



**OAMK**

## Guide for Applicants

OULU UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, FINLAND

2015

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## The starting point



After years of working abroad, Sami Pohjolainen returned to Finland because he wanted to gain a university degree.

## The international Oulu



Karoliina Peltonummi was intrigued by the international, English language degree programme and decided to apply.

## Finding your happiness



Niina Mäkinen chose information technology, because no matter where your life takes you, IT skills will be useful.



# Welcome to study

Oulu University of Applied Sciences (Oulu UAS) aims to offer polytechnic skills for the benefit of Northern Finland. Our multifaceted education produces professionals to the demands of the working life.

In addition to theoretical understanding and a graduation certificate, Oulu UAS provides you with highly valued professional skills. During your studies you can be involved in developing projects such as the world's fastest motorcycle, FolkJam dance sport, or a game application. We also give you tools for entrepreneurship and internationality. As our students and alumni tell you in this guide, passion takes you far.

The Oulu region is a great place to study. Oulu is a vibrant and international student city, and it has been named one of the seven most intelligent communities in the World in 2012 and 2013. This clearly indicates that we have some competent and daring people in Oulu. We provide high quality higher education to ensure the positive development in Oulu area even in the future.

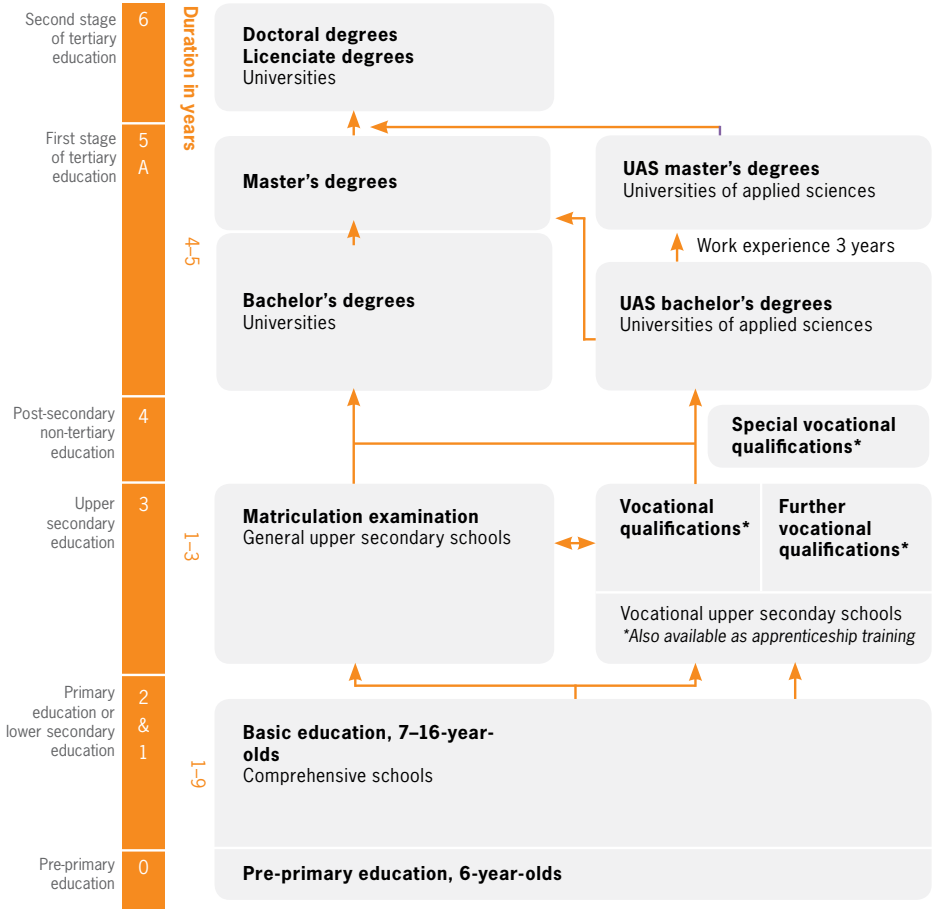
Welcome to study!

**Jouko Paaso**  
Rector



# Formal education in Finland

## ISCED-classification



# Oulu University of Applied Sciences

## The capital of Northern Scandinavia

Oulu University of Applied Sciences (Oulu UAS) is one of Finland's most attractive universities of applied sciences. Located over 600 kilometres north of Helsinki, the Oulu region is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. Just a one-hour flight from Helsinki and a train connection that takes you straight to the city centre make sure that the city of Oulu has easy access from southern Finland. With its 200,000 inhabitants, the region is a major centre of innovative high-tech industries, academia, science, services and culture. It is no wonder that the city is often referred to as the capital of northern Scandinavia.

