

# Tuition fees at Aalto University

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# Today's agenda

- Tuition fees in Finland and at Aalto University
- Scholarships at Aalto University
- Additional ways to fund your studies and ideas for budgeting
- Tuition fee exemptions
- Tuition fee refunds
- Exchange studies as a tuition fee liable student
- Effects of the governmental programme
- Support channels and available services
- Event suggestions
- Q&A – possibility to also ask one-to-one after the presentation

# Tuition fees in Finland

- **Tuition fees are required by law**
  - Less flexibility on university's tuition fee regulations
  - No possibility to negotiate on tuition fees in individual cases
- **Tuition fees are mandatory for students, who:**
  - are outside the EU/EEA/Switzerland area
  - study in a bachelor's or master's programme taught in a language other than Finnish or Swedish.
- **No tuition fees in doctoral programmes**



# Tuition fees at Aalto

- **Tuition fees at Aalto University are paid annually**
  - 12,000 EUR / year in bachelor's programmes
  - 15,000 EUR / year in master's programmes
- **Paying the tuition fee**
  - Tuition fee invoice sent by email before the enrolment period begins
  - After you have paid the tuition fee, you will get the receipt by email when the payment has been received at Aalto
  - Tuition fee must be paid in full before registering as attending for the upcoming academic year
  - Tuition fees paid in a single instalment
  - Registering as non-attending possible for one academic year + non-attendance based on statutory reasons -> contact student services!

# Tuition fees / scholarships in joint programmes

- Tuition fees paid to Aalto University, to partner university, or to the equivalent organizer (programme fees)
  - If you pay tuition fees to Aalto, you are eligible also for Aalto's scholarships
  - Tuition fees to partner university or programme fees -> scholarships there
- **NB! If you pay tuition fees to different universities, note that you can get e.g. the Incentive-Based Scholarship only for the academic year you pay Aalto's tuition fees**





# Remember to update your personal details in the student register

- After you have your Finnish ID and Finnish address, remember to update them to Sisu -> important to all, esp. for scholarship grantees (for taxation)
- You can update your address yourself
  - Sisu -> my profile -> personal data
- To update the Finnish ID, you need to contact the student services
  - Send copies of the document containing your Finnish ID (e.g. residence permit card or DVV's document) to the student services
  - Remember to use encrypted message, by sending the copies from you Aalto email to [studentservices@aalto.fi.s](mailto:studentservices@aalto.fi.s) (note the .s in the end)
  - You can also visit the student services in person

# Scholarships at Aalto University

- Scholarship programme available to tuition fee liable students.
- Scholarships can be applied for at different times:
  - Scholarships allocated during the admission process
  - Scholarships applied for during studies (what you can apply for depends on whether you already have a scholarship from Aalto and if yes, what kind of scholarship)



# Tuition fee waivers: Scholarship monitoring

- **Tuition fee waivers are granted upon admission**
  - Cannot be applied for later, or 50 % waiver cannot be changed to 100 %
  - Granted for the normative duration of studies, i.e. three years for bachelor's and two years for master's
  - Aalto Scholarship (50 % or 100 %), Finland Scholarship (100 %)
- **Scholarship requires full-time study and steady progress in studies according to the approved personal study plan. Study progress checked by the end of March in the spring term.**
  - If any issues, e.g. missing credits or possible discontinuation of scholarship, you will be contacted. These must be resolved by the end of April to leave time for enrolment or e.g. if you need to apply for a new RP.



# Scholarships applied for during studies

- **For fee-paying students (paying full tuition / 50 % tuition)**
  - Incentive-based scholarship
- **For bachelor's students**
  - Scholarships for continuing in Aalto's master's programmes
- **For everyone**
  - Additional term scholarship



# Incentive-based Scholarship

- **Reward fee-paying students making good progress in their studies.**
  - Student paying either full or partial tuition fee
- **Can be applied for during studies**
  - Granted if you have completed 60 ECTS credits (or above) of studies from your approved personal study plan during one academic year.
  - To apply, follow the information and instructions in email sent out towards the end of spring term.
- **The scholarship is worth 1,500 EUR and it is paid towards the end of autumn term (or upon graduation, where applicable).**
- **The Incentive-based Scholarship can be granted more than once.**

