



Are you an international degree student at one of the higher education institutions in Vaasa?

Are you interested in getting a foot in the door of Finnish working life, but would appreciate some tools to enable that?

This might be for you!

We are launching the...

Vaasa International Talents

programme for international degree students

Background

Five higher education institutions in Vaasa

- University of Vaasa
- VAMK University of Applied Sciences
- Novia University of Applied Sciences
- Åbo Akademi University
- Hanken School of Economics

have joined forces to make it easier for international degree students to integrate into the Finnish job market. Financially supported by the City of Vaasa, the initiative called Vaasa International Talents is a bridge between international degree students and the employers in the region.



What, where and when?

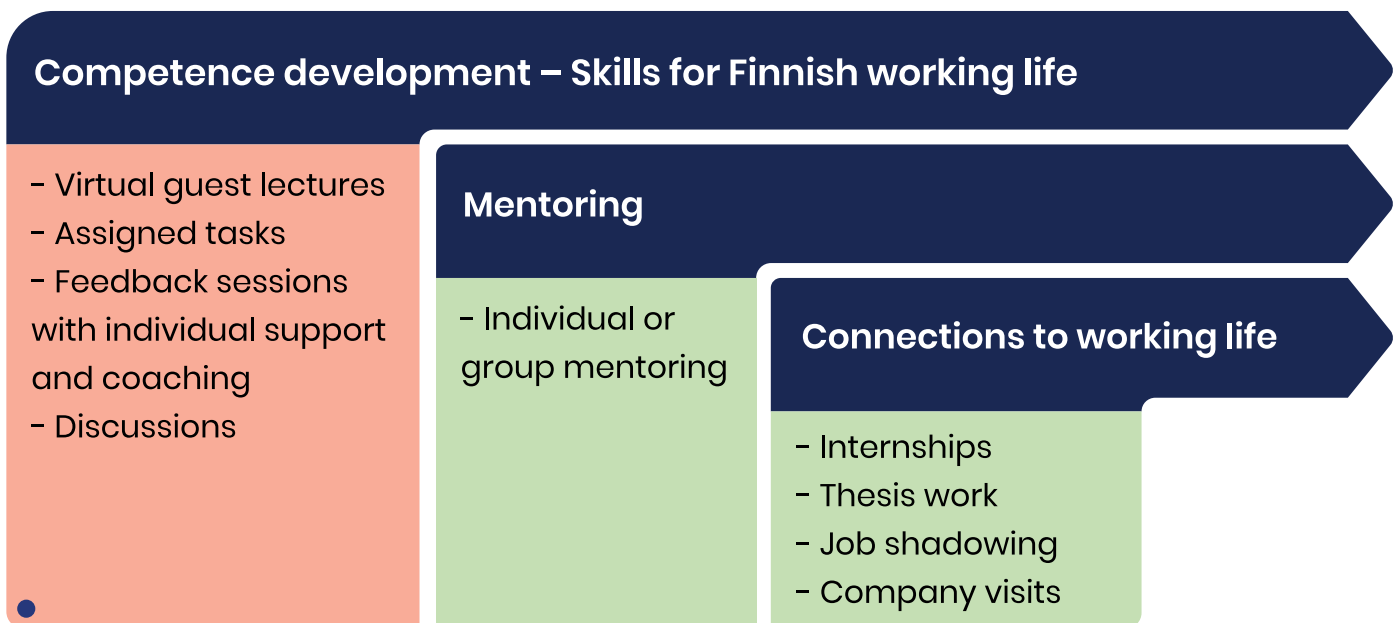
In practice, this initiative will be run as a programme during the year 2021, in Vaasa. You need to apply to the programme.

The aim is to provide all programme participants with various possibilities to develop their Finnish working life skills and to connect with regional companies and other actors. The set-up, however, might vary a bit from participant to participant.

All programme participants will at the end of the programme receive a certificate of participation which can be used as future reference.