Excellent study and teaching facilities with a wide variety of free time activities and beautiful nature make Oulu and its surroundings a vibrant and interesting destination for students, lecturers and experts both from Finland and abroad. Only a few hours from the exotic Lapland and hiking possibilities make Oulu an excellent place for nature-lovers. Daily bus connections during the winter to one of the biggest ski resorts in Finland, Ruka, make it possible for everyone to enjoy snowy slopes and ski routes.

## Varied studies

Over 9,000 students, including over 240 international degree students, and a total of 800 teachers and other staff members ensure that Oulu University of Applied Sciences is a vital and innovative place to study.

Studies at Oulu UAS are working life oriented combining theoretical studies with professional skills.

Oulu UAS educates highly valued professionals for the needs of working life in Finland and internationally.

The length of the Bachelor's studies varies from 3.5 to 4 years, depending of the degree programme. Each student will have a personal study plan, which will help to facilitate student guidance and the progress of the studies. All our Bachelor's degree programmes are on EQF (European Quality Framework and Other Learning) level 6.

## Tuition free education

Oulu UAS does not have any tuition fees at the moment. This means that once you get accepted, participating in lectures is free of charge. You must, however, be prepared to pay your own living costs and course materials. Monthly living expenses for a student in Finland are approximately 700–900 euros.

## Campus life

Studies at Oulu UAS take place on three campuses all close to the city centre and within a walking distance of each other. All campuses have their own libraries, cafeterias, restaurants and other facilities students might need during the day. All students have access to up-to-date computer equipment. A fast wireless connection is also available on all three campuses.

## DID YOU KNOW?

In 2012 and 2013 Oulu was named among seven **most intelligent communities** in the world by the Intelligent Community Forum.

Newsweek ranked Finland as **the best country in the world** as a place to live in 2010.

The Finnish education system was ranked **the best in the world** in 2012 (the Learning Curve, Pearsons).

## Accommodation

Student accommodation in Oulu is available either on the private housing market or in the student halls of residence. Most Finnish and international students live in student housing provided by Student Housing Foundation of Northern Finland ([www.psoas.fi](http://www.psoas.fi)) or Otokylä ry ([www.otokyla.fi](http://www.otokyla.fi)).

Inexpensive self-catering student accommodation in single rooms is usually offered in the student halls of residence. Most of the rooms have a communal kitchenette, a toilet and a shower. The price of accommodation varies depending on the type of the accommodation. The monthly rent for a room in a student hostel or dormitory is around 150 to 250 euros, for a one-room flat around 240 to 420 euros.

Students apply the housing by themselves once they have been accepted in student selection and the further information has been delivered in the acceptance letter.

This guide is designed to help you with the application practicalities when applying to the English degree programmes at Oulu UAS. Here you can find full introductions of our English degree programmes and insights into student life as well as general admission requirements and timetables.

## Student union

The Student Union of the Oulu University of Applied Sciences (OSAKO) is an organisation devoted to representing the interests of the students of Oulu UAS and providing them with various services. In addition to looking after the interests of students, OSAKO organises various events and happenings aimed at students. There is always something going on in Oulu!



Oulu UAS is a good place to build networks with local businesses with whom you can work on projects.

**SAMI POHJOLAINEN**



# The starting point



After years of working abroad, *Sami Pohjolainen* returned to Finland because he wanted to gain a university degree. He chose the Degree Programme in Business Information Technology leading to a Bachelor's degree, which provided the perfect starting point for building his new career.

Sami Pohjolainen worked abroad for a few years, but always wanted to further his studies.

– I wanted to return to Finland to eventually gain a Master's degree. For my bachelor's degree, I chose Oulu UAS over the University of Oulu, because for my studies at Oulu UAS, I was entitled to labour market subsidy for the first two years as an unemployed Finnish adult student. The contents of the programmes at the two universities were pretty similar and both had the option for post-grad studies, he explains.

Sami started his studies in the international Degree Programme in Business Information Technology.

– We had quite a lot of group assignments and practice work. For one year I also worked as the Managing Director of Trapesti, which is a company set up and run by business students. I got study credits from a wonderful experience, Sami thinks back.

– Oulu UAS gives you a good foundation, and the degree is worth completing well even if you are not planning to do post graduate studies right away. The courses are not too hard, although some of the projects are pretty challenging. Oulu UAS is a good place to build networks with local businesses with whom you can work on projects. Practical training in turn gives you a chance to work in your own field, and it may open the door for a future job, Sami sums up his experience.

