SOCIAL SERVICES, HEALTH AND SPORTS
Qualifications in Social Services, Health and Sports

Qualifications in Social Services, Health and Sports (vocational qualifications, further qualifications and specialist qualifications) impart skills needed for tasks in the social, health, sports, and beauty care fields. Jobs are offered by enterprises and public organisations providing health, rehabilitation, sports, hair care, and beauty care services. These include health centres, hospital, rehabilitation units, medical centres and oral health care units, and sports and social services units (e.g., operating environments of early childhood education and care for the elderly, intoxicant abusers, and the disabled). The work may also be carried out in a customer's home or various home-like settings, exercise and sports clubs, and hair and beauty care salons. The services aim to improve the customers' or patients' health, wellbeing and ability to function, prevent health and social hazards, increase people's safety, and provide them with beauty services and pleasure, aesthetic experiences, and comfort.

Those working in this field need good interaction, cooperation, and customer service skills, flexibility, and organisational abilities. Professionals in this field observe vocational ethics, the knowledge base of the field, and regulations in their work. They give due consideration to safety and have a responsible attitude toward their work. The field requires an understanding of human nature, good language skills, and knowledge of other cultures. The work is customer-oriented and variable, and it offers plenty of opportunities to move from one task to another in the field. The possibilities of progressing to further studies and enterprising activities in the field are excellent. The tasks require a good level of physical ability to function, mental balance, and the ability to interact with different people. The applicable legislation imposes requirements on the employee's state of health.

The employment outlook in the field is extremely good, and skilled labour is in demand. The demand for labour may vary from one area and profession to another. Depending on the task and job, the work may be daytime or shift work.

Vocational Qualifications

- Vocational Qualification in Social and Health Care (9 study programmes/competence areas)
- Vocational Qualification in Physical Education (1 study programme/competence area)
- Vocational Qualification in Hair Care (1 study programme/competence area)

Further Qualifications

- Further Qualification in Morning and Afternoon Activity Instruction for Schoolchildren
- Further Qualification for Child Minders
- Further Qualification for Chiropodists
- Further Qualification for Autopsy Assistants
- Further Qualification in Orthopaedic Casting
- Further Qualification in Intellectual Disability Services
- Further Qualification in Substance Abuse Welfare Services
- Further Qualification for Masseurs/Masseuses
- Further Qualification in Physical Education
- Further Qualification in Sports Facilities Maintenance
- Further Qualification in Coaching
- Further Qualification for Optical Mechanics
- Further Qualification in Equipment Maintenance
- Further Qualification in Hair Care

Specialist Qualifications

- Specialist Qualification for Special Needs Assistants in Educational Institutions
- Specialist Qualification in Orthopaedic Casting
- Specialist Qualification in Psychiatric Care
- Specialist Qualification in Intellectual Disability Services
- Specialist Qualification for Instructors of Skills for the Visually Impaired
- Specialist Qualification for Interpreters for People with Speech Defects
- Specialist Qualification for Work Coaches
- Specialist Qualification in Care for the Elderly
- Specialist Qualification for Masseurs/Masseuses
- Specialist Qualification in Sports Facilities Maintenance
- Specialist Qualification in Coaching
- Specialist Qualification in Equipment Maintenance
- Specialist Qualification in Hair Care
- Specialist Qualification in Beauty Care
VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Vocational qualifications impart wide-ranging vocational competence needed in working life, specialist skills in the field, and capacity for further studies. The scope of a vocational qualification is 120 credits, mostly consisting of vocational qualification modules made up from on-the-job work and activity packages. In addition to compulsory vocational modules of the qualification, there is a large selection of optional ones, for example those that are part of other vocational qualifications. It is also possible to individually expand the qualification.

Upper secondary vocational education and training also contain modules complementing vocational skills and optional modules. A vocational qualification can be taken in 2-4 years, depending on the student's basic education and work experience.

A vocational qualification can be taken through vocational upper secondary education and training or as a competence-based qualification.

