

Some Strengths of Finnish Teacher Education

- Academic education – usually master's degree (300 ECTS cr); early childhood education teachers hold bachelor's degree (180 ECTS cr).
- Studies are researched-based.
- All teacher education involves guided teaching practice. University students practice in teacher training schools during their studies.
- Teacher education and profession has remained attractive. Teachers are respected and trusted professionals in the Finnish society.



All teacher educators do research – All researches teach



Teacher education for different teacher groups

- Early childhood education teachers
- Class teachers
- Subject teachers
- Special needs teachers, special class teachers, special needs teachers in early childhood education, vocational special needs teachers
- Vocational teachers
- Guidance counsellors

Autonomy of the Finnish Universities

- Universities and universities of applied sciences have extensive autonomy and freedom of education and research.
- We don't have a national level curriculum for teacher education.
- Universities' autonomy covers student admissions, curricula, content and implementation of studies, assessment, recognition of studies etc. They are responsible for the content and quality of the education they provide.

Developing teacher education through broad research-based collaboration – Finland's Teacher Education Forum

- Teacher Education Development Programme aims to meet the new needs of teacher education in the context of the 2020s

**Teacher Education
Development Programme**
2022–2026



National aims for teachers' competences (pre- and in-service teacher education)

- 1) Broad-based core competence (incl. research competence, expertise in sustainability, digitalisation, and managing diverse learning environments)
- 2) Expertise and action that create new outcomes (incl. novel ideas and innovations; transformative agency; innovative orientation)
- 3) Developing one's own and the educational institution's competence

See more: The programme in English <http://urn.fi/URN:NBN:fi-fe2022053140998> and Teacher Education Forum <https://okm.fi/en/project?tunnus=OKM009:00/2023>

Main tasks of the Teacher Education Forum 2024–2027

- To promote the implementation of the Teacher Education Development Programme, topical issues related to teacher education, and the implementation of the STEM strategy and its action plan
- Vision work
- To support research-based quality assurance and strengthening of teacher education. Etc.