## A city for students

Oulu was already familiar to Sami before starting his studies at Oulu UAS.

– I think that Oulu is a nice city – not too big, not too small – with good connections all over the

country. Oulu is an excellent city for students. There is always something going on. And the cost of living is reasonable, Sami elaborates.

Student life at Oulu UAS is very lively and in the international degree programmes you will not only learn to speak English fluently, but you will get to know people from all around the world.

## Onward

Sami wrote his Bachelor's Thesis on IT security in small businesses as a part of a larger project funded by the EU.

– There was quite a lot of independent work, but we also had seminars and tutoring. I thought the support I received for the process was very good, he explains.

Sami has already gained his Bachelor's degree and is now looking forward to his future.

– I will start post graduate studies at the University of Oulu next autumn. And after that... If an interesting research topic comes up, I could continue even further. It is also possible that I will look for work abroad, probably in England, Sami ponders.

Only time will tell. He has just begun. <

### TRAPESTI

Trapesti is a company run by the students of Oulu UAS's School of Business and Information Management. It offers various business services to local companies.

See more: [trapesti.fi](https://trapesti.fi).



# Degree Programme in Business Information Technology, Oulu

- › **Degree title** Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
- › **Scope of degree** 210 ECTS credits
- › **Duration of Studies** 3.5 years
- › **Language of instruction** English
- › **Application period** 7 January – 27 January, 2015
- › **Date of entrance exam in Oulu, Finland** 23 April, 2015
- › **Study places in 2015** 32
- › **Beginning of studies** autumn 2015
- › **Number of applicants in spring 2014** 912, of which primary applicants 313

## Objectives of the programme

	ECTS
Basic studies	60
Professional studies	90
Free-choice studies	15
Practical training	30
Bachelor's thesis	15

The degree programme in Business Information Technology is to educate internationally oriented experts for business and software development as well as other positions in the field of information technology. Teaching is conducted entirely in English and is carried out as daytime teaching in small groups of 20–30 students.

The degree programme is intended for both Finnish and international students who wish to study at a multicultural learning environment and to pursue career either in domestic or international companies. After graduation, the students will have an understanding of information technology as well as business processes, which enables them to start their own businesses.

Students learn by participating in lectures, keeping presentations and taking part in different projects, which are carried out in co-operation with companies and organisations. Students can put the theory into practise with practical exercises carried out in small groups. The practical training that is a part of the studies enables students to network with different employers and companies in Finland and abroad.

Students are encouraged to go for an exchange or do their practical training in one of the partner institutions in Europe, Asia or the United States. Students will also have an opportunity to apply to a Double Degree programme at a partner university either in the United States or Germany. In the Double Degree programme, the students

spend a part of their studies in partner institutions and will receive a degree diploma from both higher education institutions once they graduate from Oulu UAS.

## Study contents

Studies concentrate on information management, software development, programming and digital media. Graduates will understand web and mobile technologies as well as entrepreneurship and international business skills. Studies will also include languages, mathematics, business administration, marketing, accounting and finance. Aspects of developing and managing information systems are emphasised. Students can direct their studies either toward business or information technology by free-choice and optional professional studies. In additions to lectures, the students will learn teamwork and problem solving skills.

## Career opportunities

The degree programme enables versatile career opportunities both in Finland and internationally. Graduates usually make careers in the field of web development, software development, design or management and marketing.

The title could be one of the following:

- Web developer
- Product manager
- Designer
- Programmer
- Software tester / analyst
- IT support officer
- Entrepreneur.



I enjoy studying in a foreign language; it is not too challenging, and it has become a routine.

KAROLIINA PELTONUMMI

# The international Oulu

*Karoliina Peltonummi* found the Degree Programme in International Business online. She was intrigued by the international, English language degree programme and decided to apply. After a year at Oulu UAS, she seems to have found her place.

Choosing the English language Degree Programme in International Business at Oulu UAS came easily to Karoliina Peltonummi.

– After high school, I decided to take a gap year before applying to university. I explored my options and found Oulu UAS. The Degree Programme in International Business seemed interesting and suitable to me. I knew I wanted to study business, and I had considered applying for an English language study programme even when I was in high school. The international aspect of it was immediately attractive to me, Karoliina elaborates.

So far, the studies have proved to be diverse and rewarding.

– I think the degree programme has a wide variety of courses. We have a lot of group assignments, but also plenty of theory. And I will have practical training in the future, too. I enjoy studying in a foreign language; it is not too challenging, and it has become a routine. In fact, studying in Finnish seems a little odd now, Karoliina laughs.