The programme consists of three distinct focus areas:

- 1 Competence development – Skills for Finnish working life
- 2 Group or individual mentoring
- 3 Internships and other connections to working life



= Common for all programme participants



= Available for a number of programme participants depending on their needs as well as the needs and availability of the working life actors

The first part of the programme will equip all the participants with **must-know facts about Finnish and local working life and its expectations on job applicants and employees.**

1. The Competence development – Skills for Finnish working life part of the program will be common for all participants. It will kick off in March and continue during the spring term. It will include

- virtual guest lectures on different topics
- assigned tasks, such as preparing a job application
- feedback from the programme to your job application
- discussions based on your learning journal

The lectures will be 1–2 hours in length and we aim to arrange them as far as possible between 15:00 and 18:00 hrs. The estimated required time investment in the lectures is ca 12 hours. We wish this part of the programme to be very interactive and iterative, so that we can learn from each other.

2. Group or individual mentoring

- This will be offered based on the indicated needs of the selected programme participants, as well as the availability of mentors.

3. Connections to working life

The following activities will vary from participant to participant according to the needs of the students and those of the working life actors:

- internships and partial funding for these
- thesis work
- job shadowing
- company visits

Please note that the programme is not part of your individual study plan and will therefore not automatically give you any credit points. The possibility to earn credit points from programme participation will be entirely a matter between you and your degree programme.

For whom?

To be eligible, you need to

- hold a valid residence permit in Finland or have a Finnish citizenship
- be an international degree student in one of the following programmes, alternatively a Double Degree student in one of the higher education institutions below:



University of Vaasa

- Master's Degree Programme in Finance
- Master's Programme in Industrial Management
- Master's Degree Programme in International Business
- Master's Programme in Industrial System Analytics
- Master's Programme in Smart Energy
- Master's Programme in Strategic Business Development



VAMK University of Applied Sciences

- International Business, Bachelor of Business Administration
- Information Technology, Bachelor of Engineering
- Project Management, Master of Engineering

NOVIA Novia University of Applied Sciences

- Bachelor of Health Care, Nursing
- Master of Business Administration, Digital Business and Management
- Master of Engineering, Automation Technology
- Master of Engineering, Industrial Management and Engineering



Åbo Akademi University

- Master's Degree Programme in Peace, Mediation and Conflict Research
- Master's Degree Programme in Teaching and Learning



Hanken School of Economics

- Master's Degree Programme in Marketing and Management

When and how to apply?

The programme is **open** for application from Saturday 13th February 2021 at 09:00 hrs.

The application period **closes** on Monday 1st March 2021 at 18:00 hrs.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14

To apply to the programme, please do the following:

1. Create a video of max. 2 minutes' length where you

- Start by introducing yourself briefly in *Finnish* or *Swedish* by telling who you are and what you are studying and in which higher education institution;
- Thereafter continue elaborating in English on the following:
“Thinking of your career plans and dreams for the future, what would be the most interesting and/or important thing for you to get insights into when it comes to the Finnish working life?”
(Keep it on a general level, without e.g. mentioning any specific company)



2. Fill in the application form **HERE**

3. Attach a link to your CV (from LinkedIn, OneDrive, Google Drive or the like) to the application form.

4. Attach a link to your video presentation in format .mov or .mp4 (from LinkedIn, OneDrive, Google Drive or the like) to the application form.

Kindly ensure that the links to your CV and video presentation are accessible until the end of the programme.

Selection

A maximum of 50 students will be selected to the programme.

The selections will be done based on the needs of the students on the one hand, and the needs or expected needs of the employers in the region on the other.

Preference will be given to:

- students on their 3rd or 4th year of their Bachelor studies and students on their 1st year of their Master studies.
- students who maintain their student status throughout 2021, i.e. who complete their studies no earlier than in 2022
- students who have at least some basic knowledge of either Finnish or Swedish.

Seats will be reserved for students **from each higher education institution**.

The programme reserves the right to select the participants.

The final selections will be made **during March**. All applicants to the programme will be informed once the selections have been completed.

What we expect from you

We expect the selected participants to

- attend the “Competence development – Skills for Finnish working life” sessions and complete the tasks assigned
- keep a learning journal throughout the programme
- actively contribute to learning from each other by sharing questions, insights, lessons learned and best practices etc. with the other participating students, companies and other working life actors
- actively network with the other students in the programme.

Questions?



We will arrange an **information session** for questions and answers on **Monday 22nd February, 2021 at 16:00 – 17:00 hrs.**

Join the information session through [this link](#)

You can also contact

Novia UAS:

Project Manager Pia Jünger
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University of Vaasa:

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VAMK UAS:

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