



18.9.2026

## INFORMATION SHEET FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

### 1. Invitation to participate in research

We invite you to participate in **Kohti YKI-tutkintoa**, a study examining how language proficiency requirements and language tests affect adult immigrants and their integration. Data for this sub-study will be collected during YKI preparatory courses in the spring and fall of 2026. Some of those who register will be invited to share their experiences of the preparatory course and the importance of taking the exam even after the course ends. The study will conclude in 2028.

You are invited to participate in the study because you have registered for a YKI preparatory course at a participating institution.

This information sheet describes the study and what participating in it means for you. The Privacy Notice provides information on the processing of your personal data.

To participate in the study, you must be enrolled in the YKI preparatory course to be held in 2026, which prepares participants for the intermediate level exam in Finnish or Swedish. The study will involve about 35 participants. This is a single study, and you will not be contacted again later in relation to this study.

### 2. Voluntary participation

Participation in this study is voluntary. You can refuse to participate in the study, withdraw from the study or your consent at any time, without stating a reason. This will have no negative consequences for you.

You will not be treated differently in the course if you do not wish to participate in the study, and your decision will not affect your YKI test results.

If you discontinue your participation in the study or withdraw your consent, the data collected about you up to that point will be used as part of the research material when necessary to verify the research results.

### 3. Progress of the study

This study examines preparations for the YKI test and the short-term effects of language proficiency requirements and language tests. The study will be conducted from 2025 to 2028. During the study, the researcher will observe your activities in the course, participate in discussions, and interview you. These activities may be recorded, and the researcher will take notes. The study will take place at the same location as the course. The course location is determined by the course organizer. The researcher may also ask you to participate in interviews even after the course has ended. All research activities are voluntary, and participation in the study does not entail any obligation to take part in interviews or other activities. During the interviews and discussions, we will talk about your experiences and goals regarding the course content. You will also be asked to keep a learning journal. This means that you will take notes on your

experiences and thoughts throughout the course. The researcher may also use other materials that you choose to share with her. We will treat your information confidentially.

#### **4. Possible benefits from the study**

The study will provide new information on the effects of language proficiency requirements and language testing on adult immigrants and their integration. The study gives you the opportunity to share your own experiences and views.

#### **5. Possible risks, harm, and inconvenience caused by the study as well as preparing for these**

Participating in the study will not cause any harm to participants, nor does it involve any particular risks or discomfort. However, the study may bring up experiences, feelings, and memories that cause discomfort. You can tell the researcher at any time if you feel that participation is too stressful for you.

#### **6. Compensation for participation and reimbursement of study-related costs**

Participants receive no payment or compensation for possible travel costs for this study. The price of the YKI preparatory course include the necessary materials used during the course as well as taking the YKI test once (1) on an exam date agreed for the course. For the fall course, the possible test days are in fall 2026 and spring 2027.

The study is funded by the University of Jyväskylä. Furthermore, in years 2025-2029, the study is funded by the Research Council of Finland.

#### **7. Informing about research results and research outcomes**

The study will yield scientific publications and a doctoral dissertation, conference and seminar presentations, and possibly published research tools and research materials. The participants cannot be identified from the published findings. Further information about the project is available on its website [www.jyu.fi/fi/hankkeet/impact](http://www.jyu.fi/fi/hankkeet/impact)

The participants cannot be identified from the publications or published results.

#### **8. Insurance coverage for research participants**

The University of Jyväskylä has insurance for its activities and research participants. The participants are covered for accidents, damages and injuries inflicted due to an external cause. The accident insurance is valid during measurements, measurement visits and trips directly related to them.

If research is conducted remotely, the insurance of the University of Jyväskylä covers only damage directly related to the research task which has occurred during the guided research task. The insurance does not cover accidents that occur during breaks. The insurance of the University of Jyväskylä is not valid in the case of research conducted remotely if a participant's municipality of residence is not in Finland.

#### **9. Contact person for further information**

Lotta Leinamo, doctoral researcher  
[lotta.m.leinamo@jyu.fi](mailto:lotta.m.leinamo@jyu.fi)  
 +358504733483

Mari Honko, principal investigator  
[mari.h.honko@jyu.fi](mailto:mari.h.honko@jyu.fi)  
 +358408053165