## A new city

Oulu was almost a completely strange city to Karoliina before she started at Oulu UAS.

– I had been to Oulu only once before, when I moved here with my boyfriend after high school. When I started at Oulu UAS, I had lived here for a year, but I was still finding my way around, too. I think that Oulu is a diverse student city. There are lots of different educational options and student events here.

Karoliina has also found new hobbies through Oulu UAS.

– I have signed up for Sporttipassi – a student sports program – through Oulu UAS and found the different sports they offer, she says.

## To be continued

Karoliina has just completed her first year at Oulu UAS. She will have the option to spend a semester as an exchange student at one of the partner universities, and attend many more courses, assignments and seminars in the next two years. Next up will be practical training.

– I have already found a practical training position, and I hope to find work through practical training in the future.

After graduation, Karoliina wants to study a little more and eventually find a job.

– I would like to do some post-grad studies at the School of Economics in Helsinki or Tampere. In the future, I hope to find work in Finland in the field of International Business, Karoliina sums up her future dreams. <

### WANT TO MAKE AN IMPACT?

At Demola Oulu you will work in a team to create innovative solutions for real world needs. The ideas for Demola projects come from our partners, companies and organisations or the international Demola Network partners.

Read more: [oulu.demola.net](https://oulu.demola.net).



# Degree Programme in International Business, Oulu

- › **Degree title** Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
- › **Scope of degree** 210 ECTS credits
- › **Duration of Studies** 3.5 years
- › **Language of instruction** English
- › **Application period** 7 January – 27 January, 2015
- › **Date of entrance exam in Oulu, Finland** 22 April, 2015
- › **Study places in 2015** 40
- › **Beginning of studies** autumn 2015
- › **Number of applicants in spring 2014** 630, of which primary applicants 162

## Objectives of the programme

	ECTS
Basic studies	60
Professional studies	90
Free-choice studies	15
Practical training	30
Bachelor's thesis	15

The degree programme in International Business has been designed to meet the requirements of internationally oriented small and medium-sized enterprises and is carried out entirely in English. It is intended for both Finnish and international students wishing to seek employment in international business, sales and marketing or entrepreneurship.

The programme emphasises interaction within a multicultural setting which will increase the ability of the graduates to assess the differences between national, organisational and occupational cultures. Students learn by participating in lectures and discussions, doing group work, keeping presentations, taking part in different projects and case studies and visiting companies. Many of the courses are delivered in co-operation with visiting lecturers from foreign partner universities. Close co-operation with working life makes it possible for students to put the theory they have learned at lectures into practice. Studies include practical training, which enables students to network with working life in Finland and abroad.

Students are encouraged to participate in a student exchange period in one of the partner institutions in Europe, Asia or the United States, and also to carry out a practical training period abroad. Students will also have an opportunity to apply to a Double Degree programme at a partner university either in the United States or Germany. In the Double Degree programme, the students

spend a part of their studies in partner institutions and will receive a degree diploma from both higher education institutions once they graduate from Oulu UAS.

## Study contents

The programme focuses on developing various skills required in the field of international business providing students the ability to work in an international environment. The programme includes international marketing management which enables the graduates to conduct analyses, international market surveys and formulate market entry strategies. They will learn how to draft international marketing plans and implement, co-ordinate and control international sales and marketing. Students are taught how to create, develop and maintain profitable customer relationships. The graduates adopt an approach that is based on demand and user-oriented innovativeness, which make it possible for them to work in project duties with an initiative-oriented and developmental approach.

## Career opportunities

The programme enables versatile career opportunities both in Finland and internationally. Usually, the graduates make their careers in areas such as international sales and marketing, customer services, sales and office assignments, personnel administration, finance, marketing design and implementation or international trade import and export. The title could be one of the following:

- Account manager
- Marketing manager and assistance
- Marketing co-ordinator
- Customer service agent
- Sales manager and negotiator
- Purchasing manager
- Entrepreneur.



I think that if you get a chance to do something you may not get another chance to do, you should go for it.

NIINA MÄKINEN

# Finding your happiness

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*Niina Mäkinen* applied to a number of universities after high school. She chose the Degree Programme in Information Technology, because information technology is everywhere nowadays, and no matter where your life takes you, IT skills will be useful.

Niina Mäkinen did not want to put all her eggs in one basket, so she applied to a number of degree programmes and universities.

– I got into the degree programmes in information technology and landscape planning at Oulu UAS. I chose IT, because it is useful in just about every field these days. I also wanted to maintain my language skills and get to know different cultures, she says about the international degree programme.

