



Special needs students at mainstream VET

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Oulu Vocational College

Founded 1.1.2005 in its current form

12 units inc. an administration unit

8500 students

- 6500 in vocational upper secondary qualification
- 2000 in adult education
- 2000 qualifications per year

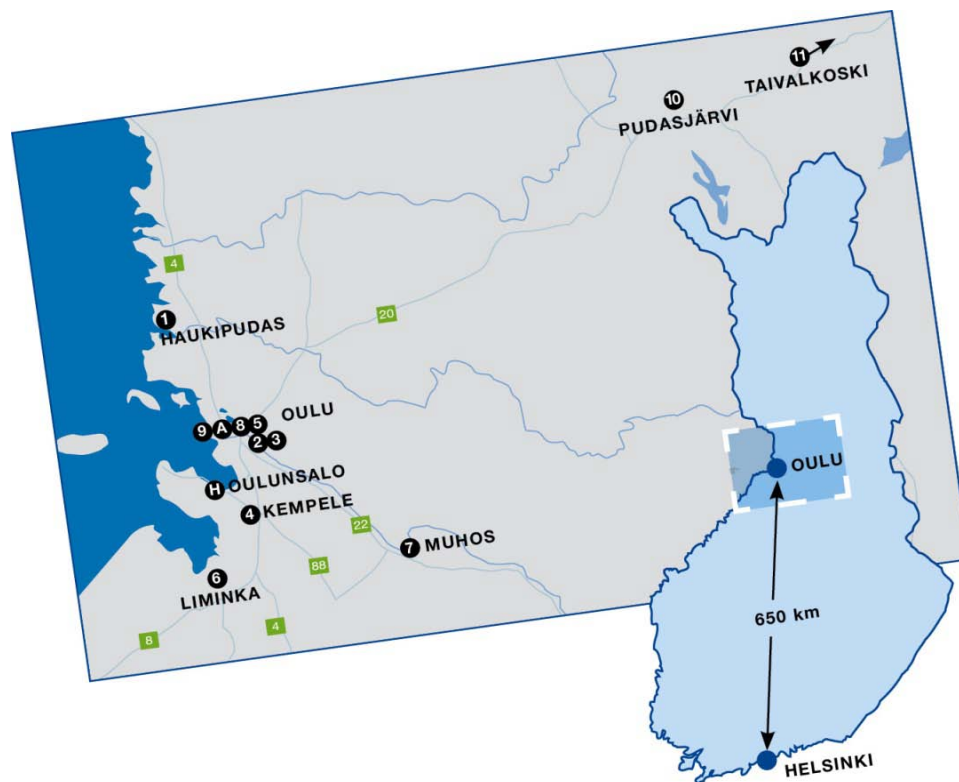
Number of personnel 900

Annual turnover 85 million Euros (2010)



Oulu Vocational College Units

1. Haukipudas
2. Kaukovainio
business and
administration
3. Kaukovainio
technology
4. Kempele
5. Kontinkangas
6. Liminka
7. Muhos
8. Myllytulli
9. Pikisaari
10. Pudasjärvi
11. Taivalkoski
- A. Adult education
- H. Administration





Business Idea or what we are doing

Oulu Vocational College provides a route to an occupation and further studies for young people who have completed 9-year basic education.

Institute offers a versatile range of additional and continuing education for the needs of business life in the Oulu region.

Oulu Vocational College provides vocational training in seven fields

- Natural sciences
- Natural resources and the environment
- Culture
- Tourism, catering and domestic services
- Social services, health and sports
- Technology, communication and transport sector
- Social sciences, business and administration





Vocational Education Provides

- Student-inspired, individual studying
- On-the-job learning (Instructed studies at real workplaces)
- International opportunities
- Support services
 - student counselling, dormitory, special education teaching
- Oulu Region Sports Academy
 - football, athletics, volleyball etc.



32 Vocational Qualifications in Seven Fields

Social sciences, business and administration
Vocational Qualification in Business and Administration

Natural sciences
Vocational Qualification in Business Information
Technology

Natural resources and the environment
Vocational Qualification in Bioenergy
Vocational Qualification in Agriculture
Vocational Qualification in Horticulture
Vocational Qualification in Equine studies



32 Vocational Qualifications in Seven Fields

Culture

Vocational Qualification in Audiovisual Communication

Vocational Qualification in Crafts and Design

Social services, health and sports

Vocational Qualification in Hairdressing

Vocational Qualification in Beauty Care

Vocational Qualification in Pharmaceuticals

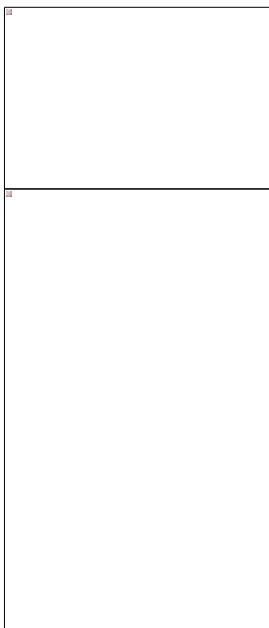
Vocational Qualification in Social and Health Care

