
How to apply to master's programmes at Aalto University

Aalto Open Days 2025

24.09.2025



A wide range of programmes

Our six schools offer over 70 master's study options taught in English across the fields of **art and design**, **business and economics**, and **science, technology and engineering**.

Also: three multidisciplinary master's programmes:

- Creative Sustainability
- International Design Business Management
- Urban Studies and Planning



Applying to master's programmes at Aalto

- The application period for studies beginning in autumn 2026 runs from **1 December 2025 to 2 January 2026** (at 15:00, UTC +2).
- You may apply to **a maximum of two** study options.
- You must attach a set of required application documents to your online application form.
- The application form is filled in the national **Studyinfo.fi** service during the application period.



Admission criteria in a nutshell

Eligibility: Bachelor's degree (completed by 31 July 2026)

Required documents

1. Educational documents:
Degree certificate and official transcript of records, official translations if applicable
2. Accepted proof of language proficiency (e.g. IELTS Academic, TOEFL, PTE A language test result)
3. For School of Business programmes:
GMAT/GRE test (admission group 2)
4. For Machine Learning, Data Science and Artificial Intelligence programme: GRE test
5. Copy of passport
6. Programme-specific document requirements, such as portfolio (for school of Arts, Design and Architecture programmes), CV, motivation letter, etc. Check from programme webpage.

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Guidelines for applying and document instructions are at:

www.aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/apply-to-masters-programmes

Bachelor's degree requirements

Degree granting eligibility to apply must:

1. be equivalent to 180 ECTS credits or three years of full-time study;
2. give eligibility to apply for master's degree studies at a university in the awarding country; and
3. be awarded by a higher education institution recognised as part of the official national education system of the country.

The institution must be accredited as a degree-granting higher education institution by the country where it is located or by a relevant international organisation (such as UNESCO).



- If your bachelor's degree is not yet complete, you can apply **if you will graduate by 31 July 2026.**
- If you are accepted to the university with an unfinished degree, you must deliver a certified copy of your degree certificate by 14 August 2026.

Language requirements

You need to demonstrate that you meet the language proficiency requirements set by the university.

There are several ways to meet the English requirement:

- by certain university or upper secondary studies; or
- by a successful result on an approved English test.

Read the language requirements and how to submit proof of language proficiency at:

www.aalto.fi/en/admission-services/language-requirements-in-masters-admissions

Only the methods listed on the webpage to demonstrate English proficiency are accepted. Alternative tests, studies in a country not listed on the webpage, or statements regarding language skills are not accepted.

Kindly note that no exceptions are made to the requirements. Applications without accepted proof of language proficiency will be rejected.

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Accepted **language tests** and **minimum score** requirements:

- **IELTS Academic:** overall score 6.5 and writing score 6.0.
- **TOEFL iBT:** total score 92 and writing score 22.
- **Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE A):** overall score 62 and writing score 54.
- **Cambridge C1 Advanced:** A,B or C.
- **Cambridge C2 Proficiency:** A,B,C or Level C1.

IELTS, TOEFL and PTE A results are valid for two years.
Test results must be valid during application period (1 Dec 2025).

Programme-specific evaluation criteria

Applications that include a complete set of documents and fulfil the general eligibility requirements will be evaluated by the study options.

Each study option evaluates and ranks the applications according to their evaluation criteria.

Programmes inform their evaluation criteria and requirements on their webpages.

- Find programme webpages at:

www.aalto.fi/en/study-options or

www.aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/programmes-and-requirements

Examples: good or excellent study success (GPA), a certain number of credits in a specific subject, a standardised test result, a motivation letter or a video, a letter of recommendation etc.

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Programme-specific admissions criteria: School of Business

The Graduate Management Admission Test (**GMAT**) or the Graduate Records Examination (**GRE**) is mandatory for

- applicants whose bachelor's degree is from a higher education institution **outside Finland**; or
- from a university of **applied sciences** in Finland.

Check programme-specific minimum test score requirements at:

www.aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/gmat-and-gre-exams



Application fee 100 €

Applicants who are not citizens of the European Union (EU) or the European Economic Area (EEA) member states or Switzerland must pay an application fee of **100 euros** to apply for higher education studies in Finland.

