

More than 100 fully accredited and English-taught academic programmes!

The Estonian higher education system consists of academic and professional higher education. Higher education is provided mainly by universities and professional institutions of higher education.

I cycle (Bachelor's)

The nominal length of academic bachelor's studies is usually 3 years, and the capacity of studies is ECTS* 180 credits (in exceptional cases four years and 240 ECTS credits). After graduation from bachelor's-level programmes, the bachelor's degree *bakalaureusekraad*, is awarded.

Depending of the subject area, the nominal length of first cycle professional higher education studies is 3 – 4 years (180 – 240 ECTS credits), after completing the studies a Diploma of Applied Higher Education *rakenduskõrgharidusõppe diplom* is awarded.

After graduation from the first cycle of HE (academic or professional), students can continue in the second cycle leading to the Master's degree *magistrikraad*.

II cycle (Master's)

The nominal length of master's level studies is 1 – 2 years and the volume of the studies is 60 – 120 ECTS credits, but together with bachelor's level studies not less than five years (300 ECTS credits).

In addition to the two-cycle general structure, the study programmes of medicine, dentistry, pharmaceutical, veterinarian, architectural and civil engineering training are single long-cycle studies with a nominal length of 5 – 6 years and a capacity of 300 – 360 ECTS credits.

III cycle (Doctoral)

The nominal length of doctoral studies is 3-4 years (180-240 ECTS) after which the PhD degree (*doktorikraad*) is conferred.

Enrolment

Admissions to the study programmes is administrated by the institution of higher education, and candidates apply directly to the institution of their choice. It is wise to contact the respective admissions office well before commencing ones's studies, in order to obtain detailed information on application procedures, accommodation possibilities, visa regulations and other important facts.

All the applicants are required to possess qualification giving access to the applied level of studies in their home country. Additionally, applicants need to provide proof of proficiency in the language of a respective study programme. All the internationally accepted language proficiency tests are accepted, some institutions may run individual language tests.

The academic year lasts from September to June and is divided into two semesters. In most cases international students are admitted to the autumn semester.

Visa regulations

It is advised to consult the admissions office of your university about the visa requirements and temporary residence permit for study purposes. Important web-sites to find more details about these issues are Citizenship and Migration Board www.mig.ee and Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs www.vm.ee

Tuition fees

Generally the fees vary from 1280 to 5100 EUR (20 000-80 000 EEK) per year. Some of the more expensive specialities are medicine, law, business administration and social sciences. In some cases (for ex some National Quality Award programmes) there is no tuition fee.

Support schemes

There are several support schemes available for international students. In 2008 a programme co-financed by ESF and Estonian government (DoRa) was initiated for international students who wish to enrol for an accredited doctoral programme leading to a PhD degree in Estonian universities in the following fields: Information and Communication Technology, Materials Technology, Environmental Technology, Biotechnology, Power Engineering, Health.

Please consult your university to find out about the scholarship opportunities.

Quality

In 2007, Estonian higher education institutions that offer international degree programmes, signed the Agreement on Good Practice in the Internationalisation of Estonia's Higher Education Institutions. According to the agreement, participating higher education institutions admit international students only to fully accredited degree programmes. All the institutions have experience in providing support services that are needed for young people who have left their home country to live and study in a different environment.

* ECTS- European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

More information about the study opportunities in Estonia www.studyinestonia.ee and info@studyinestonia.ee

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Study and research opportunities in Estonia



Printed in May 2009
by Environmentally Friendly Printhouse Ecoprint.