# **Scholarships for Aalto bachelor's graduates continuing in Aalto master's programmes**

- **All tuition-fee liable students in Aalto bachelor's programmes (taught in English) can obtain a full scholarship when continuing in the Aalto Master's programme covered by their original 3+2 right to study.**
  - Offered as a category A scholarship, covering 100% of tuition fees for the normative duration of the Aalto's master's programme (i.e. two years).
- **Requirements for the scholarship**
  - Complete your Aalto bachelor's degree in normative time (i.e. three years)
  - Final grade point average of 3.80 or above
- **The scholarship for continuing in the Aalto master's programmes does not cover any Aalto Master's programme that requires a separate application in the Aalto Master's Admissions from the student.**

# Additional Term Scholarship

- **Both bachelor's and master's students can apply – targeted for students who cannot graduate in the normative duration of the programme**
- **Can be applied on the condition that**
  - your studies have progressed in accordance with the approved study plan and that
  - you have a realistic, approved plan to complete the remainder of the programme.
- **The scholarship has a strict requirement that you submit your Bachelor's or Master's thesis by the agreed deadline, successfully complete the programme, and apply for graduation within the additional term.**
- **The scholarship is offered as 100% tuition fee waiver for one term.**

# Other scholarships and additional ways to fund studies

- **Aalto Dean's Awards** in some schools (BIZ, CHEM, ELEC, SCI)
- **External scholarships (outside Aalto)**
  - Int'l organisations, funds, awards, governmental support from home etc.
  - Could be based on e.g. nationality, field of studies
  - Scholarship Portal: <https://www.scholarshipportal.com/>
- **Working in Finland**
  - Part-time work, full-time work (e.g. in summer)
  - Online course on working life in Finland: 'Finland Works'
  - Help with career planning: Career Design Lab at Aalto
- **Projects, paid internships, paid master's thesis... (possibly credits, too!)**



# Lifehacks for managing your budget

- Always ask for student benefits, you can get great discounts (with student card)
- Supermarkets can have discounted products, e.g. after a certain time of day or if expiry date is close (usually marked with red labels)
- Equipment can be hired from libraries, even for free (e.g. sports, music, sewing machines)
- Buy second hand, e.g. Reuse Centres ('Kierrätyskeskus'), Aalto Marketplace

