reviewing the applications immediately and the position may be filled before the end of the call. Aalto University reserves the right for justified reasons to leave the position open and to extend the application period.

For additional information on the position, kindly contact prof. Olli Varis ([url=mailto:olli.varis@aalto.fi]olli.varis@aalto.fi). For more information on the process, please contact ENG HR Team ([url=mailto:hr-eng@aalto.fi]hr-eng@aalto.fi).

#### About Finland

Finland is a great place for living with or without family - it is a safe, politically stable and well-organized Nordic society. Finland is consistently ranked high in quality of life and was listed again as the happiest country in the world: [url=https://worldhappiness.report/news/world-happiness-report-2025-people-are-much-kinder-than-we-expect-research-shows/]World Happiness Report 2025

For more information about living in Finland: [url=https://www.aalto.fi/en/careers-at-aalto-for-international-staff]Aalto Careers for International Staff.

#### More about Aalto University:

[url=https://www.aalto.fi/en/open-positions]Aalto.fi

[url=https://www.youtube.com/user/aaltouniversity]youtube.com/user/aaltouniversity

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To view information about Workday Accessibility, please click

[url=http://www.aalto.fi/en/services/workday-recruiting-system-accessibility-interaction-overview]here.

#### Contact Information

Please reference Academickeys in your cover letter when

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applying for or inquiring about this job announcement.

**Contact**

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