



INTRODUCING THE FINNISH NURSES ASSOCIATION

THE FINNISH NURSES ASSOCIATION

The Finnish Nurses Association is a professional organization for registered nurses. Currently it has 50,000 members: nurses, public health nurses, midwives, and paramedics. Despite their specialty, all of them are also trained and registered nurses. The members cover a wide range of nursing occupations – from clinical nurses to teachers, students, researchers, and management. The membership in the association is voluntary.

OUR VISION

Nurses:

- continue to develop professionally throughout their career
- take ethical responsibility for nursing
- have an influential role in our society
- are members of a collegial profession
- are recognized as the best and well paid nursing experts

We accomplish this by:

- publishing magazines and books
- arranging supplementary education
- coordinating the work of expert groups
- offering career services
- organizing international collaboration
- organizing effective communications
- taking a stand and making statements
- developing nursing, education, and research

OUR MISSION

1. The mission of the Finnish Nurses Association is to help the nurses by:

- promoting their wellbeing at work
- making their work more visible and by developing nursing
- promoting the exchange of information within the profession and through collegial support
- maintaining and developing their professional skills
- supporting negotiations for better salaries and other employment conditions

2. The Finnish Nurses Association takes an active role in our society to:

- promote people's health and wellbeing
- develop clinical nursing, education, management, and research
- influence the governmental policy on social, health, educational, science and employment issues



WE OFFER PROFESSIONAL CAREER SERVICES

We offer our members versatile career services. We aim to increase the appreciation of the nurses' profession by offering services that help develop professional skills and expertise. As nurses' expertise increase and their status in the job market becomes better, also the appreciation of the whole trade improves. The purpose of our career services is to stimulate nurses' career thinking – to promote the concept of a life-long professional career.

E-SERVICES

We are pioneers in offering electronic services. Our E-services provide effective tools to carry out evidence-based nursing. Our members have access to various professional and information services online, such as the Ovid Essential Nursing Collection or various databases. Nurses also have a unique opportunity to evaluate their own expertise by maintaining a personal electronic portfolio through the Career Gate.

SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION

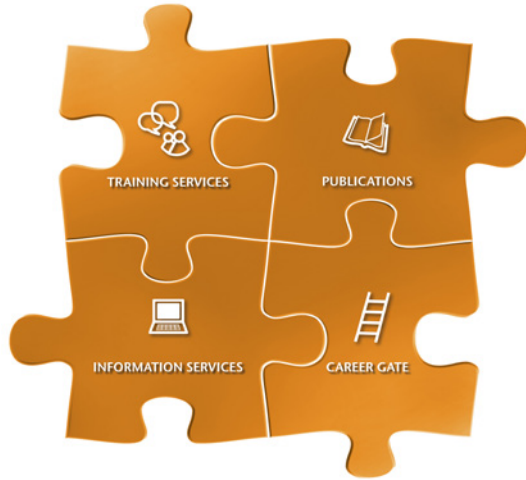
Every year we organize training days on different clinical subjects, leadership and management as well as entrepreneurship and international congresses. The largest annual nursing event is the Finnish Nursing Congress and Exhibition, which attracts over 7,000 nurses during the two-day period.

PUBLICATIONS

We publish three magazines regularly. Sairaanhoitaja (The Nurse) is a leading Finnish professional nursing magazine, Premissi (Premise) specializes in multi-professional health and social care management, and Tutkiva Hoitotyö (Nursing Evidence) provides clinical research data to aid nursing, teaching, and management.



CAREER SERVICES



WE SUPPORT NURSING DEVELOPMENT

Nurses are responsible for developing nursing, and they act as experts in their field together with various other healthcare experts. They continuously deepen their professional competence, take part in the development of education, and promote evidence-based nursing.

EVIDENCE-BASED NURSING

Evidence-based practice means utilizing the best and up-to-date information in the treatment of the patient – systematically and with care. The nurses' expertise is built upon these factors. We provide our members information, support, and tools for developing the evidence-based practice.

The Nursing Evidence Magazine published by the Finnish Nurses Association is a scientific magazine that serves the needs of clinical nursing. It promotes evidence-based practice and contains original research articles for clinical nursing, teaching, management, and scientific purposes.

CLINICAL COMPETENCE CERTIFICATION FOR NURSES

Healthcare personnel are constantly required to learn new skills and to become proficient in nursing that requires special competence. The Finnish Nurses Association awards clinical competence certification in order to support the nurses' career development. Acquiring this competence requires theoretical and practical expertise as well as an ability to collaborate in multidisciplinary working groups and a desire to develop themselves, their professional skills, and their working environment.

MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT

Nursing management is part of the healthcare organization's total management. Nursing managers are, among other things, in charge of customer-specific services, personnel wellbeing and expertise as well as developing recruitment strategies and evidence-based practice. We support management development by arranging training as well as publishing books and magazines. Premissi magazine, published by the Finnish Nurses Association, is the first and the only magazine in Finland that specializes in multiprofessional health and social care management.