Niina is now quite used to studying in English, but it was not always so.

– I studied at a Canadian high school, and when I started there, studying in English was a lot of work, but now it comes easily, and good English skills are an advantage in this field, she elaborates.

## Getting to know the world

Due to her ice hockey hobby, Niina already knew Oulu well when she started at Oulu UAS.

– I think Oulu is a very beautiful city with many international students, Niina sums up her impressions.

Students at Oulu UAS will have an opportunity to spend a semester abroad as an exchange student. Niina may not be able to go, but she encourages everyone to take the opportunities that come along.

– I played at the World Junior Ice Hockey Championships, and one of the coaches wanted me to come and play at Warner Warriors in Canada. Things worked out, and I was able to move there to play ice hockey and attend high

school. It was a fantastic experience, and during that time I grew so much as an athlete and as a person. I think that if you get a chance to do something you may not get another chance to do, you should go for it.

## Making dreams come true

Niina has a year left at Oulu UAS, but she has already looked – and found – work in her field.

– I found work at an IT firm. I have really enjoyed working there. I also think I have learned a great deal. I believe it gives me a better chance to find work next summer, too. I think you can find it in the field of IT if you just have the persistence. You just have to boldly go and ask around, Niina advises.

Niina's future dreams include work, studies and of course ice hockey.

– I want to gain a Master of Engineering degree and find a job. I also have an interest in architecture and design, so I may try to get into a university to study architecture at some point. But nothing is set in stone yet. I think the main thing is that you do what makes you happy and what you enjoy. We spend a lot of time at work, so it is important to have a job you can enjoy, Niina reflects. <

### CAN'T STOP MOVING?

University Sports of Oulu offers sports and wellbeing services for students. Gain access to the plethora of services by purchasing the inexpensive Sports Pass.

See more: [oulunkorkeakoululiikunta.fi](http://oulunkorkeakoululiikunta.fi).



# Degree Programme in Information Technology, Oulu

- › **Degree title** Bachelor of Engineering (BEng)
- › **Scope of degree** 240 ECTS credits
- › **Duration of studies:** 4 years
- › **Language of instruction** English
- › **Application period** 7 January – 27 January, 2015
- › **Date of entrance exam in Oulu, Finland** April 22, 2015
- › **Study places in 2015** 30
- › **Beginning of studies** autumn 2015
- › **Number of applicants in spring 2014** 884, of which primary applicants 285

## Objectives of the programme

	ECTS
Basic studies and professional studies (includes company based product development projects for 30 ECTS)	180
Free-choice studies	15
Practical training	30
Bachelor's thesis	15

Information technology is necessary in every area of human life. The need for ICT professionals is growing continuously. As an ICT engineer you are able to design and realise various software solutions and applications. You are also capable of working as an active member of your working society and developing your own profession.

Studies are organized mainly as daytime teaching at our international campus and are meant for both Finnish and international students who are interested in making career in international working environment in Finland or abroad. Studies are conducted entirely in English and include lectures, workshops, project and group assignments as well as individual presentations. Studies have close connections to working life and local companies where students can put the theory they've learned at lectures into practise. Also software development skills and business knowledge are developed in a real-world projects. All real-world projects and practical training enable students to network with working life.

## Content of the programme

To build a good basis for the engineering studies, students will be studying mathematics and physics. Students will also learn to document their work and to manage different communicative and

interactive situations and to apply international knowledge and competences in their own field. Foreign students will learn basics of Finnish languages.

All students will be provided with good skills in programming and databases. After graduating students are able to design and programme Internet services and applications for PC, Linux and mobile environments. The graduates will also have essential web development skills related to current Internet technologies and protocols, web graphics and multimedia, web authoring and design and web programming. It is possible to study advanced programming and deepen one's knowledge of server programming, mobile application features, development environments and mobile technologies as well as game development, design and tools. Studies also include user experience and business studies.

## Career opportunities

The degree programme gives you versatile career possibilities. After graduating students will have diverse knowledge and skills to act in software designing, product developing and as an expert in the field of information industry. The job title could be one of the following:

- Web developer or programmer
- Web designer
- Web application developer
- User interface designer
- Project manager
- Senior software engineer.

## General principles of application

Finnish universities have one joint application period, which is divided into two sections. The first section is on 7–27 January 2015 and meant for Bachelor's degree programmes conducted entirely in English and Finnish taught art studies. The second section is between 17 March and 9 April 2015 and meant only for Finnish taught degree programmes.