At their discretion, students or candidates can take one or several modules of the vocational qualification at a time, whenever this is appropriate for their placement in working life. In that case, a plan covering the entire vocational qualification is prepared.

FURTHER AND SPECIALIST QUALIFICATIONS

For further qualifications, the students or candidates demonstrate their mastery of vocational skills required of an employee in the field, and in specialist qualifications, mastery of the most demanding tasks in the field.

The further and specialist qualifications consist of on-the-job work and activity packages. Compulsory and/or optional modules of the qualification are determined in the qualification requirements. The scope of further and specialist qualifications or their parts is not determined in credits.

Further and specialist qualifications are taken as competence-based qualifications.
Vocational Qualification in Social and Health Care

Holders of a Vocational Qualification in Social and Health Care work with people of different ages in a variety of life stages. Practical Nurses work in care, nursing, education, and rehabilitation tasks in the social and health care sector. They encounter customers and patients as individuals and work to promote their health, ability to function, and wellbeing. They plan, implement, and assess the care, nursing, and rehabilitation of a customer or patient. They assist and guide the customer and patient, making use of their versatile knowledge base of the field in their work. Practical Nurses work as part of multiprofessional teams and networks. They make use of their language skills and knowledge of other cultures in their work. In addition, Practical Nurses specialise in one of the following areas of working life: customer service and information management, emergency care, rehabilitation, care and education for children and youths, mental health and substance abuse welfare work, nursing and care, oral and dental care, care for the disabled, or care for the elderly.

Title:
- Practical Nurse

Practical Nurses having completed the study programme / competence area in Customer Service and Information Management support and guide patients and customers, book appointments, draw up documents and manage tasks related to patient documents making a versatile use of information and communication technology, take part in nursing in surgeries and outpatient clinics, prepare for and carry out procedures and examinations or assist in these, and take care of post-procedure monitoring. The work requires competence in swiftly determining care needs and independent decision-making.

Jobs: Health centres, hospital outpatient clinics and wards, medical centres, and social care units.

Practical Nurses having completed the study programme / competence area in Emergency Care work in emergency care services and the associated official networks. They look after emergency care patients in various nursing environments. They use emergency and health care equipment and devices, ensure the daily maintenance and preparedness of the equipment and the ambulance, and implement medical care for the patients in their area of responsibility. They organise psychosocial support for patients and their family and friends. They drive an ambulance safely. They work in the patient care process, such as immobilisation therapy and perioperative care, making use of their knowledge base in the field.

Jobs: Patient transportation enterprises, emergency care service units of the rescue authorities, hospital accident and emergency departments, emergency care services of health centres, surgical wards in hospitals.

Practical Nurses having completed the study programme / competence area in Rehabilitation guide and support the rehabilitation of rehabilitees of various ages. They use a rehabilitative approach to promote the ability to function and wellbeing of the rehabilitees. They guide the rehabilitee in his/her daily routines and make use
of various communication methods and their knowledge base of rehabilitation in their work. They guide rehabilitees in health exercise, apply functional ability assessments carried out by rehabilitation professionals, perform functional ability and performance tests, and guide rehabilitees in the use and purchase of mobility and other aids. They make use of the social network of the rehabilitee, use networking techniques in their work, and help rehabilitees take part in activities outside their homes.

**Jobs:** Home environment of the rehabilitee, home care and intermediate residential facilities, activity and work centres, workshops, service centres, spas, health centre wards and rehabilitation units, and various third-sector jobs related to rehabilitation.

**Practical Nurses having completed the study programme / competence area of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Welfare Work** promote mental health and abstinence from substance abuse, take part in the prevention of mental health and substance abuse problems, and support the position of mental health and substance abuse customers. They plan, implement, and assess the care and rehabilitation process of mental health and substance abuse customers and patients of various ages, and assess their ability to function, ability to cope with daily routines, and need for support. Practical Nurses draw on their knowledge base of the field in their work and use rehabilitation and care methods of mental health and substance abuse welfare work. Practical Nurses work together with the customers and patients, the families of patients, and their team and other experts.