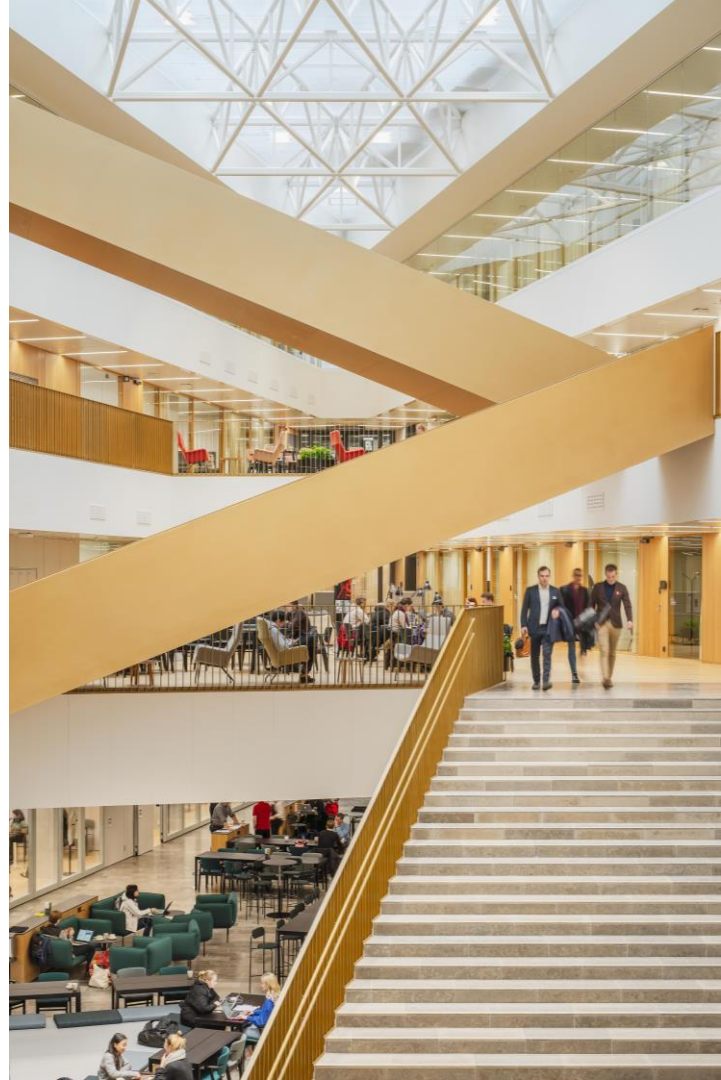


# Tuition fee exemptions

- **Residence permit or right of residence has to be valid**
  - 1 August to be exempted from tuition fees for the whole academic year
  - 1 January to be exempted from tuition fees for the spring term
- **You must present the new exempting permit / document to the student services before the end of the enrolment period.**
- **Tuition fee exemption is tied to the time that the exempting permit is valid – remember to send a copy of your new permit when you have it!**
- **Changes in tuition fee liability made in the middle of term will be effective, as a rule, from the beginning of the following term.**
- **The status of the exemption will be checked annually before the enrollment period begins.**

# Exempting residence permit types

- You are not liable to pay tuition fees if you are equivalent to an EU citizen or have one of the following:
  - permanent residence permit card in Finland (type P)
  - continuous residence permit card in Finland (type A), based on other grounds than studying
  - EU residence permit for third-country citizens with long-term residence permit card in Finland (type P-EU permit)
  - EU family member's residence card in Finland
  - EU blue card in Finland
  - Brexit residence permit card



# Residence permit based on studies

- Does not exempt from tuition fees
- Usually granted for the normative duration of studies -> Migri follows study progress
  - Requirement usually 45 credits per academic year (active studying)
  - Automatic checks
    - If something needs to be checked in more detail, Migri will contact you directly
    - RP not revoked without contacting you first
  - Contact Aalto's student services if needed
- If you work, remember to check the limits!



# Tuition fee refunds

- **You have a right to a full refund (excluding any bank charges) of a tuition fee paid to Aalto if:**
  - you enroll as non-attending due to reasons specified in the law (during first year of studies) or change your status from attending to non-attending (after first year of studies) during the enrolment period,
  - your residence permit status changes before the end of the enrolment period and you are no longer liable to pay fees
  - you are prevented from starting your studies by circumstances evidently beyond your control (force majeure),
  - you bindingly renounce your right to study during the enrolment period,
  - the university is unable to offer the degree programme you have been admitted to.
- **Please note that changes in the fee status made in the middle of term do not result in the reimbursement of the tuition fee for that term. The revised status will be effective from the beginning of the following term.**





# Exchange studies

- You can go for a student exchange if you have a scholarship or are paying tuition fees
- Bear in mind that it takes more time for courses to be registered in Sisu
  - If you are on an exchange during your last term, you might not have time to graduate during that academic year
  - Not recommended to have an exchange period during 6<sup>th</sup> term of bachelor's studies (NB! scholarship for master's studies)
- **Scholarship for exchange studies?**
  - Student Guide -> Other studies -> Exchange studies -> Funding for exchange studies