Citizens of EU or EEA member states and Switzerland are exempt from the fee. Certain types of Finnish residence permits also provide an exemption from the fee.

The fee is collected by the Finnish National Agency for Education in connection with filling out the application form in the Studyinfo.fi service.

Payment must be made within seven days of submitting your application; the fee cannot be paid late. Your application will not be processed if the fee is unpaid by the deadline.

The application fee is statutory, and **waivers are not available**.

Kindly note that paying the fee does not guarantee admission to the university.

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- More information on the application fee, the residence permits that provide an exemption, and payment instructions are on the Studyinfo webpage: <https://opintopolku.fi/konfo/en/sivu/application-fee>
- If you have questions about application fee after reading the application fee page, you can contact the National Agency for Education at applicationfee@oph.fi.

Step by step process 1/3

1) Read the requirements carefully and prepare documents.

- If you are required to submit a language test or GMAT/GRE test score, book and take the test well in advance.
- Acquire official translations in good time before the deadline.

2) Choose your Aalto programmes (max. two).

- Two study options are listed in order of preference on the application form.
This means that if you are admitted to your first choice, your second option will be automatically cancelled.

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3) Fill in and submit application form during the application period.

- Fill in only one form.
You cannot save it as a draft, but you can edit it during application period.

4) Pay application fee.

- Non-EU/EEA citizens must pay an application fee of 100 euros within 7 days of submitting application.

5) Upload application documents.

- Upload each document separately to the correct section on your application form.
- Note that if a required application document is missing after the document deadline, your application will be rejected as incomplete.

Step by step process 2/3

6) The admissions team checks your documents and general eligibility.

7) Complete applications that fulfil general eligibility requirements proceed to academic evaluation by the programme staff.

- Each programme informs their evaluation criteria on their webpage.
- Some programmes may have a two-stage evaluation process, which includes a review of documents followed by an interview (e.g., many School of Arts, Design and Architecture programmes).

8) Admission results are published on 8 April 2026.

- You can only be admitted to one programme.

9) Accept your offer of admission by 29 April 2026.

- Acceptance is binding and cannot be changed.
- If you apply in several admissions and are admitted to more than one degree programme in Finland beginning in the same term, **you may only accept one offer.**
- Applicants can be admitted from the waiting list until 11 June 2026.

Step by step process 3/3

10) Submit certified educational documents.

- Admitted applicants must submit **officially certified** educational documents by the given deadline.
- Admission is **conditional** until the documents have been received.
- Admitted applicants must follow the country-specific document requirements.

Instructions are at:

- www.aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/certified-documents-after-admission-results
- www.aalto.fi/en/admission-services/country-specific-document-requirement

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11) Studies start with orientation days in August/September 2026.



More information

Master's admissions schedule, document requirements and instructions:

www.aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/apply-to-masters-programmes

Language requirements:

www.aalto.fi/en/admission-services/language-requirements-in-masters-admissions

Answers to common questions such as residence permits, financing the studies, steps after admission etc.:

www.aalto.fi/en/admission-services/masters-admissions-frequently-asked-questions

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What's next in the Aalto Open Days event?

- Join the rest of the webinars:
 - **Living and studying in Finland**
 - **Working in Finland and Aalto's Career support**
 - **Virtual Coffee breaks with students.** Join for FAQs about student life and a Q&A
- Join the **campus tours** in Otaniemi on Friday
- Did you miss a webinar? You can watch the **webinar recordings**, available on the event page next week!

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Q&A



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Stay connected with us!

Coffee with the Squad & Unibuddy

Aalto student ambassadors host a virtual coffee session every Friday. You can also chat with our international students here:

www.aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/chat-with-aalto-students

Newsletter

To stay updated on important news, application deadlines, and exciting events at Aalto:

<https://aaltouniversity.leadfamily.com/sign-up-for-our-newsletter>

Feel free to contact Admission Services at admissions@aalto.fi

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Scan the QR and find links to:

- General admission information
- Programme pages
- Tuition fees
- Coffee with the Squad arranged each Friday
- Chat with students on Unibuddy
- Newsletter signup





Kiitos
aalto.fi

admissions@aalto.fi

Find us on social media: @aaltouniversity