**Jobs:** Mental health and substance abuse welfare units in both the public and the private sector.

**Practical Nurses having completed the study programme / competence area of Nursing and Care** plan, implement, and assess the nursing, care, and rehabilitation of customers and patients in various operating environments. They draw on their knowledge base of the field in their work. They promote health, ability to function, safety and wellbeing of the customers and patients, and prevent and eliminate factors that threaten these attributes. Practical Nurses guide their patients or customers in nutrition, a healthy lifestyle, and exercise, promoting their ability to function, and they implement medical care. They promote the interaction of customers or patients with their environment, support them in managing their daily routines and participation in the community, and provide guidance and
support in dealing with various social problems.

**Jobs:** Health centres, hospitals, public and private social and health care services, nursing homes, service centres, or the customers’ homes.

*Practical Nurses having completed the study programme / competence area in Oral and Dental Care* are part of a team providing oral health care. They guide customers and patients in using services. They contribute to ensuring the hygiene of the operating environment and proper aseptic techniques, preparedness of the unit, and equipment maintenance. Practical Nurses assess the customers’ or patients’ state of oral health and guide customers in oral health promotion, drawing on their knowledge base in the field. Practical Nurses take part in oral examinations, cavity filling and root canal treatments, extractions, and treatment of gum diseases. They implement medical care in their field, use the basic tools, working methods, and materials of the field, and take part in orthodontic therapy, oral surgery, prosthetics and stomatognathic physiology procedures.

**Jobs:** Oral health care units in the public and private sector.

*Practical Nurses having completed the study programme / competence area in Care for the Disabled plan,* implement, and assess the care, education, and rehabilitation of customers with various disabilities and of different ages, drawing on their knowledge base in the field. They respect the self-determination of a disabled customer, support his/her inclusion, and recognise their own ways of using power. Practical Nurses communicate with different customers and use communication methods that support or replace speech if necessary. They use aids in their work with the disabled and guide customers in their use. Practical Nurses support and guide a customer in promoting his/her health and design a comfortable and safe residential and living environment for the customer together with him/her. They work together with disabled people, the families and friends of customers, and their team.

**Jobs:** Various operating environments of care for the disabled in the public and private sector.

*Practical Nurses having completed the study programme / competence area in Care for the Elderly plan,* implement, and assess the care, services, and social interaction that maintain the ability to function and promote the rehabilitation of an elderly person or a person suffering from dementia. They guide and support customers in their daily routines. They support the customers’ inclusion, improve the quality, meaningfulness, and safety of their lives, and take into consideration the customers’ life histories, resources, and individuality. They guide the customer and his/her family and friends in physical and mental health promotion and maintaining a healthy life-
style, use working methods that are rehabilitat-
ing and promote the ability to function, and take occupational safety into account. They develop their vocational skills and work with the elderly, drawing on their knowledge base in the field.

**Jobs:** Home care, day-care activities, supported living and service centres, dementia units, units providing a 24-hour service, nursing homes and hospitals in the public and private sector, also including the third sector.

**Vocational Qualification in Physical Education**

Physical Education Assistants with a Vocational Qualification in Physical Education instruct various groups of different ages in physical education, organise exercise events, draw up personal exercise programmes promoting health and the physical ability to function, and plan and lead projects associated with physical education. They also have the capacity to act as coaches and instructors in health exercise, physical education for youth, applied exercise, exercise aiming at appreciating nature and providing experiences as well as in club activities and physical education enterprising.

**Jobs:** Municipalities, public and other enterprises, exercise and sports clubs, various organisations, instructors of children’s afternoon activities.

**Vocational Qualification in Hair Care**

Holders of a Vocational Qualification in Hair Care work as customer-oriented professionals in hair care. Hairdressers cut hair and give shaves, treat hair and scalp, dye hair and beards, and do various types of permanents. They follow hair care fashions and guide the customer in finding their individual style, which is reflected as a sense of wellbeing in the customer and satisfac-
tion with his/her appearance. They style hair and apply make-up, and guide the customer in the care of hair and scalp and the use of cosmetic products. They also sell cosmetic products and equipment for hair care at home. Holders of a Vocational Qualification in Hair Care are able to act as experts in hair care and treatment as well as styling.