All applications for the programmes are submitted through the Finnish joint application system. An applicant may choose up to six application options. Student admissions follow the admission criteria decided by the universities of applied sciences in the joint application system, and the order of application preference options chosen by the applicant. The application form must be submitted before the end of the application period. The admission is conditional until the university of applied sciences has checked the applicant's original school certificates and other relevant documents. The university of applied sciences may withdraw the admission if the applicant has given false information.

### Student selection

Each university of applied sciences determines the selection methods to be used for each programme and allocates the number of places to each selection method. All applicants are included in the selection methods used in their chosen field, but each applicant can only be selected on the basis of one selection method. The student selection is not final until the original documents have been verified.

Points from the upper secondary school leaving certificate and Baccalaureate examination are awarded to the applicants applying with the Finnish Matriculation Examination, International

IB Diploma, EB Diploma of European Schools or German Reifeprüfung diploma.

Applicants with Finnish upper secondary vocational qualification with a minimum scope of three years or equivalent previous studies are awarded points solely from their upper secondary school leaving certificate.

Oulu University of Applied Sciences is using the following selection methods when selecting students to its international Bachelor's degree programmes.

The maximum admission score is as follows:

#### SELECTION METHOD 1 B (SCHOOL PERFORMANCE AND ENTRANCE EXAMINATION)

	Points
School performance	60
Entrance examination	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

#### SELECTION METHOD 3 (ENTRANCE EXAMINATION ONLY)

	Points
Entrance examination	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

#### NUMBER OF STUDY PLACES TO EACH SELECTION METHOD

	1B	3
BBA, Business Information Technology	16	16
BBA, International Business	24	16
BEng, Information Technology	–	30

Up-to-date degree programme-specific methods as well as conversion charts can be found on the web sites of each degree programme.

## General eligibility criteria

### Eligibility to apply to universities of applied sciences

According to the Act amending the Polytechnics Act (483/2013, section 20, subsection 1), a person may be admitted as a student to a Bachelor's degree programme at a university of applied sciences (UAS)<sup>1</sup>, when he or she has completed:

**1) THE GENERAL UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOL SYLLABUS OR AN EXAMINATION REFERRED TO IN THE ACT ON THE ORGANISATION OF THE MATRICULATION EXAMINATION (672/2005):**

Section 17 of the Act on the Organisation of the Matriculation Examination states that the International Baccalaureate, German Reifeprüfung or European Baccalaureate Diplomas provide the same rights as completion of the examination referred to in the Act;

**2) AN UPPER SECONDARY VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION WITH A MINIMUM SCOPE OF THREE YEARS OR EQUIVALENT PREVIOUS STUDIES (CURRICULUM-BASED QUALIFICATIONS):**

General eligibility for higher education conferred by vocational qualifications with a scope of less than three years:

Majority of universities support the view whereby vocational qualifications of less than three years, completed under legislation in force prior to the current legislation governing vocational education and training (Act 630/1998) and vocational adult education (Act 631/1998), should be considered to confer general eligibility for higher education at universities of applied sciences as from the autumn of 2014, and the fact that interpretation of legislation governing general eligibility for higher education (Act 558/2009, section 37, and Act

351/2003, section 20) rests with higher education institutions and that an interpretation favourable to applicants is easier to justify, this widely accepted view will guide higher education institutions in their assessment of eligibility to apply as from the autumn 2014 joint application period;

**3) AN UPPER SECONDARY VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION, A FURTHER VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION OR A SPECIALIST VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATION REFERRED TO IN THE VOCATIONAL ADULT EDUCATION ACT (631/1998) OR AN EQUIVALENT PREVIOUS QUALIFICATION (COMPETENCE-BASED QUALIFICATIONS);**

or

**4) FOREIGN EDUCATION THAT PROVIDES ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE COUNTRY IN QUESTION.**

A person other than one referred to in subsection (1) may also be admitted to a university of applied sciences, when the university of applied sciences deems that he or she possesses sufficient knowledge and skills for UAS studies. In such situations, the university of applied sciences may use discretionary admission.

The qualification used in the application procedure must be completed such that the copy of the certificate will arrive at the relevant university of applied sciences **no later than 3 pm<sup>2</sup> on 17 July for the spring application period and no later than 3 pm on 18 December for the autumn application period.** This also applies to any

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<sup>1</sup> The English equivalent used in official texts for a professionally oriented higher education institution is polytechnic, but these institutions generally refer to themselves as universities of applied sciences. For the purposes of this document, professionally oriented higher education institutions are hereinafter referred to as universities of applied sciences (abbr. UAS), except for the titles of specific statutes, such as the Polytechnics Act.

