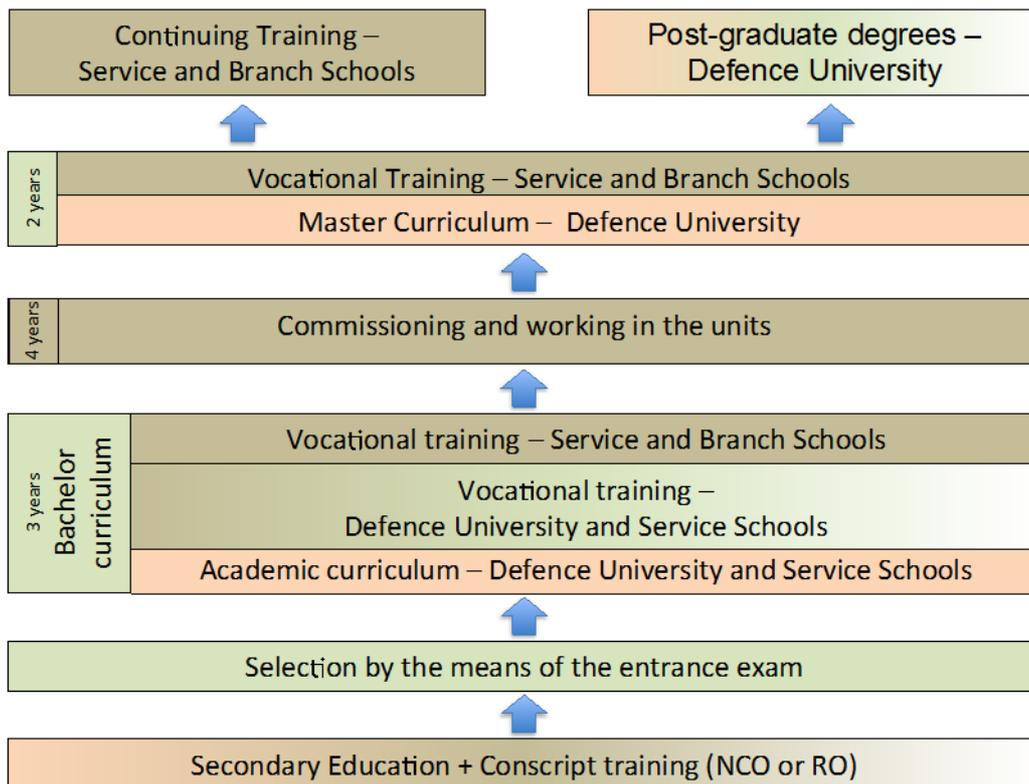




# FINLAND

## How to Become a Military Officer in the Finnish Armed Forces:



The Finnish officers' basic education and training are mainly provided at the National Defence University (NDU). Part of the educational and vocational training is carried out at service and branch schools under the supervision of the NDU. After the graduating the Bachelors of Military Sciences (B.Mil.Sci) have a mandatory four-year working period in the units before the two-year intermediate studies of the Master of Military Sciences (M.Mil.Sci). The basic education, which leading to a degree of Bachelor of Military Sciences, must provide the students with the following qualifications:

- The basic knowledge of the studies in the officer's academic program;
- Capacity for scientific thinking and working methods;
- Ability to take part in the master's program and inclination to lifetime learning;
- Ability both to follow the development of the field and to use the acquired knowledge at work;
- Sufficient communication and language skills.

The basic vocational curriculum must enable the cadets to obtain practical military skills and qualifications needed for duties of young officers at the level of the company's commander under exceptional circumstances. On the other hand, the basic vocational curriculum must enable the cadets to obtain practical military skills and qualifications needed for duties of instructor (licences and qualifications) under normal circumstances.