**Jobs:** Hair and beauty care salons, hotels, spas, supported living units, tourism enterprises, and other enterprises producing wellbeing services, own enterprise.

**Vocational Qualification in Beauty Care**

Holders of a Vocational Qualification in Beauty Care work as experts and skilled providers of skin care, skin care guidance and advice, massage, and make-up. In their work, they plan, give, sell, and market to customers treatments of the face, body, feet, and hands, and they apply make-up. They guide and advise the customer in use of colours, finding their personal style, self-care of skin and body, and the choice and use of skin care products. They give treatments to customers manually or using equipment. They sell and market cosmetic care and make-up products. They work together with professionals in such fields as hair care, health care and fashion, and media. The qualification title of those with a vocational qualification is either a Beauty Therapist or a Beauty Consultant.

**Jobs:** Beauty salons, spas, hotels, supported living units, medical centres, enterprises offering versatile wellbeing services, importers, the cosmetics industry, enterprises and outlets offering marketing, training and consultancy, and jobs in the entertainment and media industry.
Vocational Qualification in Dental Technology

Dental Laboratory Assistants with a Vocational Qualification in Dental Technology select the correct materials, tools, and equipment for their work. In their work, they take into consideration their own and the customer’s health, safety and the ability to function, sustainable development, and entrepreneurship. Dental Laboratory Assistants make plaster models, custom impression trays and base plates, stomatognathic devices (e.g., orthodontic splints), and replace missing teeth by prosthesis. They use specialist prosthetic solutions to rehabilitate the toothless mouth of a customer, or prepare various types of crowns, orthodontic activators, and metal-framed partial prostheses. They make use of their knowledge base in the field, information technology, and language skills in their work. Dental Laboratory Assistants are part of an oral health care team.

Jobs: Oral health care services provided by either a public or a private employer, dental laboratories, surgery of a specialist dental technician, wholesalers and retailers of dental accessories.

Vocational Qualification in Pharmaceutics

Holders of a Vocational Qualification in Pharmaceutics comply with national and international regulations and make use of their knowledge base of the field in their work. They work to promote business profitability in their workplace, and make use of information technology, communication equipment, and their language skills. Pharmaceutical Technicians or Pharmaceutical Assistants have basic vocational skills in logistics and special competence in one of the following qualification areas: pharmacy work, hospital pharmacy work, drug development, or pharmaceutical wholesale business. They also have skills in two of the following optional modules: display and marketing, quality work, command of information technology, and preparation of pharmaceuticals.

Titles:
- Pharmaceutical Technician
- Pharmaceutical Assistant
Pharmaceutical Technicians (study programme / competence area in pharmacy services) are competent in logistics, office work, and cash register use, master information technology relevant to their work, and observe data security and data protection. Typical competence areas in pharmacy logistics are inspecting incoming goods, using stock control software, and appropriately handling and storing pharmaceuticals. **Jobs:** Pharmacies, hospital pharmacies, pharmaceutical industry, pharmaceutical wholesalers.

Pharmaceutical Assistants (study programme / competence area in Pharmaceutics) are competent in the logistics and information technology of hospital pharmacy work, obligatory reserve supplies, and the storage of hospital pharmacy products. They pick orders taking the basic range of pharmaceuticals into account, package products, and handle pharmaceutical and chemical waste. They work in dose dispensing in their area of responsibility and in other Pharmaceutical Assistant tasks in wards.

Pharmaceutical Assistants having taken the module of *Drug Development* may work with production, clinical research, sales license issues, product development, and official activities. They are familiar with the quality concepts in their field, quality requirements, and various phases of a drug’s life span. They work in various teams and with different stakeholders and communicate in English in their work.

