

RECOMMENDATION ON
ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR
UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED
SCIENCES

2022

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RECOMMENDATION ON ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES 2022

1 Eligibility

Provisions on eligibility for studies in universities of applied sciences are laid down in the Universities of Applied Sciences Act (932/2014).

Eligible applicants for degree studies in a university of applied sciences have completed:

- the studies required for graduating from the Finnish upper secondary school or a Matriculation Examination;
- an International Baccalaureate (IB) degree;
- a European Baccalaureate (EB) Diploma;
- a Reifeprüfung (RP) or Deutsche Internationale Abitur (DIA) degree;
- a Finnish vocational upper secondary qualification covering 120 credits or 180 competence points or a corresponding earlier Finnish vocational degree covering at least 80 credits;
- a Finnish post-secondary or higher vocational level diploma;
- a Finnish vocational upper secondary qualification or a further or specialist vocational qualification as a competence-based qualification, or a comparable previous qualification;
- a foreign qualification that provides eligibility for higher education studies in the country in question;
- Bachelor's degree or Master's degree.

Applicants' eligibility is verified as part of the application process either before the selection or after admissions, as the university of applied sciences decides. In certificate-based selection, the applicant must always hold a degree applicable to the selection method in question.

2 Student selection for daytime and blended learning studies in Finnish and Swedish

2.1 Selection methods

The university of applied sciences determines which of the selection methods below are used for the university of applied sciences in question and determines the number of available study places for each selection method. Depending on their prior education, applicants are included in the selection methods used in the universities of applied sciences selected in their applications.

Universities of applied sciences indicate in the application guidelines and specify in their study programmes available for application as to whether the number of students on the reserve list is restricted.

If there is no difference between those with an identical score based on the criteria indicated in the selection method, the university of applied sciences may select all applicants with an identical score or may not select any of the applicants with an identical score, or the system may select an applicant/applicants by drawing lots.

The university of applied sciences may cancel the applicant's study place if the applicant fails to submit the required degree certificates within the time limit indicated by the university of applied sciences or if the applicant has provided incorrect personal information.

2.1.1 Universities of applied sciences entrance examination

Universities of applied sciences may select students through the joint digital UAS entrance examination. The UAS entrance examination is organised twice a year, as part of the second joint application round in the spring and of the joint application round in the autumn. More detailed information concerning the entrance examination are published and updated on the ammattikorkeakouluun.fi website annually prior to the beginning of the application period.

2.1.2 Certificate-based selection

Universities of applied sciences may select students by means of a certificate-based selection based on Matriculation Examination and vocational upper secondary qualification (completed after 1 August 2015). Certificates are reviewed prior to the selection. All universities of applied sciences comply with the scoring models and principles of the certificate-based selection. In certificate-based selection, the university of applied sciences may independently determine the lowest score limit or other threshold criteria. The scoring models of certificate-based selection are maintained and updated on the ammattikorkeakouluun.fi website. More detailed information concerning certificate-based selection are published and updated on the ammattikorkeakouluun.fi website annually prior to the beginning of the application period.

2.1.3 Aptitude tests

In addition to the UAS entrance examination and certificate-based selection, an aptitude test will be organised in the following fields of education, for the following degrees.

2.1.3.1 Construction architect studies

The aptitude test for the construction architect programme will be organised on Tuesday **3 May 2022**. The aptitude test is a joint test of all universities of applied sciences offering construction architect programmes (Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, Oulu University of Applied Sciences, Savonia University of Applied Sciences and Tampere University of Applied Sciences). More detailed information on the completion of the aptitude test will be published on the UAS application pages and on the ammattikorkeakouluun.fi website. The applicants use the joint application system form to register to the aptitude test.

The following selection methods are used for the final student selection:

1. Matriculation exam (198p) + aptitude test (120p) = 318p
2. Vocational upper secondary qualification (150p) + aptitude test (120p) = 270p
3. UAS entrance examination (80p) + aptitude test 120p = 200p

To be selected, the applicant has to obtain a minimum of 60 points in the aptitude test for construction architect studies.

2.1.3.2 Seafaring studies

In seafaring studies, a separate aptitude test will be arranged on Thursday **5 May 2022** for the sea captain studies. All eligible applicants for the sea captain orientation option will participate in the aptitude test when the sea captain programme is their first preference, without a separate invitation. Universities of applied sciences shall provide the necessary information in their application guidelines for participation in the aptitude test.

