

# Tuition fees at Aalto University

Anna Lampivuo

14 September 2023



Aalto-yliopisto  
Aalto-universitetet  
Aalto University



# In this session

- Tuition fee liability
- Study right and annual enrolment
- Exemptions from tuition fees
- Scholarships at Aalto University
- Tuition fee liability in your life



# Confidentiality

- Please use presemo for questions, <https://presemo.aalto.fi/tuitionfeesbsc>. Remember to keep your questions anonymous.
- Information of your payment and scholarship status is confidential (personal and financial data).
- Any information concerning your health is secret. Please only discuss health and other sensitive matters separately with the Learning Services staff.
- All students at Aalto University are treated equally in terms of services and the university's academic regulations.



# Tuition fee liability

# What is tuition fee liability?

- Tuition fee liability is defined by national law (Universities Act).
- The Universities Act requires that universities in Finland must charge tuition fees from tuition fee liable students starting from intake 2017.
- According to the law, citizens of non-EU/EEA countries (not including Switzerland) who study in a Bachelor's or Master's level degree programme in English, as tuition fee liable students.
- The law also requires that universities have a scholarship system for tuition fee liable students.

# What is tuition fee liability?

- **At Aalto, the tuition fee in the English-medium Bachelor's programmes is EUR 12 000 per year, and EUR 15 000 in the Master's programmes.**
- **The scholarship programme at Aalto comprises mainly of scholarships that are allocated during the admission process (Aalto University Scholarships). In addition, there are some scholarships that can be granted during the studies.**
- **Before a tuition-fee liable student can enroll as attending each year, the tuition fee must be covered by one of the following three ways:**
  - Payment
  - Scholarship
  - Exemption

# Study right and annual enrolment

# Study right at Aalto University

- **When you were accepted to Aalto, you were granted a study right for both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree.**
- **The target time to complete your bachelor's degree is three years, and the target time to complete the master's degree is two years =  $3+2 = 5$ .**
- **However, your study right at Aalto is valid for seven years.**



# Study right and annual enrolment

- Each year, all students must enroll for the academic year. You can enrol as attending or *non-attending*.
- Non-attendance means that you are not able to complete any studies or have any grades registered.
- Non-attendance also means that you are not eligible for any student discounts or benefits (may include your student housing – check with your housing provider).

# Study right and non-attendance

- After the first year of your studies, you have the right to enrol as non-attending for *any reason* for up to two terms (= one full academic year) without it affecting the time that you have left to complete your degree (ie your study right).

# Study right and non-attendance

- **Example: Your study right at Aalto has begun on 1 August 2023. As your study right is valid for 7 years, your study right ends on 31 July 2030. You decide to enrol as non-attending for the second year of your studies (1.8.2024 – 31.7.2025). Your study right will end on 31 July 2031. If you have a scholarship, it will be put on hold for the second year of your studies.**

# Study right and non-attendance

- In addition to the two terms, you may enrol as non-attending on the grounds of a *family leave or conscription in Finland* without it reducing the time that you have left to complete your degree.
- If you enrol as non-attending for more than two terms without a reason specified above, it will also use up the time that you have left to complete your degree.
  - This will also affect your scholarship!

# Study right and annual enrolment

More information about study right and annual enrolment:

<https://www.aalto.fi/en/programmes/aalto-bachelors-programme-in-science-and-technology/planning-your-studies#3-normative-and-maximum-durations-of-degrees>

<https://www.aalto.fi/en/applications-instructions-and-guidelines/annual-enrolment>

# Tuition fee payments

# Paying the tuition fee

- **Before you can enrol as attending, you must pay the tuition fee in full.**
- **The tuition fee invoice will be emailed to your aalto-email in April. The enrolment period opens in early May and closes in late August/early September each year.**
- **To ensure that you can enrol in time, pay the tuition fee invoice at least 3 weeks before the enrolment period closes.**

# Paying the tuition fee

- After your payment has cleared at Aalto, you will be emailed instructions for the enrolment.
- If you want to enrol as non-attending, don't pay the invoice – instead, contact us ([anna.lampivuo@aalto.fi](mailto:anna.lampivuo@aalto.fi) or [tuitionfees@aalto.fi](mailto:tuitionfees@aalto.fi))



# Exemption from tuition fees

# Exemption from tuition fee liability

As a non-EU/EEA citizen, tuition fees do not concern you if you:

- are equivalent to an EU citizen (i.e. citizens of Switzerland).
- have a permanent residence permit card in Finland (type P).
- have a continuous residence permit card in Finland (type A), based on *other grounds than studying*.
- have an EU residence permit for third-country citizens with long-term residence permit card in Finland (type P-EU permit).
- have an EU family member's residence card in Finland.
- have an EU blue card in Finland.
- have a Brexit residence permit card, type "SEU-sopimuksen 50 artikla = Right of residence under the withdrawal agreement", or "P SEU-sopimuksen 50 artikla = Right of permanent residence under the withdrawal agreement".

