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Science.

# FACT SHEET

## Exchanges studies 2022-2023

abo.fi

### CONTACT INFORMATION

ÅBO AKADEMI UNIVERSITY  
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
General inquires: [exchange@abo.fi](mailto:exchange@abo.fi)  
Erasmus code: SF TURKU02  
[www.abo.fi/en/study/study-abroad/  
exchange-students/](http://www.abo.fi/en/study/study-abroad/exchange-students/)

Tavastgatan 13  
FIN-20100 ÅBO

Strandgatan 2  
FIN-65100 VASA

For further information, please  
visit our [contactpage](#)





## Two campuses: Åbo and Vasa

- Åbo Akademi University has a campus in Turku (Åbo in Swedish) and a smaller campus in Vaasa (Vasa in Swedish), 350 km:s north of Turku.
- Both campuses are small and friendly with easy access to service and outdoor activities, and the locations and the university have been very highly rated by international students over the years.
- Turku (population 175.000) is located on the southwest coast of Finland and is the oldest city in Finland.
- Vaasa (population 65.000) is located on the west coast of Finland. Its campus overlooks the unique World Natural Heritage Site of Kvarken.
- Estimated cost of living/month:  
Accommodation Student housing: 300 - 470€  
Private housing: 350-550 €  
Food/Meals: 250-300 €  
Local transportation: 36 €  
Personal Expenses (Clothes, leisure, etc.):100-200 €  
Student Union Fee: Approx. 32 € per semester

## Academic calendar

Autumn semester 1.8 - 31.12, Spring semester 1.1 - 3.7  
Mandatory orientation: 29 August - 2 September 2022  
Period of study: 29 August - 22 December 2022  
Spring term 2023 / Period of study: 11 January – 30 May

## Nomination Deadlines

For studies in Autumn (August-December), or full year (August-May): 16 April at 16.00 CET+1  
For studies in Spring (January-May): 1 October at 16.00 CET+1

Nomination information needed:

- Students last name and given names
- Birth of date (day - month- year)
- Gender (male/female/prefer not to say)
- Students email-adress
- Exchange period
- Educational subject at home university
- Educational subject at host university

The nomination e-mail must be sent to [exchange@abo.fi](mailto:exchange@abo.fi) by the nomination deadline. Åbo Akademi University accepts exchange students on both campuses: Åbo (Turku) and Vasa (Vaasa). Please note that the e-mail address of the student, provided in the nomination by the home university coordinator, is the one that will be connected to the online application. Thus, the acceptance letter will also be sent electronically to this same e-mail address.

## Application deadline for exchange students

For studies in Autumn/Semester 1 (August-December) or Full year (August-May): 30 April at 16.00 CET+1  
For studies in Spring/Semester 2 (January-May): 15 October at 16.00 CET+1

## ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the Exchange application online.

### Learning agreement/study plan:

Plan a full time course load, 30 credits for one semester, 60 credits for an academic year.

### Official transcript of records in English

Masters level student should upload both the Bachelor and Master transcript of records.

### Language requirements

B2 in CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages), verified by a certificate issued by the home university's language center's (or similar). OLS results can not be used. Or a min. 78 points in TOEFL iBT (540 TOEFL PBT), 6.0 in IELTS, or at least 62 points in PTE Academic (Pearson's Test of English). The certificate should not be older than two years.

### A copy of passport

(European National identity card)

### Acceptance information

Provided that the application is approved, acceptance letter will be sent by e-mail attachment from Åbo Akademi University within two weeks after the application deadline. Student will receive pre-arrival information and the mentor/buddy, if applicable, will contact the student by mail.

## COURSES

A wide variety of courses are taught in English, however, the selection of courses varies from year to year. Use the course information of the current academic year. The course information for the next academic year will be available no later than 1 August.

Please consult the [Course information page](#) for exchange students. Generally, students can choose courses from one faculty only, and most faculties allow students to choose courses from one department.

## Master's Thesis / Project

Exchange students are recommended to take courses while studying at Åbo Akademi University. The possibilities of doing a project work or writing a Master's thesis at Åbo Akademi University are limited and depend on the department. Students who have the intention of doing project work or write

a Master's thesis should establish contact with a supervisor at Åbo Akademi University before arrival by contacting the department directly. In order to contact the right department, one needs to have decided the subject/field of the thesis or project. Also, when contacting a potential supervisor, please include a description of the project and information about the number of credits it should contain as well as a brief background of your previous academic work.

## ECTS AND MARKS

Course workload is expressed in ECTS. Full-time study is equivalent to 30 ECTS per semester. The grading system used at ÅAU corresponds to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).

ECTS grades	Åbo Akademi University grades
A	5 (Excellent)
B	4 (Very good)
C	3 (Good)
D	2 (Satisfactory)
E	1 (Sufficient)

Some courses are graded on a pass/fail basis.

Please note that only successfully completed courses are recorded in the student's transcript of records, i.e. failed courses are not listed.

## Academic Transcript

Åbo Akademi University will issue transcripts twice a year, after every semester. Exchange students request a [transcript](#) at the end of their stay. One transcript will be sent to the student and a scanned copy is sent to the home university. A hard copy can also be sent to the home university, but that is only per request.

## HOUSING AND LIVING

Students apply for housing themselves. Remember to start applying for housing in time! They need the acceptance letter from ÅAU before they can apply for housing. Students will apply for accommodation in local student residences, for a single room in a shared apartment. For Vaasa campus, the [Lärkan apartments](#) are recommended, and for Turku campus the [Student Village](#) is recommended.

## HEALTH INSURANCE

ÅAU strongly recommends that students purchase travel insurance prior to travelling to Finland.

## TRAVELLING TO FINLAND

It is best to fly into Turku/Abo (TKU), alternatively Helsinki (HEL, Helsinki-Vantaa Airport). The best way to travel from the Helsinki-Vantaa airport to Turku/Abo is [by bus](#) or [by train](#), directly from the airport, the cost is approx. 32 euros, 2.5 hours.

The best way to fly to Vasa/Vaasa (VAA) is via Helsinki (HEL, Helsinki-Vantaa Airport) or Stockholm Arlanda). The flight is about one hour in both cases. It is also possible to travel by train or bus from Helsinki to Vasa. A regular bus connection from Vasa Airport to the city centre is operated by [Vaasan paikallisliikenne](#): The taxi fare is about 25 euros, driving time about 15 minutes

### Entry regulations

Citizens of the Nordic countries, the European Union, Lichtenstein and Switzerland do not need to apply for a residence permit before arrival.

Citizens from countries outside of the EU need a residence permit already when entering Finland.

The application for a [residence permit](#) can be made online.

The application should be submitted as early as possible, preferably immediately after receiving the letter of admission. The fee is 300€ (electronic application).

The following appendices are obligatory:

- acceptance letter issued by Åbo Akademi university.

- documentation of a comprehensive health insurance for the entire study period. Your health insurance must cover the cost of medical treatment up to 100,000 EUR.

- documentation of sufficient funds to cover the expenses for the study period in Finland. If your studies last less than a year, you are required to have 560 EUR for each month you intend to stay in Finland. Your livelihood has to be secured wither with a deposit in your own bank account (bank statement) or with an official certificate of a grant/scholarship (by a government, an organization or and educational institution) .

- a copy of the passport.