<sup>2</sup> All times are Finnish time (GMT+2).

qualifications completed by EU/EEA citizens as well as to international matriculation examinations (IB, EB, RP). However, if an applicant is applying with a non-Finnish qualification and is not an EU/EEA citizen, or if an applicant is applying with a Finnish further or specialist vocational qualification, this qualification must be completed by the end of the application period.

## Applying with an international matriculation examination (IB, EB, Reifeprüfung)

Applicants who have completed a European Baccalaureate (EB), an International Baccalaureate (IB) or a Reifeprüfung (RP) Diploma will convert their diploma grades according to the conversion tables available on the web site of Oulu University of Applied Sciences. The grade point averages for IB applicants will be calculated from a separate Final Report equivalent to a final certificate. If an applicant does not have such a document, the grade point average will be calculated from the Diploma document. Candidates completing the IB examination during the spring application period will submit a copy of their predicted grades **no later than 15 May 2015** and a copy of their Diploma **no later than 3 pm on 17 July 2015** to the admission services of the university of applied sciences ranked highest on their application forms (hereinafter referred to as 'the first-choice university of applied sciences').

## Applying with a qualification completed abroad

In order to prove their eligibility to apply, those applying with a non-Finnish qualification certificate must submit their certificates according to the deadlines for submitting appendices. However, this does not apply to international matriculation examinations completed abroad.

In addition to copies of certificates, each applicant must submit a copy of his or her qualification certificate translated into Finnish, Swedish or English by an official (authorised) translator, if the original document is in none of these languages. Such translations must be signed and stamped by the translator. The translation must be submitted according to the deadlines for submitting appendices to the admission services of the first-choice university of applied sciences.

## Applying with university of applied sciences or university degree

Applicants cannot apply for Bachelor's degree programmes at universities of applied sciences with a university of applied sciences or university degree. Applicants must use their upper secondary school leaving certificate to apply to higher education institutions.

## Applying through discretionary admission

Oulu University of Applied Sciences applies discretionary admission only to the non-EU/EEA applicants graduating in the spring of the application. This means that applicants graduating later in the spring 2015 who do not have their final diploma yet during the application period must deliver an official note of the upcoming graduation from the school they are graduating from with the official stamp and signature. If the note is not written in English, Swedish or Finnish, an official translation of it must be provided. The note must be delivered to the Admission Services of Oulu University of Applied Sciences by 10 February 2015 at 3 pm Finnish time.

Applicants applying in discretionary admission must still have a language certificate.

**The deadline for the qualification used in application must be finished by 17 July 2015.**

## Deadlines for submitting certificates

Copies of certificates should be submitted to the admission services of the first-choice university of applied sciences, with the exception of discretionary applicants, who should submit the required appendices to the Admission Services of each university of applied sciences to which they are applying. Copies of certificates must arrive at the UAS in question **no later than 3 pm on 10 February 2015** for the first spring application period.

Those graduating during the spring application period must complete the qualification used in the application procedure such that the copy of the certificate will arrive at the relevant university of applied sciences **no later than 3 pm on 17 July** for the spring application period and **no later than 3 pm on 18 December** for the autumn application period.

## Selection between applicants with equal admission scores

In cases of equal admission scores, UAS applicants will be ranked on the following grounds both during pre-selection for entrance examinations and in the final selection:

1. The preferred programme ranking on the application form
2. Points awarded for the entrance examination
3. The grade point average in all subjects on the certificate used by the applicant to apply
4. Points awarded for school performance
5. Points awarded for work experience.

If these criteria fail to produce a difference between tied applicants, Oulu University of Applied Sciences will admit all of the equally ranked applicants.

## Language skill requirements

When applying to programmes provided in English, any non-EU/EEA citizen applying with a qualification completed abroad is required to submit a certificate of his or her language proficiency to the Admissions Services of the first-choice university of applied sciences according to the deadlines for submitting appendices.

Language proficiency may be demonstrated with the following minimum certificate requirements:

- Cambridge ESOL's Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE), level C or
- Cambridge ESOL's Certificate in Advanced English (CAE), CEFR level C1 or
- Pearson test of English, Academic 51 or
- IELTS, academic level 6.0 or
- TOEFL 550 paper-based test/TOEFL 79–80 Internet-based test or
- Skills level 4 in a National Certificate of Language Proficiency test in all areas of the English language, including reading comprehension, listening comprehension, speaking and writing (see [www.oph.fi](http://www.oph.fi) > Services > National certificate of language proficiency (YKI)).

