



Welcome to Åbo Akademi University

Congratulations on your admittance!



Agenda

- Welcome to Finland!
- Short about Åbo Akademi University
- Our two campuses – Åbo & Vasa
- How to accept the study entitlement
- One study entitlement per student
- Residence permit

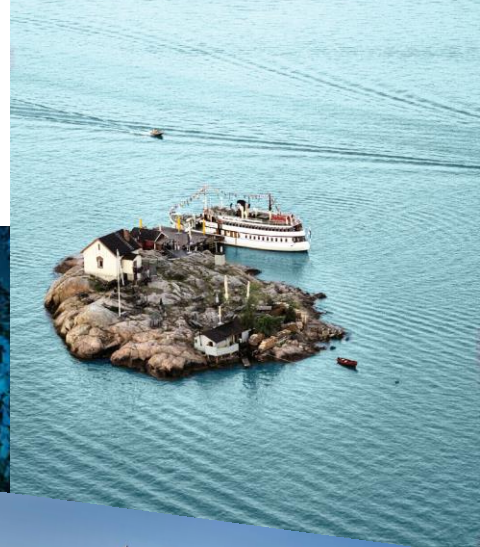
Welcome to Finland!



Source: <https://finland.fi/facts-stats-and-info/finland-in-facts-2/>

- The country of thousands of lakes and forests
- Lonely Planet listed Finland as one of the TOP 3 travel destinations in 2017
- Capital: Helsinki
- 5,5 million inhabitants
- 338,400 km² → 18,1 inhabitants per km²
 - 70% forest
 - 10% water: 190,000 lakes
 - and approximately as many islands – Europe's largest archipelago

Finland in pictures





Åbo Akademi University – Key facts



- A multidisciplinary and international university located in the south-western part of Finland
 - Swedish is the main language of instruction
- ~7800 students
 - ~1000 international students from over 80 countries
- ~1200 employees
- Very good employment situation among graduates and doctors: 92 % work with tasks that correspond to their education
- Internationally acknowledged research university
 - Minority Research, Molecular Process and Material Technology, Drug Development and Diagnostics



Our two campuses



■ Åbo – Turku

- Finland's oldest city
- Population of about 187 000
- Considered the best student city in Finland, with about 40 000 students
- The campus is located in the old part of the city

■ Vasa – Vaasa

- "The sunniest city in Finland"
- Population of about 67 000
- The Vasa campus is situated in the "Academill" building which is an old mill renovated for the university's purpose.



One study entitlement per student

- A student can only accept one study entitlement per academic year
- What does it mean in practice?
- Even if an applicant postpones the beginning of his/hers studies or drops out of the study programme, another study entitlement beginning the same academic year cannot be accepted.
- Why these regulations?



