

**CCPRB, Spreading of Excellence (SoE) Doctoral Program in Public Health,  
Tampere School of Public Health, University of Tampere,  
Finland**

## **Call for Applications**

### **Doctoral Program in Public Health, with emphasis on biobank-based research**

Tampere School of Public Health (TSPH) is organising a doctoral program in Public Health with emphasis on biobank-based research. The program is organised together with the EU Network of Excellence CCPRB (Cancer Control using Population Based Registries and Biobanks), which is a network in 9 EU countries involving 7 cancer registries, 20 biobanks and several platforms for high throughput analyses of biobank samples.

**The programme will be organised as follows:**

- 1 academic year of theoretical training, 2007-2008 (TSPH)**
- 2-3 years of research work, 2008- (CCPRB institutes/laboratories)**

The programme starting in September 2007 is now open for applications. A total of **6 to 8 students** will be accepted for the programme. The **deadline** for the applications is **15 February 2007**. The decisions will be made by 15 March, 2007.

The first academic year includes postgraduate courses up to 60 ECTS in epidemiology, biostatistics, related public health sciences, biobanking theory and molecular analysis of samples, with emphasis on high through-put technologies.

Students who pass the theoretical part of the programme successfully will be accepted as research students in one of the CCPRB laboratories and are expected to complete research work qualifying for a Doctoral degree in Public Health.

There are no tuition or course fees for the students in the programme. Travel and accommodation costs are covered (within certain limits). The course language is English.

#### **Prerequisites:**

- \*A Masters degree (at least 3 years of University studies) in a relevant area of study such as Medicine, Public Health, Biomedicine or Biostatistics.
- \*Good abilities in understanding, reading and writing scientific English.
- \*Basic knowledge in cancer biology and/or epidemiology is also desirable.

**The application form:**

The application form is available and can be downloaded at:

<http://www.uta.fi/laitokset/tsph/SoE.htm>

**The application should also include:**

- 1) Curriculum Vitae (maximum three pages); with education and research experience
- 2) An account of the financial support available for the student, including possible salary, as well as confirmed and pending grant applications and other sources. Statement must show that you have at least EUR 500 for one month or EUR 6000 for one year at your disposal.
- 3) Official statement of English skills (e.g. TOEFL test score)
- 4) A description of research interests (max 1 pages).
- 5) An account of why the applicant is interested in the programme and how he/she is going to utilize the acquired capabilities (max 2 pages)
- 6) If available: A list of publications (authors, article title, journal name with volume and pages, year of publication)
- 7) If available: A letter of recommendation from a distinguished person in science, public health or education (max three letters, preferably one from the employer)
- 8) Copies of university degree certificates
- 9) Letter of confirmation (only with the electronic application)
- 10) Certificate of a Medical Insurance Policy (recommendation)

The criteria evaluated in student selection include motivation and qualifications, particularly with regards to possibility to contribute to cancer epidemiology and public health. Some of the applicants may be interviewed by telephone.

**Duration of the studies:** The first academic year of theoretical and applied studies will require periods of residence in Finland. The completion of the PhD dissertation further involves conducting epidemiological research, typically resulting in 3-5 scientific articles, which usually takes 2 additional years of full-time work. The research is conducted at an institute within the EU selected by the student and approved by the selected institute, preferably one of the CCPRB-participating institutes.

**Credits:** The one academic year of theoretical training comprises of up to 60 ECTS from postgraduate courses, monthly research seminar and individual tutoring which is approximately equivalent to completing the theoretical postgraduate studies (if completed in University of Tampere).

The first academic year of the **programme** will be organized in collaboration with the **International Postgraduate Programme in Epidemiology (IPPE)** of the School of Public Health, University of Tampere. For further information about IPPE, please contact International Coordinator Catarina Stähle-Nieminen E-mail: [catarina.stahle-nieminen@uta.fi](mailto:catarina.stahle-nieminen@uta.fi), Tel. +358 3 3551 7803.

The completed application forms for the programme should be received (by e-mail or mail) by **15 February 2007** and all attachments in printed form no later than **28 February 2007**. Applications and requests for further information should be addressed to:

Matti Lehtinen, Research Professor  
Tampere School of Public Health  
FIN-33014 University of Tampere  
Tel. +358 3 3551 7219  
Fax +358 3 3551 8057  
E-mail: [soe2007@uta.fi](mailto:soe2007@uta.fi)

Other useful links:

University of Tampere [www.uta.fi](http://www.uta.fi)  
CCPRB Network of Excellence <http://www.cancerbiobank.org/>  
City of Tampere [www.tampere.fi](http://www.tampere.fi)  
Finland [www.finland.fi](http://www.finland.fi)  
Directorate of Immigration <http://www.uvi.fi/netcomm/Default.asp?language=EN>