

The National Qualifications Framework NQF

In the Finnish national qualifications framework all qualifications are allocated a level from eight different levels of difficulty. University of Applied Sciences degree qualifications are level 6 degrees and University of Applied Sciences' post-graduate degrees are level 7 degrees. Levels 6 and 7 and national generic competences common to all universities of applied sciences describe the level of competence expected of university of applied sciences graduates.

Level 6: university of applied sciences degree qualification, Bachelor level

Possesses comprehensive and advanced knowledge of his/her field, and the ability to critically understand and assess theories, key concepts, methods and principles. Understands the range and boundaries of professional duties and/or disciplines. Possesses advanced skills, which demonstrate the mastery of issues, the capability to apply knowledge and generate creative solutions required in a specialized professional, scientific or artistic field to solve complex or unpredictable problems.

Possesses the capability to manage complex professional work or projects and the capability to work independently as an expert in the field. Possesses the capability to make decisions in unpredictable operating environments. Has the basic ability to work as an independent entrepreneur in the field. In addition to the evaluation and development of his/her own competence, is able to take responsibility for the development of individuals and groups.

Possesses the capability for continuous learning. Knows how to communicate adequately verbally and in writing both to audiences in the field and outside it. Possesses the capability to communicate at an international level and interact in one official language and at least one foreign language.

Level 7, post-graduate university of applied sciences degree, Master level

Understands comprehensive and highly specialized concepts, methods and knowledge corresponding to the special competence in his/her field, which are used as the basis for independent thought and/or research. Understands questions pertaining to the field and interfaces between various fields and evaluates them and new knowledge critically. Possesses the capability to solve demanding problems in research and innovation activities, where new methods and procedures are developed and knowledge from various fields is applied and combined.

Possesses the capability for independent work in demanding expert duties in the field or as an entrepreneur. Possesses the capability to manage and develop complex, unpredictable and new strategic approaches. Possesses the capability to lead work and/or people. Possesses the capability to evaluate the activities of individuals or groups. Possesses the capability to accumulate knowledge and practices in his/her field and/or take responsibility for the development of others.

Possesses the ability to accomplish life-long learning. Knows how to communicate verbally and in writing both to audiences in the field and outside it. Possesses the capability to communicate and interact at an advanced international level in one official language and at least one foreign language.