Applicants shall participate in the aptitude test regardless of the selection method (certificate-based selection/UAS entrance examination). The applicant shall participate in the aptitude test for seafaring studies at the UAS seafaring studies unit indicated as the applicant's first preference. The aptitude test shall be assessed

on a scale 10 (min) to 35 (max); the relative score limits are mentioned below with the different selection methods. The applicant must pass the aptitude test in order to be admitted. The aptitude test is a prerequisite for admission.

The following selection methods are used for the final student selection:

1. Matriculation exam (198p) + aptitude test (30 /105p) = 303p
2. Vocational upper secondary qualification (150p) + aptitude test (24/83p) = 233p
3. UAS entrance examination (100p) + aptitude test (29/100 p) = 200p

2.1.4 Work experience in the construction sector

In construction engineering programmes, work experience in the construction sector is taken into account in addition to the certificate-based selection and the UAS entrance examination. The following selection methods are used for the final student selection:

1. Matriculation exam (198p) + work experience in the construction sector (60p) = **258p**
2. Vocational upper secondary qualification (150p) + work experience in the construction sector (60p) = **210p**
3. UAS entrance examination (80p) + work experience in the construction sector (60p) = **140p**

The calculation of work experience points takes into account only the construction sector experience acquired at or after the age of 18, which has accumulated by the end of the application period. One month of work experience results in one point. A maximum of 60 points may be awarded for work experience.

The employment certificate shall indicate details such as the exact start and end dates of employment, the employer's contact information, work duties, as well as working hours for part-time work. Military or non-military service, women's voluntary military service or child care leave will not be counted as construction sector work experience.

Entrepreneurship will be accepted as work experience if an applicant can produce a certificate attesting that he or she is or has been covered under the statutory YEL or MYEL pension scheme. Foreign entrepreneurship shall be proven by producing equivalent official documents.

In order to receive points, applicants should enter the total amount of construction work experience in full months on the application form. When converting part-time work into its full-time equivalent, 150 hours or 20 working days lasting at least 7 hours per day correspond to one month of work. Work experience does not have to be continuous or obtained with the same employer. The amount of work experience points awarded for simultaneous employment relationships may not exceed the amount awarded for full-time employment.

Applicants must be able to substantiate the amount of their construction sector work experience by providing employment certificates. If an employment certificate is in a language other than Finnish, Swedish or English, the applicant must submit a copy of the certificate translated into Finnish, Swedish or English by an official (authorised) translator, bearing the translator's name, signature and stamp, along with the copy of the original certificate to the relevant admissions offices.

The employment certificates will be verified before selections. The accumulation of work experience is acknowledged until the end of the application period. The employment certificates must be appended to the application by **6 April 2021 at 15:00**.

3 Student selection for daytime and blended learning studies in English

The university of applied sciences determines which of the selection methods below are used for the study programme available for application and determines the number of study places for each selection method. Depending on their prior education, applicants are included in the selection methods used in their selected study programmes available for application. The implementation and publication of the selection methods shall be conducted in the order presented below.

Universities of applied sciences will indicate in the application guidelines and specify by each study programme available for application as to whether the number of applicants on the reserve list is restricted.

If there is no difference between those with an identical score based on the criteria indicated in the selection methods, the university of applied sciences may select all applicants with an identical score or may not select any of the applicants with an identical score, or the system may select an applicant/applicants by drawing lots.

The university of applied sciences may cancel the applicant's study place if the applicant fails to submit the required degree certificates within the time limit indicated by the university of applied sciences or if the applicant has provided incorrect personal information.

The following selection methods compliant with the recommendation on admission criteria may be used in the first joint application process in the spring:

1. International University of Applied Sciences Exam
2. SAT test
3. Certificate-based selection (Finnish Matriculation Examination, International Baccalaureate degree and vocational upper secondary qualification completed after 1 August 2015)

3.1 International University of Applied Sciences Exam

An online entrance examination is available in the following study fields:

- Arts and Humanities, Education
- Business and Administration, Information and Communication Technology
- Natural Resources
- Tourism and Hospitality
- Seafaring
- Social Services, Health Care, Sports, Beauty Care
- Technology

The entrance examination assesses the applicants' abilities to study in universities of applied sciences. The entrance examination does not contain any pre-reading materials or pre-tasks.

The entrance examination consists of two phases:

First phase – written exam:

All applicants are invited to the first phase. The contents and duration of the first phase are determined by the study programmes the applicant has applied for. The applicant performs all sections of the entrance examination of the selected study programmes during a single session. The written exam of the first phase contains common tasks for all applicants and specific tasks of individual study programmes.