NURSING RESEARCH FOUNDATION

The Nursing Research Foundation was founded by the Finnish Nurses Association. It's main purpose is to support nurses to improve people's health by implementing nursing research results. The foundation among other things promotes production of evidence-based recommendations for clinical nursing. The foundation is an active partner in the field of nursing research and works closely with the faculties of nursing science and the health care organizations in Finland and abroad.

For more information, see www.hotus.fi



WORKING IN FINLAND



The expert work of nurses emphasizes a patient-centric, health-specific, and holistic way of thinking. Their expertise is built upon evidence-based nursing. As experts of their trade, they have the know-how to introduce the nursing point of view in their multidisciplinary work group.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A JOB IN FINLAND?

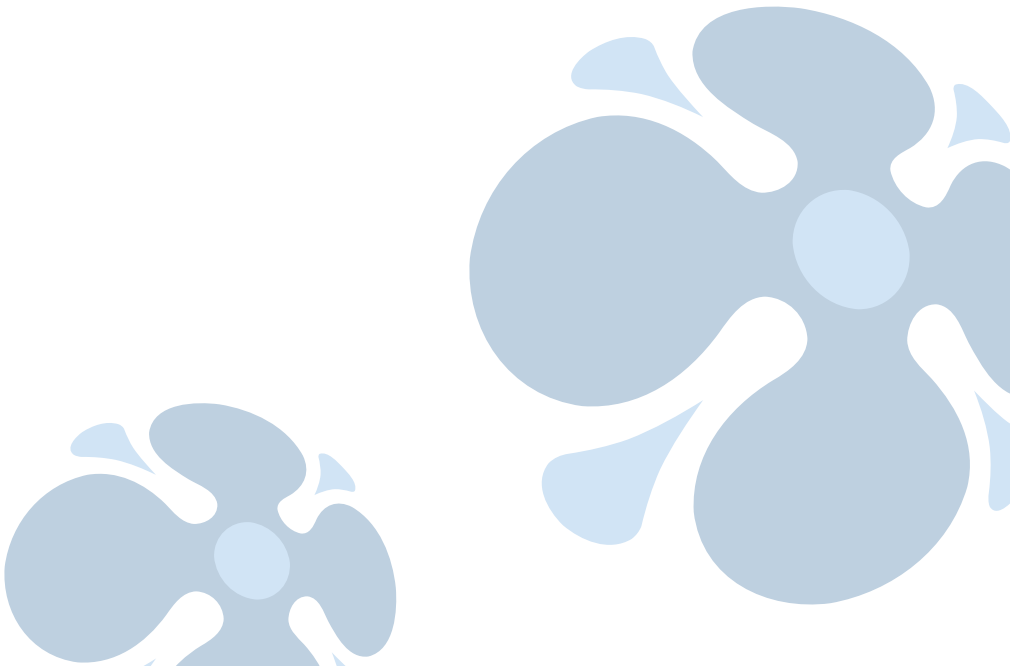
To be able to work in Finland, nurses must apply for professional practice rights from the National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health (Valvira).

Healthcare professionals must have the language skills required for the performance of their duties. The official languages of Finland are Finnish and Swedish.

For more information, see www.valvira.fi

NURSE EDUCATION IN FINLAND

Nurses receive their degree from universities of applied sciences. In Finland, you can study to become a nurse in 25 different educational establishments. It takes 3.5 years and requires 210 ECTS credits. The education is based on EU directives and consequently the requirements are similar in different European countries. The master's and doctoral degree programs in nursing science are offered in five universities.



INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

We collaborate with numerous international, European, and Nordic associations. These include, for example, the International Council of Nurses, the European Federation of Nurses Associations, the Nordic Nurses Federation, The European Forum of National Nursing and Midwifery Associations, and Workgroup of European Nurse Researchers.

THE FINNISH NURSES ASSOCIATION CONGRESS ACADEMY



Finnish Nurses Association
Congress Academy

The Finnish Nurses Association (FNA) offers global learning and networking opportunities for nurses through its Congress Academy.

The FNA Congress Academy cooperates with respected organizations covering various fields in nursing. It promotes evidence-based nursing through intercultural learning and networking by organizing:

- international nursing congresses in Finland
- trips to interesting nursing congresses in different parts of the world
- study visits to advanced organizations

For more information, see www.nurses.fi



THE FINNISH NURSES ASSOCIATION IN BRIEF

- We work closely with ministries and take a stand regarding the drafting of healthcare, nurse education, and work related laws, regulations, recommendations, and policies
- We bring up problems and solution suggestions through effective communications and campaigning
- We organize national events and campaigns
- We bring healthcare topics into discussion during parliamentary and municipal elections and offer a possibility to compare candidates' opinions (Healthcare Election Engine)
- We offer nursing professionals unique channels to showcase their talents and to influence matters
- We publish magazines and books to advance clinical nursing and healthcare management issues
- We arrange supplementary education, conferences and seminars
- We are actively involved in working groups that draw up action plans and recommendations (e.g. patient safety and nursing management)
- We take part in and organize national influential seminars and other forums to promote the development of nursing
- We recognize outstanding professionals by granting annual awards
- Every year we award grants for supplementary education