# Support channels

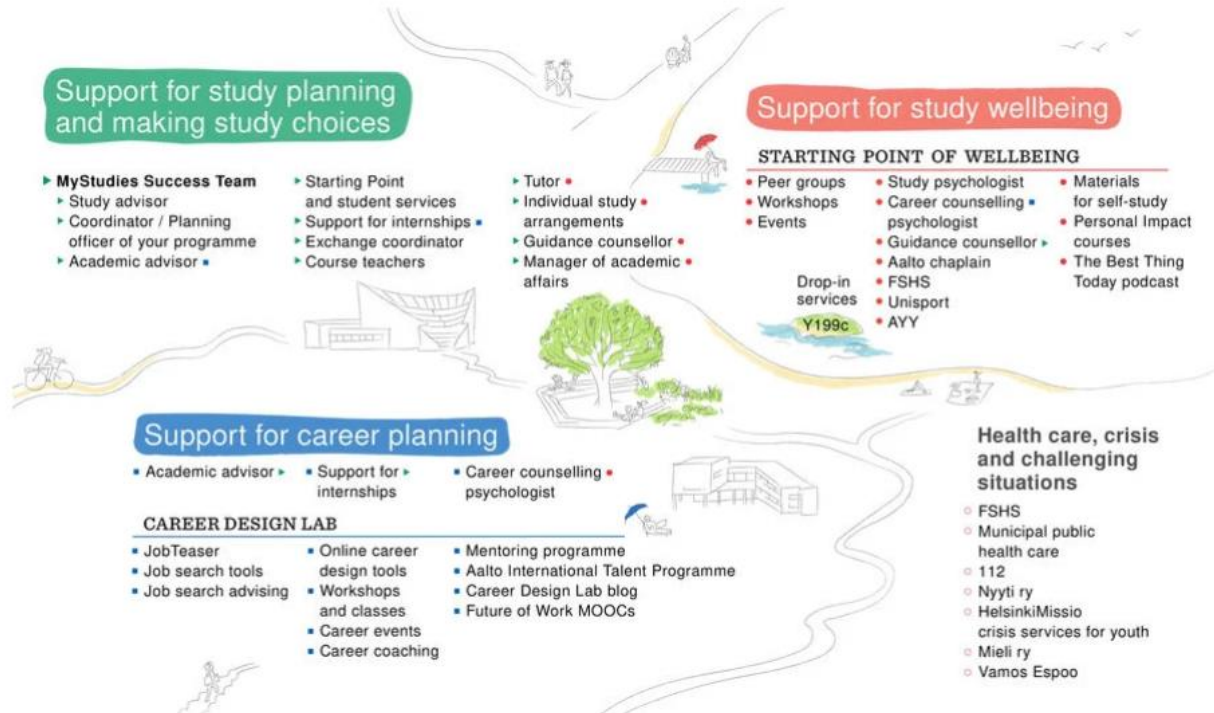
- **Student Guide -> New students -> International students -> Tuition fees and scholarships**
  - Tuition fees, scholarships, exemptions, FAQ
- **Tuition fee specialists at [tuitionfees@aalto.fi](mailto:tuitionfees@aalto.fi)**
- **Student Services of your school/programme**
  - Coordinator, planning officer, study affairs secretary, study advisor, tuition fee specialists...



# What other services can I use?

- Academic advisor
- Professors and lecturers
- Student Union AYY
- Career Services (Career Design Lab)
- Starting Point of Wellbeing
- Study psychologists
- Chaplaincy at the university and specific chaplaincies in Helsinki and Espoo. Mikkeli campus has a university chaplain too.
- Reach out – City of Espoo, Public Services, Nyyti, Home Embassy, clubs, societies, gatherings, events

# Support services



Aalto's guidance services are thus divided in three categories: (1) 'Support for study planning and making study choices', (2) 'Support for study wellbeing' and (3) 'Support for career planning'. Graphic design: Evgeniia Markevich.



# What if something unexpected happens?

- **Always contact your programme's student services!**
- **Several options**
  - Additional term scholarship
  - In some cases, extension of your additional term scholarship
  - Enrolment as non-attending if the situation allows





# Event suggestions

- **Beat the Blues! Wellbeing events for Aalto's international students**
  - Culture shock (25 Oct)
  - From winter-blues to embracing winter! (29 Nov)
- **Career Design Lab events**
  - Career evenings, company visits, career support webinars...
  - Talent Expo (2 Nov)
    - Virtual opportunities (31 Oct – 1 Nov)
  - Thesis fair for master's (31 Oct)
- **Lots of other possibilities!**



# Effects of the governmental programme

- A lot of discussions and worries have been raised about the suggested changes concerning e.g. the status of international students
- Possible changes in the upcoming years
  - Increases to the pricing of tuition fees
  - Specifications to the residence permits, e.g. regarding residence permits exempting from tuition fees
  - Application fees
- According to the current guidelines, increases in tuition fees do not affect those already studying at Aalto

# Key points

- Your wellbeing is the top priority.
- Be aware of the tuition fee regulations but don't sacrifice your wellbeing.
- If you have any questions or doubts, never hesitate to contact us.



# Thank you!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask!

You can also leave us feedback 😊  
(check the QR code for the form)

<https://link.webropol.com/s/tuitionfees04102023>