A Pharmaceutical Assistant with a qualification in *Pharmaceutical Wholesale Business* is competent in wholesale storage functions and picking and packaging products, and they take into consideration products affected by quarantines and sales bans and the requirements of specialist storage. They handle customer returns following the instructions of their operating unit.

**Jobs:** Hospital pharmacies, pharmaceutical industry, pharmaceutical wholesalers.
Further Qualification in Morning and Afternoon Activity Instruction for Schoolchildren

Holders of a Further Qualification in Morning and Afternoon Activity Instruction for Schoolchildren take part in supporting the education and ability to function, guidance, and assistance of children, young people, and adults of different ages and cultural backgrounds. They may be engaged in early childhood education, basic education, morning and afternoon activity instruction and free-time activities, or vocational or general upper secondary education and training. They may also work in other operating environments associated with studying, work, free-time, or the home, based on the customer’s individual needs for assistance. They work as instructors of both individuals and groups, based on agreed educational and rehabilitative objectives in cooperation with a multiprofessional team, guardians, and other partners.

**Jobs:** Day-care, pre-primary education, comprehensive schools, evening and afternoon activities, institutions of vocational education, general upper secondary schools, civic activities and organisations, free-time centres, child and family work in congregations and homes.

Further Qualification for Child Minders

Holders of a Further Qualification for Child Minders work in early childhood education in a child-oriented manner as professionals in day-care. They work responsibly in early childhood education tasks following the principles of educational partnership together with children and families. They work individually in educating children in various situations of every-day life. They protect the emotional and physical safety of the child in all situations. They guide
the child's development through play and activities based on his or her age and level of development. They also provide the child with the nurturing and care the child needs. They ensure that the child enjoys versatile nutrition, the rest he/she needs, exercise and a regular daily routine. Child Minders work to support the objectives set for pre-primary education.

**Jobs:** Family day care centres, group family day care, and day-care centres.

**Further Qualification for Chiropodists**

Holders of a Further Qualification for Chiropodists care for the customer’s lower limbs as part of the individual overall care of the customer, prevent the occurrence of illnesses in this area, and advise the customer in self-care. They work in a customer-oriented manner safely, observing the vocational ethics and provisions of the social and health care sector. They are able to draw on their knowledge base of the field as part of multiprofessional networks of experts.

**Jobs:** Hospitals, health centres, other operating environments of the social and health care sector, rehabilitation institutions, beauty salons, spas, the customer's home, own enterprise.

**Further Qualification for Autopsy Assistants**

Holders of a Further Qualification for Autopsy Assistants assist a doctor and the police in autopsies carried out to establish the cause of death, and they appropriately look after the transport of the deceased to the autopsy room, their storage and release. They are able to take, store, package, and send autopsy samples. They work methodically and are service-oriented, and they encounter family members and friends of the deceased discreetly, emphatically, and professionally.

**Jobs:** Hospitals, university hospitals, and operating environments of health care services where medical and medico-legal autopsies can be performed.

**Further Qualification in Orthopaedic Casting**

The requirements of the Further Qualification in Orthopaedic Casting are currently being prepared.

**Further Qualification in Intellectual Disability Services**

Holders of a Further Qualification in Intellectual Disability Services support, look after and guide people with intellectual disabilities and their family and friends in various situations and life stages as well as in different operating environments in a resource-based manner. The basis of the work is the dignity of an intellectually disabled person as a human being and equality in society. The work is guided by the vocational ethics of the intellectual disability services sector.

**Jobs:** Homes, day-care, pre-primary education, schools, residential units, supportive living units, care institutions, intellectual disability units, institutions of vocational education, work activity and rehabilitation units, institutions for people with intellectual disabilities.
Further Qualification in Substance Abuse Welfare Services
Holders of a Further Qualification in Substance Abuse Welfare Services work in various tasks in the social and health care sector or other tasks requiring competence in substance abuse welfare work. They are competent in proactive, preventive, and corrective substance abuse welfare work carried out on the individual, group, and community level. They work in various basic or specialist services or other tasks requiring competence in substance abuse welfare services.