# Exemption from tuition fee liability

- **If you are currently exempted:**
  - Your exemption is valid until the *end of the academic year* on which your residence permit expires.
  - Example: your exempting residence permit is valid between 15 January 2023 – 15 January 2025. Your exemption from tuition fees is valid between 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2025.
- To continue your exemption, send us ([tuitionfees@aalto.fi](mailto:tuitionfees@aalto.fi)) a copy of your new exempting residence permit before the enrolment period ends.

# Exemption from tuition fee liability

- **If you are currently exempted, but your status changes:**
  - If you are exempted but your residence permit status changes in such a way that the new permit does not exempt you, you can apply for a Aalto Reserve Scholarship. This scholarship covers the tuition fee in full for the remainder of the target time for your BSc degree.
  - See detailed information at <https://www.aalto.fi/en/international-students/scholarships#6-aalto-reserve-scholarships>

# Exemption from tuition fee liability

- If you are currently **NOT** exempted, but you get an exempting residence permit in the middle of your studies:
  - For you to be exempted from the tuition fees for the *full academic year*, the exempting residence permit must be valid at the beginning of the academic year, ie 1 August.
  - Changes in the middle of your studies will be effective, as a rule, from the *beginning of the following term*.

# Exemption from tuition fee liability

- **Example 1:** You get a type A residence permit on the grounds of work. The permit is valid from 5 September 2024 to 5 September 2026. Your exemption from tuition fees will be valid from 1 January 2025 to 31 July 2027.
- **Example 2:** You get a type A residence permit on the grounds of work. The permit is valid between 1 August 2024 to 1 August 2026. You deliver the card to us before the enrolment period ends. Your exemption will be valid from 1 August 2024 to 31 July 2027.
- If you have a scholarship, it will be discontinued, because you no longer need it. If you have paid the tuition fee, you may apply for a refund (in example 1, you can apply for a refund for the spring term 2025. In example 2, you can apply for a refund for the full academic year 2024-2025).

# Scholarships: Aalto University Scholarships

# Aalto University Scholarships

- **Scholarship types**
  - 50 % (Category B) and 100 % (Category A) tuition fee waivers
- **These scholarships are**
  - Allocated together with admission
  - Merit-based and granted on competitive basis
  - Not subject to appeals
- **The number of scholarships per degree programme is limited and depends on the number of selected tuition fee liable students per degree programme.**





# Scholarship Terms - Duration

- *“The scholarship is granted for one degree only and for **no more than the normative duration of studies for the degree**. The normative duration of studies is three (3) academic years for a Bachelor’s degree (180 ECTS credits). The scholarship is to be used for the completion of degree studies only.”*

→ What does this mean?

# Study Progress

- Careful planning of studies is essential!
- Make the first draft of your study plan soon and finalise it by end of April. During the BSc introduction course, you will learn more about making your study plan.
- You can make changes to your study plan anytime during your studies.

# Study Progress

- **Study progress is monitored in the spring term of your first and second year.**
  - If your studies have progressed according to your study plan, no action is needed.
  - If studies have not progressed as planned, student services will contact you and scholarship continuation is decided on a case-by-case basis.
- **If you have any issues that affect your study progress, it is essential that you contact the student services of your programme and actively seek help so that your scholarship is not affected.**
- **To graduate in the normative time of three years, the *pace of studies is intense*. It is important that you take care of yourself and your ability to study.**

# Scholarship for master's studies

# Scholarship for master's studies

- **All tuition fee liable students who study at Aalto in a Bachelor's programme taught in English have the chance to obtain a full scholarship for continuing in the Aalto Master's programme *covered by their original 3+2 right to study.***

*→ If the master's programme requires a separate application, it means that the programme has its own scholarship scheme with separate criteria.*