Residence permit

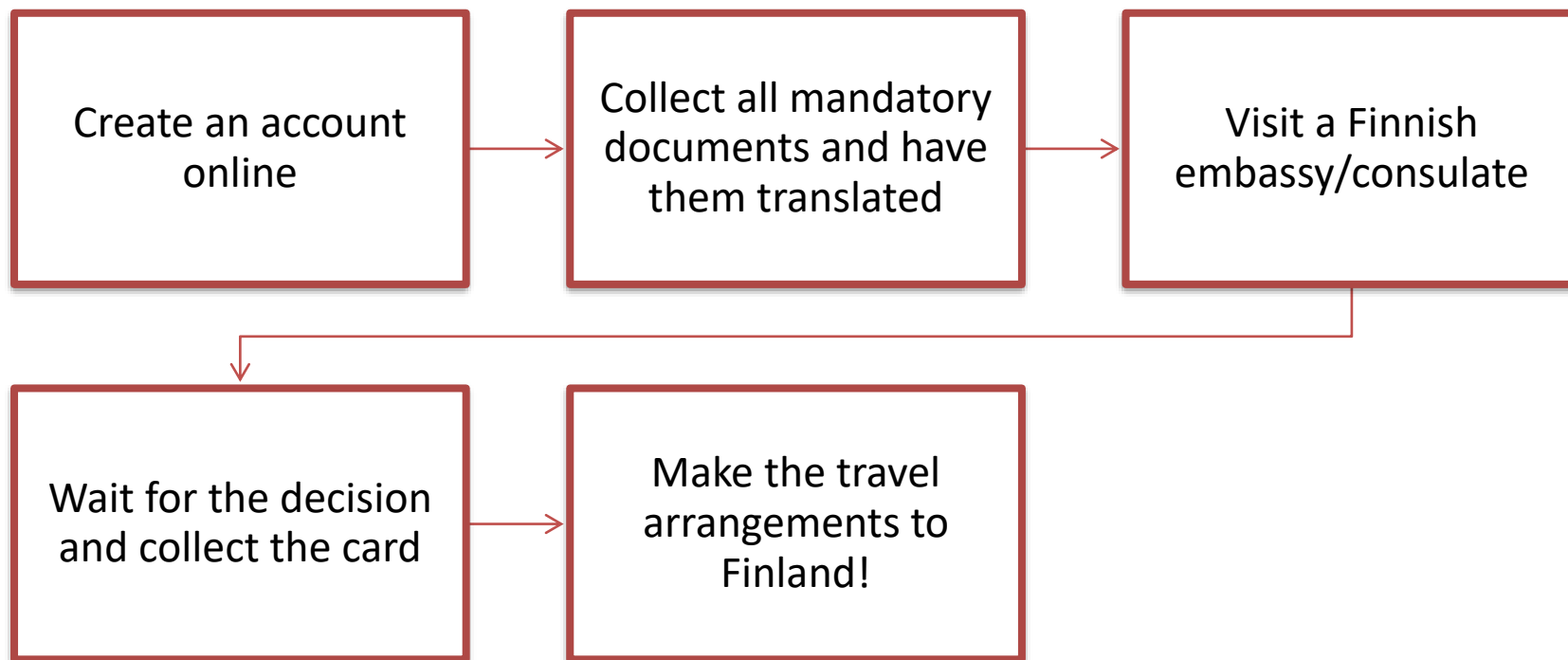
- Who needs a residence permit?
 - Citizens of EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway or Switzerland **do not need** a residence permit, see here www.migri.fi/eu_registration
 - Non EU/EEA-citizens staying for more than three months **do need** a residence permit
- The residence permit must be in your possession already when entering Finland
- The process may take several weeks – start the process already now!

Residence permit cont.

- Start the application process by opening an electronic account at <https://enterfinland.fi/eServices>
- Collect all mandatory documents and have them translated by an authorized translator
 - Acceptance letter
 - Health insurance: [Preatrival information](#)
 - Sufficient funds: 6 720 € for one year (= 560€/month)
 - Tuition fees: documentation of paid fee or necessary means for paying it
 - A passport and a passport photo
- Visit a Finnish embassy/consulate for identification and fingerprinting
- Wait for the decision and collect the card **before entering Finland**
- Ask to be registered in the Finnish population Information System too
 - Finnish personal identity code



Residence permit overview



- Step-by-step guide and more information on http://www.migri.fi/studying_in_finland



WELCOME TO ÅBO AKADEMI UNIVERSITY

www.abo.fi, admission@abo.fi



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Some questions and answers from the webinar

- Q: I have received a scholarship, do I still need to prove any additional self-funding?
 - A: If you have received a scholarship that only includes the tuition fee waiver, then you need to indicate sufficient funds for your living expenses. If you have received a scholarship that includes the tuition fee waiver and the excellence award covering the living expenses then the scholarship should be enough for the residence permit application.
- Q: Can I take more than 120 credits throughout the program for the courses of personal research interests? If yes, will I have to pay for those extra courses?
 - A: If you think you can manage to take extra courses and they do not overlap with any compulsory courses you have, then you can choose additional courses without any extra costs.

Questions and answers cont.

- Q: Is the scholarship for all students or only for the international students?
 - A: The scholarships are for international students who are liable for tuition fee.
- Q: Do I need to have a residence permit to apply for housing?
 - A: No you do not need a residence permit to apply for student housing.
- Q: Can I extend my studies? And if yes, does the scholarship cover the extended studies?
 - A: Yes it is possible to automatically receive two additional years and then apply for an extension, but a student can be granted a scholarship only for two years.
- Q: I have some difficulties to start my studies from this academic year. Is it possible to stay as absent for this year and start studying from next year August?
 - A: According to Finnish law a student may register as absent the first year only due to the following reasons; 1) service under the Conscription Act (1438/2007), Non-Military Service Act (1446/2007), or Act on Women's Voluntary Military Service (194/1995); 2) maternity, paternity or parental leave; 3) the student cannot begin studies due to being incapacitated by personal illness or injury. (In this case, it could be made clear that this entails incapacity for the entire semester (or academic year)).