Common tasks for all study fields:

- Decision-making skills
- Language of tuition (English)

In addition to common sections of all study fields, the entrance examination contains the following study field specific sections:

- Mathematical skills (all fields except Arts and Humanities, Education)
- Mathematical and scientific skills (all technical fields)
- Ethical skills (in Social Services, Health Care, Sports, Beauty Care and Arts and Humanities, Education)
- Finnish language skills (in some Social Services and Health Care programmes, level B1)

In the Mathematical and scientific skills section the applicant may use a function calculator of the entrance examination system.

Each section has a minimum accepted score that the applicant has to achieve in order to have the written exam approved.

More detailed instructions and information on the date, duration and scoring of the written exam will be published in autumn 2021.

Second phase – group interview (oral exam):

All eligible applicants who have passed the written exam will be invited to the second phase. The second phase is common to all study fields and the applicant participates in only one group interview. The applicants are invited to the interview groups by study fields. The applicant will be invited to the interview group of the study programme which is highest on his or her list of preferences where the written exam is passed.

Oral English language skills are emphasized in the group interview. In some social services and health care study programmes also oral skills in the Finnish language are assessed (level B1). More detailed information on the separate Finnish language skills assessment will be published in autumn 2021.

The final student selection is based on the total number of points of the written exam (60%) and the group interview (40%).

More detailed instructions and information on the date, duration and scoring of the group interview will be published in autumn 2021.

3.2 SAT test

SECTIONS:

1. Evidence-Based Reading and Writing
 - I. Reading Test
 - II. Writing and Language Test
2. Math
3. Essay
4. SAT Subject test

In their application instructions, universities of applied sciences announce the SAT sections they will use as an admission criterion in the study programme available for application, and the lowest score limit the appli-

cant must reach in order to be qualified for the selection process. Only the new version of SAT test (completed after March 2016) is accepted. The SAT test selection only takes into account the sections performed during a single session.

An official SAT score report must be ordered directly from the test organiser. To collect SAT test scores, universities of applied sciences can also use an electronic service from which the score data is available. The applicants who have already completed an SAT test must request a test result from the test organiser to be delivered to universities of applied sciences. Applicants must submit the SAT test results to all universities of applied sciences that use said selection procedure and to which they are applying within the provided timetable. Reports printed or submitted by the applicants themselves cannot be taken into account.

3.3 Certificate-based selection

Universities of applied sciences may admit students by means of a certificate-based selection based on Matriculation Examination and vocational upper secondary qualification (completed after 1 August 2015). All universities of applied sciences comply with the scoring models and principles of the certificate-based selection. In certificate-based selection, the university of applied sciences may independently determine the lowest score limit or the threshold criteria. The scoring models of certificate-based selection are maintained and updated on the ammattikorkeakouluun.fi website. More detailed information concerning certificate-based selection are published and updated on the ammattikorkeakouluun.fi website annually prior to the beginning of the application period.

4 Student selection in the cultural field

4.1 Student selection

The entrance examinations for the cultural field are specific to each university of applied sciences. The applicants shall familiarise themselves with the application instructions and timetables specific to each university of applied sciences.

Any advance material relating to an entrance examination as well as any qualification and employment certificates shall be submitted to the university of applied sciences that requested them in the manner specified by it.

In the cultural field, total scores for student selection are calculated on the basis of an entrance examination. The selection is also influenced by the distribution of students into specialisation areas, options or instrument groups; the student numbers of these groups are based on an assessment of working life needs.

The applicant must obtain at least half (50%) of the maximum score of the entrance examination. Each section of the examination must be passed. The contents and scoring of entrance examinations are announced on the opintopolku.fi website.

SELECTION METHOD 1: ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

Entrance examination, 100 points

All applicants are invited to the entrance examination, or applicants are invited to the entrance examination based on screening evidence provided in advance. The entrance examination may also be organised online. Screening evidence involves tasks to be completed independently and submitted to the educational institution

before the entrance examination. The motivation of the applicant, the applicant's previous education or training in the field, work experience, personal interest and aptitude for the field will be assessed based on these tasks. The screening evidence shall be considered either approved or rejected. Any evidence requested in advance as part of the entrance examination will not be scored as part of the exam.

For programmes provided in the cultural field as blended learning studies, work experience or artistic activities may be taken into account as advance screening evidence or as part of an entrance examination. Work experience shall be proven by producing work certificates, and evidence of artistic activities will be provided by producing for instance a portfolio, or by other means requested by the university of applied sciences. The university of applied sciences shall assess the eligibility of the artistic activities based on the evidence provided.