Jobs: Substance abuse welfare service units, day activity centres, outpatient units, health centres, residential services, hospitals and home care, mental health, youth, child welfare, diacony, non-governmental organisations, and voluntary work units.

Further Qualification for Masseurs/Masseuses
Holders of a Further Qualification for Masseurs/Masseuses plan and give massages to various customer groups. They assess the impacts of massage and draw on their knowledge of the ethical foundations and provisions in the field as well as the structure and functioning of the musculoskeletal system in their work. They prepare the required tools and massage substances, arrange the treatment room, and make use of massage techniques and strokes suitable for the customer in their work. They work safely, aseptically, and ergonomically. They encounter the customer discreetly in the massage situation and guide him/her in promoting his/her health and wellbeing.

Jobs: Various care, nursing, and rehabilitation institutions, supported living units, spas, sports centres, customers’ workplaces and homes, own enterprise.

Further Qualification in Physical Education
Holders of a Further Qualification in Physical Education observe regulations on physical education and vocational ethics in their work. They are familiar with the community structure associated with exercise and criteria for good exercise facilities, and they take part in the design of exercise facilities in their area of responsibility. They use environments and facilities for physical education in a versatile manner. They acquire information about the health and exercise needs of their customers or customer groups of different ages, prepare exercise plans that promote health, and give guidance in exercise and removing obstacles for it. They may also be engaged in exercise and tourism activities and club activities. They look after their ability to work, and act responsibly and in line with the principles of an entrepreneurial spirit.

Jobs: Exercise and free-time organisations, communities, and enterprises in the social and health care sector, various organisations, projects in youth and club activities, own enterprise.

Further Qualification in Sports Facilities Maintenance
Holders of a Further Qualification in Sports Facilities Maintenance are familiar with the requirements of major sports regarding the structures, equipment, and maintenance of facilities for training and competitions. They carry out management, maintenance, and repair tasks of various sports facilities. They are able to serve customers and ensure occupational safety. They contribute to the safety of sports facilities and offer customers a good setting for promoting and maintaining their health.

Jobs: Municipalities, enterprises providing sports services, own enterprise.
Further Qualification in Coaching
Holders of a Further Qualification in Coaching coach athletes and teams, and plan, implement, analyse, and develop coaching in various national operating environments. They draw on the basics of physical and mental coaching, training methods, their knowledge base in the field, and interaction skills in their work. Coaches are also required to have comprehensive competence in the various stages of the coaching and competing process.

Jobs: Sports federations and organisations, institutes of learning, clubs, own enterprise.
Further Qualification for Optical Mechanics

Holders of a Further Qualification in Optical Mechanics work in production and other tasks associated with lens and spectacle manufacture and repairs and maintenance of spectacles. They make use of the latest technologies of the field in their work and advise the staff of optician’s shops in ordering spectacles and tasks related to edging work. The work is responsible and requires precision, care, and keeping up with developments in the field.

Jobs: Edging workshops of large optician’s shops, central edging workshops for lenses, and lens production plants.

Further Qualification in Equipment Maintenance

Holders of a Further Qualification in Equipment Maintenance are able to maintain, prepare, and sterilise examination and procedure instruments needed in hospital care and ensure that these fulfil the requirements as to their condition, cleanliness, and aseptic and other qualities. They take part in purchases of raw materials and accessories, productisation, manufacturing of instrument packaging and their storage, as well as production planning, guidance of material selection and manufacture, and stock accounting.

Jobs: Organisations in the social and health care sector, instrument maintenance centres, surgical and anaesthetic wards, various laboratories, intensive care, dialysis and maternity wards, outpatient wards, and dental care units. Holders of the qualification may also work in equipment maintenance in pharmaceutical plants and the food and chemical industries.

Further Qualification in Hair Care

Holders of a Further Qualification in Hair Care work in beauty care, offering services that promote beauty, health, and wellbeing. They provide service packages in which they plan, make, and assess changes of style, cuts and hair styles, permanent dyes and permanents, and shaves and beard care. They plan and implement individual service packages for everyday and festive occasions for women and men, and treat and style long hair. They ensure their own development as hairdressers and may instruct others. Through optional modules, they may focus their competence on specialist treatments of hair and scalp, on individual service packages implemented using hair insert materials, or on development and expansion of enterprising activities.