# Scholarship for master's studies

## Tuition-fee liable students who

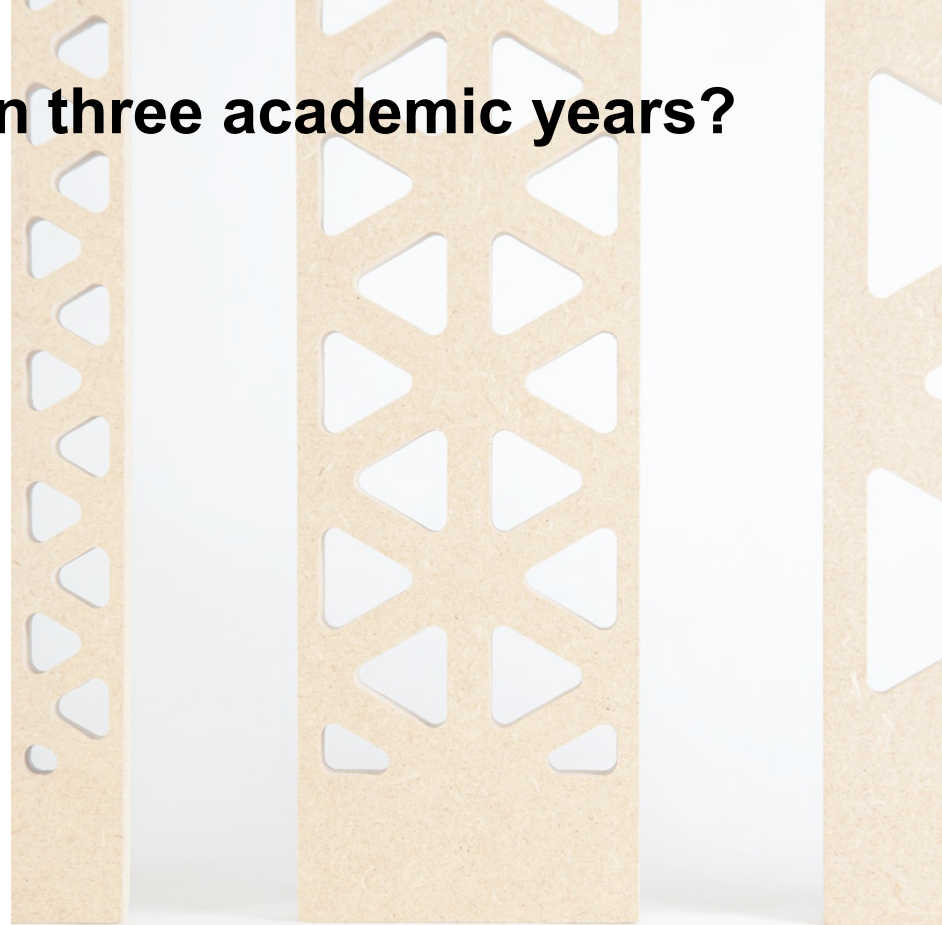
- complete their bachelor's degree in the normative time (i.e. three years or six terms)
- with a final grade point average of 3.80 or above

**will receive upon application a full, category A scholarship for their Aalto Master's programme covered by the original 3+2 study right.**

# What if I cannot graduate within three academic years?

- You can get a scholarship that covers the tuition fee in full for one additional term.
- This scholarship is available to all tuition fee liable students (= students who pay and students who have a scholarship).
- The scholarship has a **strict rule** that you must be able to graduate within the scope of the scholarship, ie one term.
- *Using this scholarship means that you are no longer eligible for the scholarship for master's studies.*

You will receive application instructions in the spring of your third year.



# Incentive-based scholarship



# Aalto incentive-based scholarships

- The Incentive-Based Scholarship for tuition fee liable students rewards *fee-paying students* (ie students who pay either full or partial fee) who make good progress in their studies.
- Conditions: you have completed 60 ECTS credits (or above) of studies from your approved study plan during one academic year.
- Application instructions emailed by the end of the spring term.
- The scholarship is 1500 € and it is paid towards the end of autumn term (or upon graduation, where applicable).
- The Incentive-Based Scholarship can be granted more than once.



# Tuition fee liability in your life

# Financial matters

- **Guide for International students**
  - Practicalities after admission → Moving to Finland and financial matters
  - Living in Finland → Working in Finland

