

**Translation from Finnish  
Legally binding only in Finnish and Swedish  
Ministry of Education and Culture**

**Government Decree on Universities  
(770/2009 Amendments up to 1034/2011)**

By decision of the Government, acting on a proposal presented by the Ministry of Education, the following is enacted under the Universities Act (558/2009):

**Section 1**

**Proficiency in Finnish and Swedish required of university staff**

Teaching and research staff at universities are required to have proficiency in the language in which they shall provide instruction, either Finnish or Swedish. Proficiency in the language of instruction may be demonstrated in the manner determined in the university rules of procedure.

At universities where a degree may be completed both in Finnish and in Swedish, the teaching and research staff are also required to have at least satisfactory oral and written skills in Finnish and Swedish. A university may grant an exemption from these language proficiency requirements as determined in the university rules of procedure.

**Section 2 (293/2014)**

Section 2 was repealed by Decree 293/2014.

**Section 2a (1034/2011)**

**Revocation of the right to study**

Section 43a of the Universities Act (558/2009) on the revocation of the right to study applies to education leading to one of the following degrees specified in the Government Decree on University Degrees and Professional Specialisation Programmes (794/2004):

- 1) Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy) and Master of Science (Pharmacy);
- 2) Bachelor of Dentistry and Licentiate of Dentistry;
- 3) Bachelor of Medicine and Licentiate of Medicine;
- 4) Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and Master of Arts (Psychology);

5) Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in the field of Logopaedics.

Section 43a of the Universities Act on the revocation of the right to study also applies to education in social work, to psychotherapist training referred to in the Government Decree on Healthcare Professionals (564/1994), and to studies in teacher education referred to in section 19, subsection 1, paragraphs 1–5 of the Government Decree on University Degrees and Professional Specialisation Programmes.

### **Section 3**

#### **Body for student union finances**

Student union finances may be managed by a body appointed by the student union council. At most half of the members of the body may be selected among persons who are not members of the student union but who have expertise in financial affairs. The chairperson of the body shall, however, be a member of the student union.

### **Section 4**

#### **Election to the administrative bodies of student unions**

A proportional election is used to elect the members of the student union councils of student unions. The student union council appoints an executive board.

All those members of a student union who have registered for the academic year as attending have the right to vote in the student union election. All eligible voters have an equal right to vote.

Each eligible voter is eligible to stand as a candidate in the election to the student union council and executive board, unless special reasons exist as provided in the student union rules.

### **Section 5 (322/2016)**

#### **Relative weight of funding criteria**

Altogether 72 per cent of the core funding referred to in section 49, subsection 3 of the Universities Act is allocated on the basis of the scope, quality and impact of the operations and 28 per cent on the basis of other education and science policy objectives.

The percentage of funding allocated on the basis of the scope, quality and impact of the operations is further divided into an education-based percentage of funding constituting 39 per

cent of the total core funding and a research-based percentage of funding constituting 33 per cent of the total core funding.

The percentage of funding allocated on the basis of other education and science policy objectives is divided into a strategy-based percentage of funding constituting 12 per cent of the total core funding, a field-specific percentage of funding constituting 9 per cent of the total core funding, and a percentage of funding allocated on the basis of national duties, which constitutes 7 per cent of the total core funding.

## **Section 6 (525/2014)**

### **Education-based and research-based percentages of funding**

The percentage of funding allocated on the basis of education is based on the number of completed degrees and credits, international student mobility, the number of university graduates in employment, and student feedback.

The percentage of funding allocated on the basis of research is based on the number of publications, completed doctoral degrees, funding allocated on a competitive basis, and internationalisation of the scientific community.

Provisions on the criteria for calculating the percentages of funding are issued separately.

## **Section 7 (525/2014)**

### **Percentages of funding based on other education and science policy objectives**

The strategy-based percentage of funding is determined on the basis of the strategy work carried out by the universities, the key priority areas and strengths in this work, and the university profiling. In the allocation of the percentage of funding, the following factors are taken into account: promotion of faster access to employment, development of research and learning environments, utilisation of competence, societal impact of the university's operations, establishment of regional and field-specific clusters of competence in accordance with the university's own profile, and reorganisation of structures and procedures. Agreements on the strategy-based percentage of funding are made between the Ministry of Education and Culture and the universities. ([322/2016](#))

The field-specific percentage of funding is based on the special needs in the following fields of study:

- 1) Arts;
- 2) Natural Sciences;
- 3) Engineering;
- 4) Medical Sciences;
  - a) Medicine;
  - b) Dentistry;
  - c) Veterinary Medicine.

The Ministry of Education and Culture makes decisions on the percentage of funding that is based on the universities' national duties at the beginning of each contract period after having consulted with the universities. This percentage of funding consists of funding for functions or infrastructures that are of special national significance to education or research policy, funding for the National Library and for the training schools for teachers, and funding for the coordination of university consortiums.

## **Section 8**

### **University index**

When determining the rise in costs referred to in section 49, subsection 2 of the Universities Act, the weight of the change in the index of wage and salary earnings is 64 per cent, the weight of the change in the consumer price index is 21 per cent, and the weight of the change in the wholesale price index is 15 per cent.

In 2000, the index point figure of the university index is 100. The relative weighting referred to in subsection 1 above is adjusted regularly, at least every eight years.

## **Section 9**

### **Changes in the cost level**

The quantitative planning of government funding to be allocated to universities in a given financial year takes into account the foreseeable rise in the cost level during the financial year in question, as estimated by the Ministry of Finance. Similarly, the difference between the actual change in the cost level during the year preceding the one for which funding is to be confirmed, as demonstrated by the university index, and the change in the cost level estimated by the Ministry of Finance for

the said year is taken into account. The estimate of the change in the cost level shall be based on the most recent information available.

## **Section 10**

### **Tasks of the board of directors of the National Library**

The board of directors of the National Library submits a proposal for the rules of procedure and budget of the Library to the University of Helsinki. The board of directors confirms the operating and financial plan of the Library and decides other matters that are of broad scope for the operations of the Library.

## **Section 11**

### **Swedish School of Social Science of the University of Helsinki**

The task of the Swedish School of Social Science of the University of Helsinki (*Svenska social- och kommunalhögskolan*), hereinafter referred to as the unit, is to provide scientific and professional education in the field of social sciences, especially in public administration, journalism and social work, and to conduct scientific research in these fields.

The multi-member administrative body of the unit presents a proposal for an operating and financial plan of the unit and decides on the budget of the unit, the number of students to be admitted to the unit, and the admissions criteria. The rector of the unit hires the personnel of the unit and admits the students.

## **Section 12**

### **Entry into force and transitional provisions**

This Decree enters into force on 1 January 2010.

The rise in the cost level as defined in section 8 of the Decree is taken into account for the first time when allocating government funding for universities in 2011.

Measures necessary for the implementation of this Decree may be undertaken before its entry into force.