Jobs: Hairdressing and beauty care salons, hotels, spas, supported living units, hospitals, tourism enterprises, and other enterprises providing wellbeing services, own enterprise.
Specialist Qualification for Special Needs Assistants in Educational Institutions

Holders of a Specialist Qualification for Special Needs Assistants in Educational Institutions work on tasks that require specialist skills in guiding learning and supporting ability to function in their own area of responsibility. They work in both the educational and social and health care sector in operating environments of education, learning, care, and rehabilitation with customers of different ages. They may coordinate the work of, or provide induction training and act as workplace instructors for, special needs assistants, and they plan activities as a member of a multiprofessional team. They work flexibly in diverse and rapidly changing tasks. They are able to seek assistance from expert networks and other specialists for developing their own vocational skills in order to meet the customers’ needs.

Jobs: Day-care, basic education, vocational and general upper secondary education, afternoon care, free time activities, and the customer’s home as needed.

Specialist Qualification in Orthopaedic Casting

Holders of a Specialist Qualification in Orthopaedic Casting plan, implement, and assess the immobilisation therapy process, operating methods, and rehabilitation process of patients. They implement immobilisation therapy for special groups, educate and train students and staff in the field, and develop immobilisation therapy methods and aids. They justify their solutions and act professionally in special situations of immobilisation therapy and as experts in the field in the health care service system.

Jobs: Various operating environments of specialist care and basic health care, e.g., orthopaedic outpatient wards, emergency care clinics, and surgical wards.

Specialist Qualification in Psychiatric Care

Holders of a Specialist Qualification in Psychiatric Care work as experts in various psychiatric care tasks requiring special competence in the social and health care sector. They play a responsible role in the psychiatric care and rehabilitation process at the individual, group, and community level in a multiprofessional team and are competent in the methods of psychiatric care. They work professionally, ethically, and in a customer-centred and goal-oriented manner. Through optional modules, they have specialist
competence in forensic psychiatric nursing, psychogeriatric nursing, psychiatric rehabilitation, and self-employment.

**Jobs:** Basic and specialist medical care units, outpatient, and institutional care units providing psychiatric care, rehabilitation, and residential services maintained by private parties and organisations.

**Specialist Qualification in Intellectual Disability Services**

Holders of a Specialist Qualification in Intellectual Disability Services work in service activities of the intellectual disability sector, in which they are responsible for the comprehensive implementation and development of support, guidance, and care for persons with intellectual disabilities. They develop the operating methods of the work community and customer-oriented working techniques. Holders of this qualification familiarise themselves with the customers’ individual life situations and needs, and based on these, plan suitable services either independently or as members of a multiprofessional team or network. Holders of a Specialist Qualification in Intellectual Disability Services mainstream good work practices and customer-oriented operating methods in their work community and networks, and support the equality and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities in various environments.

**Jobs:** Homes, day-care, pre-primary teaching, schools, residential units, supported living units, care institutions, intellectual disability units, institutions of vocational education, work activity and rehabilitation units, institutes for people with intellectual disabilities.

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**Specialist Qualification for Instructors of Skills for the Visually Impaired**

Requirements of the Specialist Qualification for Instructors of Skills for the Visually Impaired are currently being prepared.

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**Specialist Qualification for Interpreters for People with Speech Defects**

Holders of a Specialist Qualification for Interpreters for People with Speech Defects work with people with disabilities in situations where the customers need an interpreter, such as conducting business, work, studies, free time, and civic participation. They interpret the messages of a person with a speech defect for third parties. If necessary, they clarify the messages of a third party to a person with a speech defect using communication methods that augmentative and alternative communication. They can also instruct the surroundings of the customer in the special features of his/her communication. They critically assess their own work and are active in an interpretation services network.

