



Åbo Akademi

Turku, December 2024

INVITATION TO CONFERRAL CEREMONY

Dear promovendi,

You are hereby invited to take part in Åbo Akademi University's **doctoral conferral ceremony in May 2025**.

We have noted that you have completed a doctoral degree from Åbo Akademi University, or that you will be defending your doctoral dissertation during the academic year, but that you have not previously participated in any doctoral conferral ceremony. The next doctoral conferral will take place on **Friday 23 May 2025**. You can participate in the conferral ceremony only in person in Turku.

Doctoral conferral festivities

The festivities will begin on **23 May at 12.00 in the Concert Hall in Turku**. After the conferral ceremony the promovendi will make their way, together with the academic staff, from the Concert Hall to **Turku Cathedral**, where an ecumenical conferral service will be held. The service begins at around **3 p.m.** The subsequent banquet will be hosted at **Logomo** and will commence at **7.30 p.m.**

In addition to conferring degrees upon those who have completed their doctorates at the university, fourteen ~~individuals~~ persons will also be awarded the title of Honorary Doctor. Jubilee Doctors will also be conferred.

All doctoral graduates are required to attend the rehearsal at the concert hall on the evening before, May 22.

The deadline for binding registration is January 31, 2025.

This letter is the formal invitation to the conferral ceremony of Spring 2025. Registration is done electronically. As part of the registration process, information for the conferral booklet is submitted, which includes a brief résumé for all promovendi.

Doctoral researchers who intend to defend their dissertation in the coming months must earn their doctoral degree **no later than 31 March 2025** in order to attend the conferral ceremony. For more information, please contact the conferral team, promotion@abo.fi

On the following page, you will find practical information regarding your preparations. The information will also be available on the conferral ceremony pages as the arrangements progress.

Conferral Ceremony registration lyyti.fi/reg/aapromotion2025
Conferral Ceremony pages abo.fi/promotion

For the Conferral Committee,

Tom Grönroos

Event Producer, Management and Faculty Support Services

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Doctoral hats and lyres

Each *promovendi* will have to order their own hat. This will require a personal visit to the hat maker's where the shape of the head will be carefully measured. This is necessary because the hats are made to measure, and once formed, cannot be reshaped. For this reason, it is not possible only to submit one's usual hat size when ordering the hat. Hat suppliers and prices can be found on the conferral ceremony pages. The pages also contain information about ordering the hat and sword from the same supplier (Au Holmberg) at a more favorable package price.

With the exception of the Theology subjects, all faculties have a doctoral hat with a lyre. The hat maker generally knows which hat/lyre the various faculties and disciplines have, but illustrations of the insignia can also be found on the conferral website. There you will also find providers of doctoral hats in Helsinki and Turku, and the prices (500–800 euro).

Please note that several universities will organize doctoral conferral ceremonies next year in May. This means that you will have to order your doctoral hat in good time (in January at the latest).

The sword

At ÅAU, the **Doctors of Philosophy, Doctors of Philosophy (Psychology), Doctors of Philosophy (Education), Doctors of Philosophy (Pharmacy), Doctors of Health Sciences and Doctors of Laws** will be presented swords at the conferral. ÅAU's sword has its own hilt engraved with the Brahe wings. The sword is sold in two sizes (85 cm and 95 cm); we recommend the shorter. For the sake of convenience, ÅAU will place a general order for the swords. The swords are fitted with hilt and engraved (with initials). ÅAU have chosen to order the swords from Au Holmberg. Price: 330 €/sword incl. V.A.T.

When registering, kindly indicate whether you wish us to order a sword for you. To facilitate the delivery, the swords will be delivered from the provider directly to the university. Alternatively, you can use a borrowed sword, in which case, please make sure that the sword you are wearing has the hilt of ÅAU (see picture on conferral website).

Collar and brooch for Doctors of Technology

According to conferral protocol, male *promovendi* of Technology should also wear a black velvet collar with an embroidered emblem sewn on to their tail-suit. Female *promovendi* of Technology can wear an embroidered brooch, which is to be worn at academic occasions and fastened on the left side of the dress. More information about the collar and brooch on the conferral website.

Banquet at Logomo

The banquet will begin at 7.30 p.m. at Logomo. It will be a festive occasion with speeches, good food, and dancing. **The price of a ticket to the banquet is approx. 175 €/person.** Each person is responsible for the cost of their own ticket. Formal invitations (with *avec*) to the banquet will be issued to *promovendi* at a later date.

Lodgings

Each person wishing to attend the ceremony is responsible for the cost of their stay in Turku. More information about the hotels is available at the conferral website.

For instructions on attire, please see the conferral website.

Please feel free to send us an e-mail or call us if you have any questions or queries regarding the ceremony. We are at your service and look forward to an unforgettable conferral 2025!