Tourism, catering and domestic services

Vocational Qualification in Catering

Vocational Qualification in Hotel and Restaurant Services

Vocational Qualification in the Tourism Industry





32 Vocational Qualifications in Seven Fields

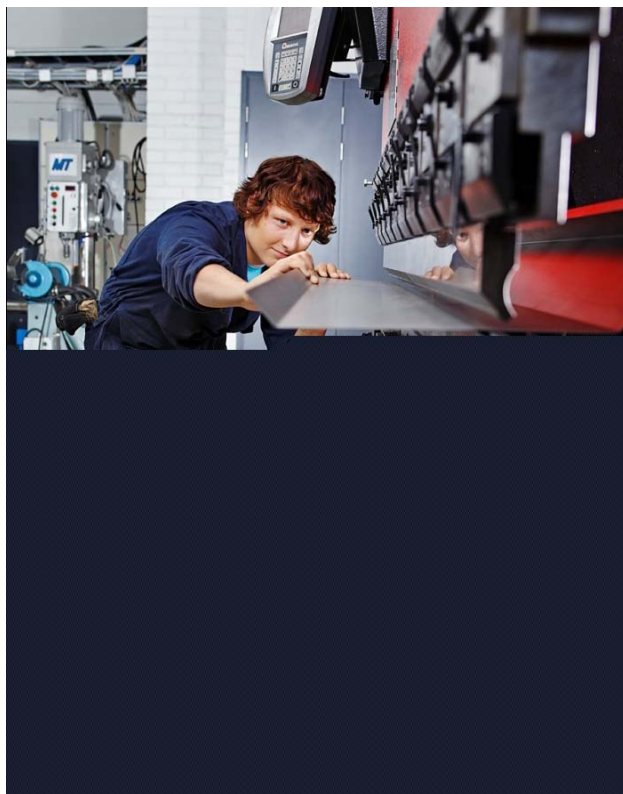
Technology Communication and Transport

Vocational Qualification in Vehicle Technology
Vocational Qualification in Food Production
Vocational Qualification in Chemical Engineering
Vocational Qualification in Metalwork and Machinery
Vocational Qualification in Laboratory Technology
Vocational Qualification in Logistics
Vocational Qualification in Surface Treatment Technology
Vocational Qualification in Wood Processing
Vocational Qualification in Construction
Vocational Qualification in Technical Design
Vocational Qualification in Electrical Engineering
Vocational Qualification in Safety and Security
Vocational Qualification in Textiles and Clothing
Vocational Qualification in Building Maintenance Technology
Vocational Qualification in Upholstery
Vocational Qualification in Publishing and Printing





Work Based Learning Periods



On the Job – learning

Work based learning
periods in Finland or

done abroad – not only
professional but also
cultural and language skills.



Students with Special Needs

Students in need of special support may apply to ordinary vocational institutions within the national joint application system or through the related flexible application procedure.

In vocational education and training, students with special educational needs are integrated in the mainstream education if possible, or in special needs groups or both.

An **individual education plan** (IEP) is to be drawn up for each student receiving special needs education and training.



Students with Special Needs

Oulu Vocational College 20.1.2011:

- vocational upper secondary qualification students
~ 6400
- In those student with special needs ~ 11%

Reasons:

- (Mental) health problems, physical disabilities, obsessive-compulsive disorder, ...
- Life control problems (alcohol, money, sleeping problems, social problems, ..)
- Learning problems/disability
- Diagnosed; 60 % of all special needs Students
- Others ~40% of all



Students with Special Needs

Testing: dyslexia, mathematic skills, learning style tests, ...

Information: Transit IEP, basic education certificate, interview, teachers observation, medical certificate, ...

Decision is made by unit director; Special education teacher and Student multidisciplinary team/ welfare team makes the proposal



Students with Special Needs

An **individual education plan** (IEP) must set out *details of the qualification* to be completed, the *requirements* of the competence-based qualification observed in education and training, the *scope* of the qualification, *the individual curriculum* drawn up for the student, *grounds for providing special needs education* and training, special educational and student *welfare services required* for studying as well as *other services* and support measures provided for the student.



Support

- Contemporarily teaching (two teachers in class at the same time); individual teaching
 - Small group teaching
 - Remedial teaching; special groups
 - On-the-job –learning
 - Longer study time
 - Partial qualification or lower goals
-
- If student don't need the support anymore; IEP is cancelled



Support

Most important:

- Attention, respect, toleration of the differences
- Discussions – teacher knows the student
- Methods suitable for learning style (own timetable, step by step, extra training, written instruction, ...)
- Together with parents, support person, counsellor, psychologist, ...

Problems:

- no ability to study
- Shortage of health care, rehabilitation, ...



Special education staff

- Special education coordinators
- Special Education teachers
- All teachers
- Special needs assistants

- Student counsellors
- School social workers
- Student multidisciplinary team (inc. school nurse/doctor)

- The Student is always in the middle



Results

- ~ 10 % of all students chance their studies or leave the school without qualification
- ~ 22% of Special Needs students does the same; but....

When Special needs student have qualification, he/she will find a job as well as the "normal" student.

Support and some money → young people get qualifications and job...



It's all about the attitude