**60 ECTS / year = full-time studies!**

**→ Aim for a proper summer job or internship, save for the academic year.**

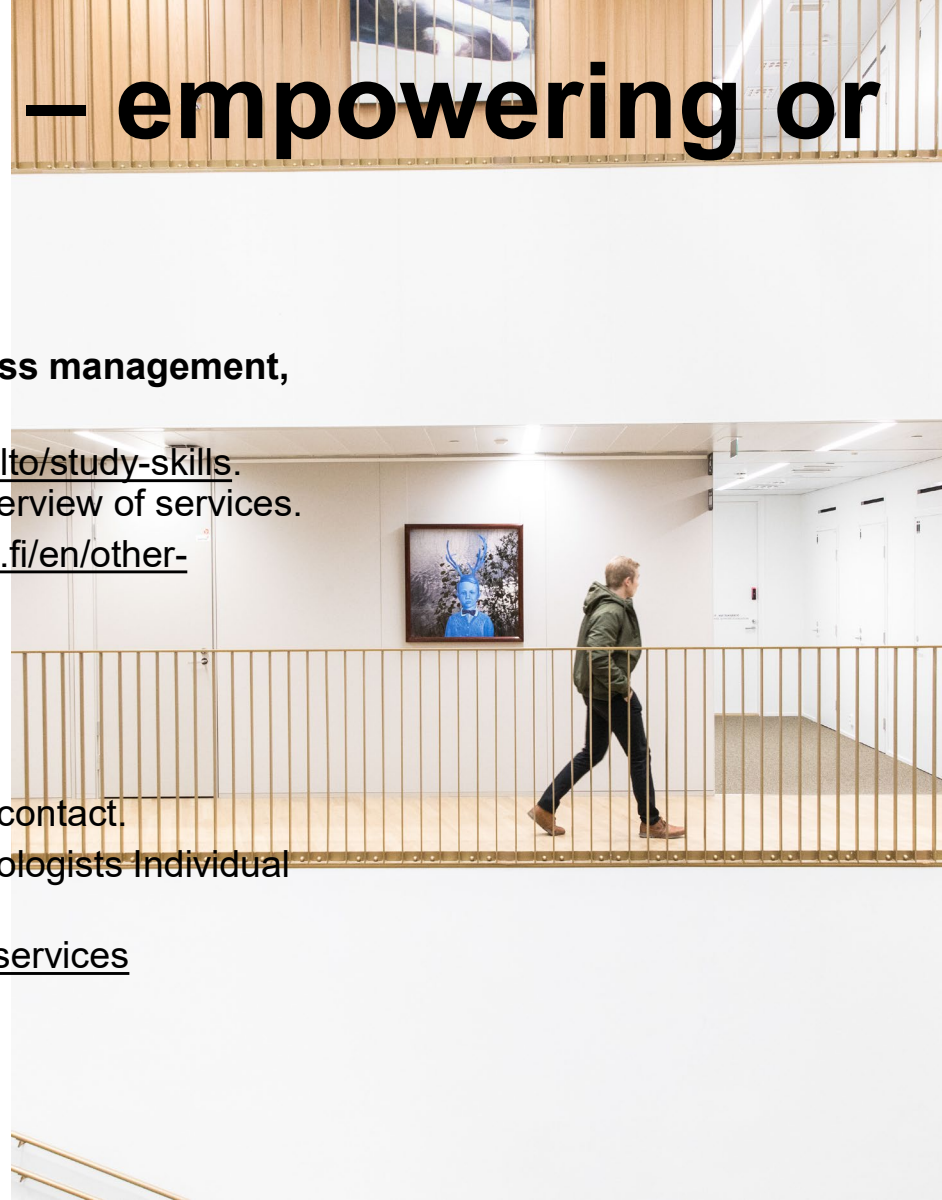
- **How? Make use of all services that Aalto offers!**
  - Career design lab
  - Courses to support your career planning
  - Services to support your wellbeing and ability to study

# Support services

- **Career Services (Career Design Lab)**
  - JobTeaser portal
  - Events, e.g. Aalto Talent Expo, Summer Job Days
  - Individual career counseling
  - CV clinics
- **Courses to support your career planning**
  - Future of Work, Finland works online course
- **Studying Finnish:** <https://www.aalto.fi/en/international-students/studying-finnish>
- **Join your guild, a student association, or any club of your interest!**
  - Social wellbeing
  - Excursions to companies
  - Key networks to support you in your career

# “It’s all up to you” – empowering or distressing?

- Invest in your study ability: self-leadership, stress management, time management
  - Study Skills <https://www.aalto.fi/en/study-at-aalto/study-skills>.  
General information, self-study material, overview of services.
  - Personal Impact courses, <https://www.aalto.fi/en/other-studies/personal-impact>
- If it starts to feel dominantly distressing...
  - You are not alone!
  - Starting Point of Wellbeing – low-threshold first contact.
  - Courses and workshops offered by study psychologists Individual counseling with study psychologists
  - Student healthcare and other mental wellbeing services



# Key points

- **Your wellbeing is the top priority.**
- **Be aware of the tuition fee regulations but don't sacrifice your wellbeing.**
- **If you have any questions or doubts, never hesitate to contact us.**



# Contact details

- **[anna.lampivuo@aalto.fi](mailto:anna.lampivuo@aalto.fi), +358 50 5699 264**
- **Book a time:**
  - MyStudies → Services for students → Tuition fees and scholarships
- **General questions about tuition fees and scholarships:**  
**[tuitionfees@aalto.fi](mailto:tuitionfees@aalto.fi)**
- **Questions about study plan, studies in general: [bsc.tech@aalto.fi](mailto:bsc.tech@aalto.fi)**
  - Book a time: your success team in MyStudies
- **Wellbeing → [Starting Point of Wellbeing](#)**

# Thank you!



[aalto.fi](https://aalto.fi)



Aalto-yliopisto  
Aalto-universitetet  
Aalto University