There is no limit to the period of validity of the Cambridge ESOL's Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE), the Cambridge ESOL's Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) and the National Certificate of Language Proficiency. The other certificates are valid for two years. A TOEFL test score will only be accepted if it has been directly submitted from the TOEFL Educational Testing Service (ETS).

In addition, an upper secondary level certificate or a Bachelor's or Master's degree completed in English in the United Kingdom, Ireland, the United States, Canada, Australia or New Zealand as well as a Bachelor's or Master's degree completed in English in an EU/EEA country will also be accepted as evidence of English language proficiency.

In addition, all degree programmes have language test included to entrance examination. The language test is mandatory to all applicants regardless of delivering language certificate during the application period. The test will be assessed on the scale pass/fail. An applicant failing the language test will be excluded from admission.

## Use of educational agencies

The Finnish National Board of Education, the Finnish polytechnics/universities of applied sciences and the Finnish embassies are co-operating in informing foreign applicants that it is not recommended to use fee-charging educational consultants to make applications to Finnish polytechnics.

Charging a fee for helping someone to complete the application to Bachelor degree programmes conducted in English at Finnish universities of applied sciences is against the very principles of the joint application. If an applicant wants help, for example, in completing the application or something else relating to the application process, it is recommended that the applicant contacts the university of applied sciences, the Finnish National Board of Education and/or their local Finnish Embassy. These are the only reliable sources of information. No local agency has been accredited as an official representative of Finnish universities of applied sciences and, therefore,

this kind of agency cannot give the applicant reliable advice.

Furthermore, an applicant should always fill in the application him/herself and use his/her own contact details. This ensures that the applicant receives all important information directly from the university of applied sciences.

The arrangements for the entrance examinations are in all cases arranged by the universities of applied sciences in co-operation with reliable partners such as the Finnish Embassy, and the fee charged of the applicants at this point is due to the cost generated by the use of the Embassy's premises and personnel. No other fee is charged during the application process.

## Appeal

Applicants not satisfied with the results of the student selection process should in the first instance contact the Admission Services at [admissions@oamk.fi](mailto:admissions@oamk.fi) or tel. +358 10 192 001. If the matter is not thus resolved, the applicant may appeal in writing to the Board of Oulu University of Applied Sciences. Such an appeal must be made within 14 days from the time it is deemed possible that the applicant should have received information on student selection (Act on Universities of Applied Sciences 351/2003 § 22). The Admission Services will provide applicants with instructions on how to appeal on request. The appeal must be directed to the Board of Oulu University of Applied Sciences and sent by post to the following address:

Oulu University of Applied Sciences  
Admission Services  
PO Box 405  
FI-90101 OULU, FINLAND



Note that the appeal must be signed by the applicant and sent to the Admission Services by post. Faxed or scanned appeals or appeals sent as e-mail attachments are not sufficient. Oulu University of Applied Sciences takes no responsibility for delays caused by the postal delivery services.

## Verifying original documents

All selected students must bring their original certificates of completed upper secondary education and qualification that they used for applying to the Admission Services in the beginning of studies. The student selection of all applicants is not final until the original certificates have been checked.

## Cancellation of the study right

Oulu University of Applied Sciences is entitled to cancel the study right of a student if the information the student has given is false, the student is a danger to himself/herself or any other student or staff member, or if any other relevant legal provisions are applicable.

More information is available at [oamk.fi/english](http://oamk.fi/english).

Oulu University of Applied Sciences reserves the right to make changes.

## How to apply

1.) Check the general eligibility criteria for the international Bachelor's degree programmes. The degree programme specific eligibility criteria is available on the web site of each degree programme.

2.) Fill in the online application form at [www.studyinfo.fi](http://www.studyinfo.fi). The application is open during the application period 7–27 January 2015 and closes on the last day of application at 3 pm Finnish time.

3.) Deliver all required documents (language certificate, upper secondary school diploma and official English, Swedish or Finnish translation of it if it is not written in one of these languages) to the Admission Services of your first choice university of applied sciences by 10 February 2015 at 3 pm Finnish time.

4.) If you are a non-EU/EEA applicant graduating in the spring 2015 and wish to apply in discretionary admission to Oulu University of Applied Sciences, you must deliver an official note of the upcoming graduation from the school you are graduating from with the official stamp and signature to the Admission Services of Oulu University of Applied Sciences. If the note is not written in English, Swedish or Finnish, an official translation of it must be provided.

5.) Oulu University of Applied Sciences will invite all eligible applicants to the entrance examination.

6.) Entrance examinations are organised in the spring 2015.

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Guide for Applicants 2015  
International Degree Programmes

OULU UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

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