**Jobs:** Own enterprise, private or public services.
Specialist Qualification for Work Coaches
Requirements of the Specialist Qualification for Work Coachers are currently being prepared.

Specialist Qualification in Care for the Elderly
Holders of a Specialist Qualification in Care for the Elderly ensure the wellbeing and health promotion of senior citizens. They work in a customer-oriented manner, respecting the self-determination of the elderly. Their tasks include supporting the health and ability to function of the elderly and acting in the customer service network. They plan, implement, and assess advice and guidance targeting elderly people or groups of elderly people, especially regarding social and health-related factors associated with ageing. They act as experts in their own work in multiprofessional networks and operating environments and in cooperation with various parties. They assume responsibility for care of the elderly and development of this work.
Jobs: Outpatient and institutional care in the public, private and third sector, residential units.

Specialist Qualification for Masseurs/Masseuses
Holders of a Specialist Qualification for Masseurs/Masseuses work in various care and other teams in the social, health care, exercise, and wellbeing sector with different customers. They act responsibly in their work as a masseur/masseuse, induct and guide other members of the team, and assess the development of professional skills in the sector. In addition to their holistic work as masseurs/masseuses, they have competence in the treatment of pain, in lymphatic treatment, in sports massage and relaxation therapies, and they have the capacity to develop and assess their own work.
Jobs: Working environments in the social, health care, exercise, and wellbeing sector (e.g., institutions of care and rehabilitation), spas, sports centres, supported living units, homes, own enterprise.

Specialist Qualification in Sports Facilities Maintenance
Liikuntapaikkamestarimaisemattitutkinnon suorittanut johtaa ja organisoi kokonais Holdings of a Specialist Qualification in Sports Facilities Maintenance lead and comprehensively organise tasks associated with the management, operation, use, and marketing of sports facilities. They act as experts in the appropriate and economical building and maintenance of sports facilities and are responsible for maintaining machinery and equipment. They are competent in human resource planning, recruitments and induction training, and they develop their own and the work community’s work.
Jobs: Municipalities, private sports facility enterprises.
**Specialist Qualification in Coaching**
Holders of a Specialist Qualification in Coaching have a versatile command of coaching skills and methods and their direct coaching activities. In their work, they may draw on their competence acquired through optional models of the qualification in development of sport-specific coaching, factors affecting the performance of an athlete or a team, directing a coaching system, and entrepreneurship.

**Jobs:** Sports federations, sports associations, educational institutions, clubs, own enterprise.

**Specialist Qualification in Equipment Maintenance**
Holders of a Specialist Qualification in Equipment Maintenance plan, implement, develop, and assess equipment maintenance services as an expert in the field. They contribute to providing the support services that are necessary for the core processes of the organisation and work to prevent the spreading of infections. They take part in communication in the field, customer service, and management of equipment maintenance, and guide and induct staff and give instruction in equipment maintenance.

**Jobs:** Service production of the social and health care sector organisations, pharmaceutical plants, and the food industry.

**Specialist Qualification in Hair Care**
Holders of a Specialist Qualification in Hair Care carry out demanding, high-quality tasks in hair care and master the specialist competence needed for these. They are able to provide a high-quality service package for the customer, using their own personality and hands, cosmetic products and other tools and devices. They work to develop the professional skills of and instruct the work community members and to develop and advance their field.

**Jobs:** Hairdressing and beauty salons, spas, hospitals, supported living units, cruisers, homes, enterprises, retail outlets, importers, wholesalers, theatres and media industry companies.
Specialist Qualification in Beauty Care
Holders of a Specialist Qualification in Beauty Care work as experts of supplementary skin care and skin care guidance, and they master a wide variety of skin and body care techniques with health benefits. They are able to apply these to individual skin care, and plan and advise customers in balancing self-care as part of their guidance activities. They also work to develop the service production and profitability of the enterprise. They are active in care sector networks and work together with professionals in health care services.

Jobs: Beauty salons, spas, hospitals, jobs in the media industry, institutes of learning, own enterprise.

For more information, visit:
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