



NEWSLETTER MAR 2021

# INTERNATIONAL TALENTS ACCELERATING GROWTH PROJECT

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## International Talent programmes build bridges between international students and companies

One of the main objectives of the International Talents Accelerating Growth Project is to ease the way international degree students at universities enter the local labour market. The University of Helsinki, Aalto University and Hanken School of Economics have created their International Talent programme as part of the project.

In the programmes, international student takes part in group mentoring or gets a personal corporate sponsor. Through the programme, international students get information about working life and useful contacts. The collaboration supports their career development and therefore their integration into the Finnish labour market.

For employers, the programme highlights the benefits of hiring international talent. In February 2021, Hanken International Talent programme organized a national workshop for higher education institutions to encourage closer cooperation with companies through International Talent programmes.

**This project is primarily funded by the Council of Tampere Region along with project partners; Helsinki-Uusimaa Regional Council, Academic Engineers and Architects in Finland (TEK).**



HITP IS RUN ANNUALLY

GET MORE  
INFORMATION FROM

[HITP PROGRAMME](#)

YOU ALSO HAVE A  
CHOICE TO

E-MAIL

[career\\_services@helsinki.fi](mailto:career_services@helsinki.fi)

GET INVOLVED WITH  
THE AALTO  
INTERNATIONAL  
TALENT PROGRAMME

[GROUP MENTORING](#)

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## HelsinkiUNI International Talent Programme (HITP)

HelsinkiUNI International Talent Programme (HITP) is a new group mentoring programme where international students meet Finnish companies and organizations.

The HITP-programme enables students to get valuable insight into specific sectors in the Finnish labour market. At the same time, the students get the opportunity to build professional networks. For companies, it is a great way to try internationalization and to create a positive employer brand.

The University of Helsinki career services provide training in career management skills during the programme. Upon completion of HITP, students and mentor organizations are welcome to continue cooperating through for example thesis collaboration or traineeships. HITP is run annually. Check out the [programme pages](#) or email: [career\\_services@helsinki.fi](mailto:career_services@helsinki.fi)

## Aalto International Talent Programme – Building contacts through group mentoring

Aalto International Talent Programme is a group mentoring programme bringing together Aalto University's international degree students and employers looking for talent. The programme is a win-win for all parties, offering employers a chance to attract and pre-screen future top talent and share insights about their business and careers, while students get the opportunity to learn about Finnish working life and working culture and to build and expand their professional network in Finland.

In 2021, the Aalto International Talent Programme engages 10 partner companies and over 150 students from all schools and disciplines of Aalto, including doctoral students. The programme runs from January to March. During the three-month period, students meet their mentor company's recruiters, professionals and Aalto alumni for a series of online group mentoring sessions and other activities.

Check out the [programme pages](#) or contact Project Manager [Kaisa Paasivirta](#)

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES OF THE CITY OF  
VANTAA HIRED AMALIA  
ARSENIE  
AS THEIR  
COMMUNICATIONS INTERN  
VIA METROPOLIA SIMHE  
PATH.

WATCH AMALIA'S VIDEO  
ABOUT HER  
EXPERIENCEAMALIA  
ALONG WITH THE CITY OF  
VANTAA.

[VIDEO](#)

## CONTACTS FOR TALENT MATCHING

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## Cities match local businesses and international talent from higher education institutions

The cities of Espoo, Helsinki and Vantaa cooperate closely with higher education institutions (HEIs) and companies to attract and retain international talent. Within the International Talents Accelerating Growth Project, each city has a company coordinator who actively contacts companies to tell them about relevant services, programs and events around international talent recruitment. In addition, the coordinators act as a link between companies and HEIs whenever there's an internship or job placement suitable for international students. Furthermore, cities have organized networking events for companies and developed concepts to support students' own efforts in building valuable worklife contacts already during their studies. All events have been feasible to implement also virtually. These are concrete examples of how cities and HEIs can collaborate to retain international students in the country.

Please see the contact information for talent matching  
in the left-hand side column.



## Talent Pool Helsinki offers opportunities for companies

As Helsinki's tech scene continues to grow rapidly, there is a raising need for international skills in both large and small companies. Helsinki Business Hub (HBH) aims to ensure that Helsinki can attract and retain top-tier talent. The recent unique challenges have sparked HBH to find new ways to reach out to the developers, engineers, designers, and everyone else who is looking to work in Finland.

Talent Pool Helsinki is a new online service pilot connecting experts with Helsinki region companies. Launched in December 2020, Talent Pool aims to raise the profile of Helsinki to those who may not be actively thinking about opportunities in the capital region. Tech talents from all over the world can access the pool and drop in their profiles to be viewed by Helsinki's startups, scale-ups, and large tech companies. By marketing the ecosystem as a whole and providing a central resource, local tech employers can access a wider variety of talent than just the job profiles of currently available positions. Check out the [programme pages](#).

## Support services for new talent settling in

International House Helsinki together with the Spouse Programme offer practical everyday support for newcomers who relocate to Helsinki. The phone lines provide a low-threshold service that can quickly help with small questions about life in the city, but also help with broader queries related to settling. Lines are open twice a week, with details of the opening times below.



Spouse Program



International House Helsinki



KAUPPAKAMARI



### Advice line service times

#### Housing Advice Line

**Mondays 9:00 – 11:00**  
**Wednesdays 14:00 – 17:00**

**Call 010 202 4666**

This advice line helps international newcomers moving to Helsinki with questions about local housing options. Callers can ask, for example, about

- \* Housing market and rental apartments
- \* Documentation related to renting, buying and tenancy
- \* Home ownership
- \* Description of different Helsinki neighbourhoods

#### Newcomer's Advice Line

**Mondays 9:00 – 12:00**  
**Thursdays 14:00 – 17:00**

**Call 010 202 4688**

This Advice Line helps international spouses and their partners with questions about integrating and living in Finland and Helsinki. Callers can ask, for example, about

- \* Banking and insurance
- \* Education and healthcare
- \* Hobbies and spare-time activities
- \* Shopping and sightseeing
- \* Everyday practicalities

#### Daycare and Education Advice Line

**Mondays 14:00 – 17:00**  
**Wednesdays 14:00 – 17:00**

**Call 09 3103 3444**

This advice line helps families residing in Helsinki with questions about education. Callers can ask, for example, about

- \* Daycare, pre-primary and primary education services
- \* Playground and club activities
- \* Application processes and different daycare and school options

Calls are subject to a basic local network rate, but are otherwise free of charge

*The Housing advice line and Spouse advice line are funded by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (#Talentboost)*