

UAS enhancing career prospects of highly educated immigrants

Anne Karjalainen, Metropolia University of Applied Sciences

There is a mismatch of highly educated immigrants and high-skills jobs in Finland. Higher education degrees and competences obtained abroad are often unrecognised by employers or do not qualify [1]. Effective career guidance, recognition of competence services, and specialised study programmes for highly educated immigrants can have a positive impact on immigrants' employment and access to the Finnish job market.

Project

The Developing of Competence Centre Functions for Highly Educated Immigrants Project (Oske project, 6/2021-6/2023) have developed career enhancing services and study programmes to support highly educated immigrants in their career building in Finland.

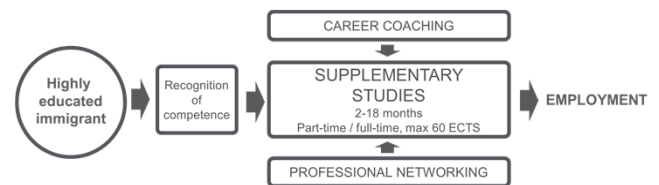
Services

Career guidance provides information on study and career possibilities, skills development and networking opportunities in accordance with clients' background and personal career goals.

Recognition of competence service gives a possibility to assess one's competence with an equivalent degree at Metropolia UAS. The service includes a self-evaluation and an evaluation discussion with an expert from the field.

Career Boost programmes provide supplementary studies in the fields of automation business, business accounting, ICT, nursing, and real estate and construction. The programmes develop students' professional competence and Finnish language skills and familiarize them with the work environment in Finland.

A concept of Career Boost programmes



Effective results



HIGH DEMAND IN CAREER GUIDANCE SERVICE

1,046 highly educated immigrants have participated in career guidance provided by the project. The clients have scored the service at 4.85 out of 5. [2]



RECOGNISING THE SKILLS

376 immigrants with a degree from abroad have assessed their competence in accordance with an equivalent degree at Metropolia UAS.



CAREER BOOST PROGRAMMES PAVE THE WAY TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT

293 immigrants have developed their competence and language skills in the Career Boost programmes. After finishing the programme, 95 % of students in nursing and 86 % of students in business accounting have found a job relevant to their field of study. In the other programmes the employment rate varies from 20 up to 60 percent. [3]

Funding

Oske Project is funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture

Sources:

[1] Koulutus- ja työperusteisen maahanmuuton tiekartta 2035, Valtioneuvoston julkaisu 2021:74, Helsinki <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-383-666-2>

[2] Project feedback survey 2021-2023

[3] Project statistics 2021-2023

