



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE
FINLAND

Recognition in higher education

Katri Tervaspalo

11.10.2023

Higher education

- Universities and universities of applied sciences enjoy freedom of research, science, art and tuition.
- They are responsible for the content and quality of the education they provide.

Assessment and recognition of prior learning

- Eligibility for higher education
- Assessment and recognition of prior learning

Universities act ([558/2009](#), 37 & 44 §)

Universities of Applied Sciences Act ([932/2014](#), 25 & 37 §)



Eligibility for higher education

- Each higher education institution decides on which students it admits as well as on the criteria on the basis of which students are selected for admission. Universities decide the admissions criteria.

Recognition of prior learning

When studying for a degree or when completing a professional specialisation programme,

- students may, **as determined by the HEI**, have studies that they have completed in another Finnish or foreign higher education institution or other educational institution accredited towards the degree or professional specialisation programme. Students may also substitute previous studies for studies in the degree requirements or professional specialisation programme if the prior studies are of an equivalent level.
- Students may, **as determined by the HEI**, have their knowledge and skills attested in some other manner and counted towards the degree or specialisation, or substitute studies in the degree requirements or specialisation programme with the knowledge and skills attested.



Thank you!

More information:

<https://www.oph.fi/en/services/recognition-qualifications>