

Teacher training in Finland 2015

Primary/class teacher

Secondary teacher

Vocational teacher

Primary/class teacher training

- Entry exam – education is extremely wanted
- Master of Education: 300 credits
- 5 years
- 60 credits for different subjects, 60 credits for pedagogical studies, 60 credits for different subjects
- Possibility to start special needs education teacher training afterwards

Overview of the different courses with credits

- Research methods
- History of education
- Child psychology
- School subjects
- Didactic courses
- Information technology
- Special needs education

End competencies

- Good knowledge about education, school subjects, co-operation skills

Subject teacher training

- Entry exam - education is extremely wanted
- Usually two subjects (120 credits and 60 credits) and teacher's pedagogical training (60 credits)
- Altogether Master's degree (300 credits)
- Usually students choose subjects they want to study and later they apply for teacher training to get the qualification to teach subjects they have studied

- In home economics, handicraft, physical education, music, arts and special education there are teacher training programs whose goal is to give teacher qualification just from the beginning
- A class teacher can get a subject teacher qualification by doing 60 credits in a certain subject

Different courses

- Research methods
- Advanced qualitative subject-didactic methods
- History of education
- Child psychology
- Special needs education courses are included

End competencies

- Independent
- Capable to solve problems
- Co-operative
- Well aware of the subject he/she teaches

Vocational teacher training

- The extent of vocational teacher education is 60 ECTS credits
- The studies include basics of educational sciences, vocational pedagogy, teaching practice and optional studies

- in most cases a relevant university or polytechnic degree and a minimum of three years of work experience in a field corresponding to the degree
- in the field of social services and health either a relevant master's degree and a three years of work experience or a relevant polytechnic degree and a five years of work experience corresponding to the degree.
- usually no entry exams

The aim of vocational teacher education is to provide the students with

- the knowledge and skills needed in guiding individual students' learning processes
- the competencies to promote their fields of teaching, paying attention to the development of working life and professions

The study program consists of two phases

- VOC phase consist of courses of vocational pedagogy (20 ECTS), portfolio (5 op) and basics of educational science (10 ECTS)
- LAB phase consist teaching practice and safety section (13 ECTS) and lab studies (12 ECTS).
- There are two compulsory courses in special needs education