

THE STUDENT UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN FINLAND (ISYY)

The Student Union of the University of Eastern Finland (ISYY, www.isyy.fi) is an independent organization, although closely linked with the University. The purpose of the Student Union (ISYY) is to promote the rights and interests of both Finnish and international students at the University and provide various services for university students. Student unions around Finland are working towards making the daily life of students better and negotiating better rights and benefits for all students. In addition, the Student Union (ISYY) arranges a variety of social activities and events on the campus and provides students with affordable sports services (Sykettä). The Student Union of the University of Eastern Finland is also a member of SYL (National Union of Students in Finland, www.syl.fi).

Street address of the Student Union (ISYY) Office, Kuopio Campus:

Studentia building (entrance C), Yliopistonranta 3, 70211 Kuopio

Contact numbers: +358 44 576 8419 or +358 44 576 8413

Opening hours:

Monday 10-15, Tuesday 10-15, Wednesday CLOSED, Thursday 10-15 and Friday 10-13

Membership Fee and Student Card

ISYY membership to undergraduate degree students and exchange students

Under the Student Union Act, all undergraduate **degree students** (completing Bachelor's or Master's degree at the University of Eastern Finland) are required to join the Student Union. **Exchange students** studying in Finland for longer than three months are welcome to join the Student Union, but are not obliged to do so. You can join the Student Union (ISYY) by paying the membership fee, which is 126 €/full academic year 2016-2017, or 65 €/one semester.

10 good reasons to join the Student Union (ISYY):

1. Student Health Service (FSHS - general, mental and oral health care services).
2. Student discounts (discounts on long distance transportation, discounts at a number of shops, restaurants, etc., student priced meals at the University restaurants (Please see all the discounts: frank.fi/en))
3. Excellent array of sports services and fitness classes (SYKETTÄ sports services)
4. Opportunity to hire survival packages and sports equipment
5. ESN activities (trips, parties, cultural events etc.)
6. Student Union events (City Orienteering, Welcome to Kuopio, Sports Afternoon, May Day celebration, etc.)
7. Leisure activities (Student Union clubs and sections)
8. Information and advice services in English at the Student Union Office
9. Your interest representative (solving problems related to educational and social affairs)

10. An efficient way to get involved in Finnish student life

More information about the Student Union and its services can be found at www.isyy.fi/en

How to Join the Student Union (ISYY):

STEP 1: Pay your membership fee

The Student Union fee: **126€** for the whole Academic year (**First year master's degree students are obliged to** pay the Student Union membership fee for the whole academic year),
65 € for one semester (Autumn 2018/Spring 2019)

Please pay the exact amount (note possible transaction fees)

The account details for the Student Union are as follows:

Recipient: Student Union of the University of Eastern Finland (ISYY)

Recipient's address: Yliopistokatu 7, FI-80100 Joensuu, Finland

Bank name: Osuuspankki/OP Bank//Pohjola Bank Plc

Bank address: Koskikatu 9, FI-80100 Joensuu, Finland

Account number (IBAN): FI37 5770 0520 2461 63

Banking Code (BIC/SWIFT): OKOYFIHH

Reference number: 50005 (Please use this reference number when you pay)

STEP 2: Register your membership

Once you have paid, register your membership by bringing the payment receipt to the UEF Student & Learning Services (Oppari), Yliopistonranta 1 C, Canthia Building (2nd floor) or send the payment receipt to: opiskelu@uef.fi

STEP 3: Order your student card online at frank.fi

Order your student card online from **Frank** at: <https://frank.fi/en>. We recommend you order **the plain plastic blue student card** (without payment facility). However, if you have a Finnish Personal Identity Code(= henkilötunnus, made up of your date of birth and a mixture of letters and numbers and given to you by the Finnish authorities, DDMMYY-XXXX) you may order the student card with the MasterCard payment facility. Also, **if you have a Finnish Personal Identity Code (FPIC) and you have registered your FPIC in Student Register (WebOodi), you may download Frank App free of charge (for Android/iPhone) which functions as a digital student card.** Make sure you use only Finnish alphabet when filling in your personal details or your order might not go through, you can check the spelling from WebOodi.

Make sure that the following things are okay before ordering a student card:

1. You have enrolled for the next semester

2. You are a member of the Student Union of UEF (ISYY) (you have paid the membership fee and registered your membership)
3. You have a profile picture that is
 - Square shaped (1:1 ratio) jpg (no png or pdf), size at least 300 x 300 px
 - Similar to passport photo but with colors
 - No hats, sunglasses, quirky backgrounds or other disturbances
 - Note: If you upload a bad photo, it cannot be used as a student ID!
4. A payment instrument to pay for the order. You can pay for the student card order using debit/credit card with online payment, e.g. Visa, VisaElectron or MasterCard.

The price of the plain plastic student card is 15.10e + delivery fee (info 6.3.2018).

Once you have ordered your card wait 2-3 weeks, the student card will be posted to your home address, please make sure you've changed your address/notified your Finnish address to Posti.

Collect the semester sticker from ISYY's office – Bring an official ID (with a photo, e.g. passport).

Please note: the student card is not valid without a valid semester sticker.

If you have any problems with your student card order please contact Frank by email: info@frank.fi

How to Get Involved

Sections

The Student Union (ISYY) culture in Kuopio is rich and diverse, and there are several ways to get involved. If you are interested in student politics and would like to influence the way things are for students, you could start by joining one of the sections. The Student Union (ISYY) currently has four sections that take care of various functions of student life on campus. All our members are invited to join the section meetings, which will be translated into English when required. In order to join a section meeting, please contact the chairperson of the section in question.