# National Defence University

([http://www.puolustusvoimat.fi/en/national\\_defence\\_university](http://www.puolustusvoimat.fi/en/national_defence_university))

AIR FORCE

## Air Force Academy

(<http://www.puolustusvoimat.fi/portal/puolustusvoimat.fi/>)

### Academic curricula

Bachelor (basic education)	<b>Bachelor in Military Sciences</b> , specialisations in: - Leadership and Management - Art of War - Military Pedagogy - Military Technology
Master (intermediate education)	<b>Master in Military Sciences</b> Same specialisations as Bachelor

### Military specialisations

Pilots	<b>Air Force Academy</b> (Service School)
Aircraft (and weapon systems) maintenance	<b>Air Force Academy</b>
C4IS	<b>Air Force Academy</b>
Border Guard Pilots	<b>Air Force Academy + Utti Jaeger Regiment + Border and Coast Guard Academy</b>

Number of cadets first year: 25

Total number of cadets: 70

### Organisation of the basic officers' education

Bachelor:

Year (Ba)1													Year (Ba)2													Year (Ba)3												
A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J			

Master:

Year (Ma)1													Year (Ma)2												
A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J		

### Integration in the European Higher Education Area

Academic education:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		External quality assurance mechanisms		Recognition of education taken abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the students	National accreditation	Involving EQAR agencies	
ECTS	210	120	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N

Vocational training:

Credit system			Learning outcomes (described and used)	Internal quality assurance mechanisms		National accreditation	Recognition of training done abroad
Nature	Ba	Ma		Following the European Standards and Guidelines	Involving the trainees		
Ba = ECTS Ma = Specific	NK	NK	N	N	Y	Y	N

<b><u>Doctoral studies</u></b>	<b><u>Forefront expertise and research fields of the main institution</u></b>
<p>Doctor of Military Sciences specialised in <i>Leadership and Management, Art of War, Military Pedagogy, Military Technology, Social and Behavioral Military Sciences.</i></p> <p>Doctoral studies amount 70 ECTS, not including the thesis.</p>	<p>The National Defence University is particularly active, but not exclusively, in the following fields of scientific research: <i>art of war, strategy, operations art and tactics, military history, military technology, leadership, military pedagogy, military psychology and military sociology.</i> The Air Force can provide the researcher with service-specific topics that will support the Air Force's core activities.</p>

#### **An exchange culture**

Number of military students sent abroad on an exchange in 2013-2014: 4 to 6

*The National Defence University and the Air Force Academy have acquired a reliable experience of mobility of both students and teachers in both academic and vocational aspects of the basic education of Air Force officers. . The Air Force Academy is a notably active party in international environment, which allows it to appear as a dynamic institution with regard to exchanges with its European and international counterparts.*

#### **Context:**

Erasmus charter signed	Member of fora	Use of the framework arrangement	Joint degrees with European military institutions
Y	EUAFSA	N	N

#### **Practice:**

Academic				Vocational			Practice of full-curriculum mobility	Common modules proposed	Offer of "international programmes"
Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff	Exchanges with civilian	Sends students	Hosts students	Exchanges staff			
Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y		N

#### **Learning of, learning in foreign languages**

*During the studies of the bachelors of military sciences the military students must learn at least one foreign language, and have the possibility, as optional courses, to learn advanced English and a second foreign language. The future officers are also required, during their first and half year, to study the second national foreign language (Finnish or Swedish). At the master level, they must study at least one foreign language. Furthermore, the National Defence University offers the possibility to the students at both bachelor and master levels to attend courses as well as a field exercise provided in English. Approximately 5 to 10 % of the courses proposed at the University are provided in English.*

Command of the English at the end of basic education and training (CEFRL/STANAG 6001):

	Speak	Write	Read	Listen/Understand
Bachelor curriculum	B1-B2	B1-B2	B1-B2	B1-B2
Master curriculum	B2	B2	B2	B2

#### **Before and beyond basic education**

*The future military officers are recruited among the young nationals who are graduated from secondary level education and have fulfilled their obligations with regard to compulsory conscript training. In order to enter initial education and training, they must pass an entrance exam that also encompasses medical, physical, psychological and aptitude tests.*

*In the course of their career, the Finnish officers will receive additional education and training, again at the University of Defence, at an intermediate level Master of Military Sciences degree (Sr. Lieutenant) and (advanced) General Staff Officer degree (Captain - Major).*