

FACSria training and service options

Practical instructions for new users

You can contact the FACSria administration by sending an email to [facsaria-admin \[ät\] helsinki.fi](mailto:facsaria-admin@helsinki.fi). To apply for access to the instrument, specify the following details:

- Your name, email, phone number and work address
- Billing address and contact details for the person who will pay the instrument usage fees
- Your previous training or experience of flow cytometry
- Short description of the planned sorting experiments (see below for details)

User training

Practical training can be arranged by agreement throughout the year, but preferably in June, August, November or December. It is strongly recommended that the training sessions are scheduled close to the start of planned experiments. 1 - 3 persons can participate at a time. The training usually consists of 1-2 hands-on sessions of 3-4 hours at the instrument plus 1-2 supervised runs during which you operate the instrument yourself but can get help if needed. For the first 1-2 training sessions a teaching fee will be charged in addition to the regular user fee.

We will adapt the training to your previously acquired knowledge of flow cytometry and your skill level. If you have no previous experience of flow cytometry, we can provide links to useful materials, which we recommend that you study before the hands-on sessions. During training we will aim at covering the specific topics that will be relevant for your experiments. Therefore, when applying for training, please describe any earlier knowledge or experience you have.

Also provide a brief summary of the kinds of experiments you are planning, specifically:

- do you only want to do bulk sorting into test tubes or also single cell sorting into eg. microwells
- what are the fluorochromes that you plan to use (include data on their fluorescence excitation and emission maxima)
- will multicolor staining be included
- what are the cells/particles you plan to sort (cell type, primary or cultured cells etc.), how have they been treated prior to sorting (eg. transfection)
- intended use of the sorted cells: cell culture, RNA/DNA extraction, biochemical assays etc.

After completion of the training you will get access to the booking system and can use the instrument independently. Help is available by request.

Sorting as service

If you need to have your cells sorted on a one-time basis (typically for enrichment of GFP-transfected cells just once or only very few times), there is a limited possibility of getting them sorted by service. In your inquiry, please include information on your cells, labels etc. as detailed above.

Contact: [facsaria-admin \[ät\] helsinki.fi](mailto:facsaria-admin@helsinki.fi) or [tiina.pessa-morikawa \[ät\] helsinki.fi](mailto:tiina.pessa-morikawa@helsinki.fi)