- **The Section for Student Organizations**
Joensuu: Chair Ada Hyytiäinen, adahyy@student.uef.fi
Kuopio: Chair Olli Auvinen, olliauv@student.uef.fi
- **The Section for Advocacy**
Joensuu: Chair Saara Tenhovuori, saara.tenhovuori@hotmail.com
Kuopio: Chair Katja Kosonen, katjaek@student.uef.fi
- **The Section for Recreation**
Joensuu: Chair Veera Kananen, veera.kananen@hotmail.fi
Kuopio: Chair Henri Hakkarainen, henhak@student.uef.fi

Student Union (ISYY) Clubs

Student Union Clubs come in various shapes and sizes. The clubs are run by students for students, and they organize various activities for their members. Joining a club is another great way to get involved in student life and to make new friends. Some of our popular clubs are the movie club, the environmental club and the board games club, to mention a few. Find out more about the Student Union (ISYY) clubs on our website: www.isyy.fi/en/get-involved/. If you cannot find anything that inspires you, you can also start up your own club. The Student Union (ISYY) staff will help you with all

the practical matters and you may also apply for funding in order to organize club activities and events for fellow students!

ESN KISA- Kuopio International Students' Association

ESN KISA is an official association of the Student Union of the University of Eastern Finland, which functions on the Kuopio Campus. ESN KISA offers activities for both international students staying in Finland and Finnish students interested in internationalisation. The purpose of the association is to organise events for students and act as a link between international and local students. Every semester ESN KISA organises trips to e.g. Lapland, St. Petersburg and Stockholm. ESN KISA also organises events such as International Food Festival, Movie nights, Smoke Sauna, Scuba Diving and other parties.

All members of the Student Union (ISYY) can join ESN KISA for free by signing the membership application at the Student Union office. When joining in the ESN KISA, you will get an ESNcard which is valid around Europe and by showing the card you can get discounts and free entrance to many ESN KISA events. You will also get Welcome package which contains information about Kuopio, ESN KISA, ISYY, other helpful information and free DNA prepaid SIM card worth 7,90 €. You can join the ESN KISA and get your welcome package from Student Union office (Studentia building, entrance C) during the opening hours.

We warmly invite everyone to join ESN KISA, regardless of your field of study or background – we are here to make your stay in Finland more meaningful and more fun! Please read more about ESN KISA on Facebook group: KISA, Facebook page: ESN KISA and webpage www.esnkisa.eu to keep up-to-date with our activities. For more information about ESN KISA, send an email to Annika Rajasalo: [kv.kuopio\(at\)isyy.fi](mailto:kv.kuopio(at)isyy.fi)

Student Organizations

One highly visible dimension of student life in Kuopio is the organization culture, as most students belong to their very own student organization. Student organizations are usually subject specific, for instance, if you study pharmacy you are invited to join Fortis, the organization for pharmaceutical students in Kuopio. These organizations (ten of them in total) are a link between the student and their department, and also organize a lot of activities and events for their members. In order to find out what is the name of your subject organization and where and when they meet up, please have a look at our website www.isyy.fi/en/get-involved/

Communication Channels

Weekly Feed Newsletter

Weekly Feed is the Student Union's (ISYY) electronic English language newsletter. It is sent on Tuesdays (excluding holidays) directly to the e-mail addresses of those who have subscribed to it. **Weekly Feed newsletter is a useful point of reference to our international students** as it combines local events, news and anything that might be relevant to our students – all in one place and in English language.

If you would like to receive the Kuopio campus Weekly Feed to your e-mail you can subscribe to it by going to our website www.isyy.fi/en . Once there, go to “Shortcuts” and click on “Subscribe to Kuopio campus Weekly Feed”. The newsletter will be sent to your e-mail address the next time it is published. If you experience any problems with joining the Weekly Feed subscription list, please contact kv.kuopio@isyy.fi

KISA mailing List

We recommend for you to join the ESN KISA Mailing List if you would like to keep up-to-date with news and events in English. The Mailing List is used for ISYY/ESN related information only and your email address will not be passed on to any third parties or used for advertising. We normally send one email per week as we do not want to spam you. In order to join the mailing list, please go to <https://lists.uef.fi/mailman/listinfo/kisa-list>.

Other Communication Channels

English language news and information can be found both on our website www.isyy.fi/en and on facebook www.facebook.com/fbISYY. You may also ask our Coordinator of International Affairs and Administration Annika Rajasalo to be your friend on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/isyyinternational.kuopio> and follow her posts about life and studying in Kuopio.

Other Services

Help and Advice

The Student Union Coordinator of International Affairs and Administration is here to help you with any matters related to student life. Her job is to look after the interests of UEF international students and to get their voice heard on the campus. You may turn to Annika or any other person working at the Student Union Office (Studentia building, entrance C) whenever you need help or guidance – there is no such thing as a stupid question! Just pop in to the office, give us a ring (+358 44 576 8413) or send an e-mail to kv.kuopio@isyy.fi

Last but not Least

We are here for you and work hard to ensure you are happy with your life and studies during your time in Finland. We sincerely hope you will make yourself at home at the Student Union (ISYY) by joining the organizations and clubs. **You only have one (student) life – make the most of it!**