

2026 BUDGET FOR THE STUDENT UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VAASA

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INTRODUCTION

General about the budget

- The membership fee for the Student Union is 74 € per academic year or 39.5 € per semester. The postgraduate membership fee is 40 € per academic year or 20 € per semester. The fee includes a one-euro reduction from the previous academic year. The monthly cost of Student Union membership is therefore 6.17 €/month.
- This budget has been created by applying the precautionary principle. Income estimates are based on the average from previous years.
- Income from membership fees assumes that 5800 students register as attending.
- The budget is 809 € in surplus. Before depreciation, the profit is 8809 € in surplus.
- The staff comprises four full-time and one part-time employee. Permanent staff at the Student Union comes down to 4.5 staff-years. Additionally, VYY has fixed-term project workers who are employed for various projects like tutoring, which also constitutes a source of income from the University. Tutoring is in deficit in the budget, because VYY invests slightly more in the tutor project than it receives compensation from the University for organizing tutoring.
- The staff's wages are based on the collective agreement and the recommendations in it. Wage expenses are allocated into different sections of the budget based on planned and estimated use of work hours. The budget takes the raises specified in the collective agreement into account.
- The Executive Board comprises eight members. The compensation for Board members includes the raise as discussed in the preliminary budget discussion. The annual level of compensation is 6000 € for a Board member, 7500 € for the Vice-Chair, and 10 000 € for the Chair of the Executive Board.
 - This would mean that a Board member receives either 500 €/month for the entire year, or 600 € for ten months in a year.
 - The Vice-Chair of the Executive Board receives 625 €/month for the entire year or 750 € for ten months in a year.
 - The Chair of the Executive Board receives either 833 €/month for the entire year, or 909 € for 11 months in a year.
- To improve following how expenses are distributed, the structure of the budget has been renewed. This means that expenses have been allocated more clearly. Because this budget utilizes the updated chart of accounts, it is not directly comparable with budgets from previous years.
 - This new budget model aims to be more open and transparent, as determined in the preliminary budget discussions.

- The biggest individual expense is the wage and salary costs for staff and volunteers. These, along with the other expenses, are within the medium-term financial plan, which was approved by the Representative Council 2024–2025.

How the number of members has developed

The number of Student Union members is heavily dependent on admittance numbers at the University. The number of students at the University has been growing steadily, and no significant changes to this trend are expected. The strategic goal of the University is to have 7500 students by 2030. In the two previous years, the University has increased the number of students, but in the upcoming year, no increase in admittance has been planned.

Jäsenmäärän kehitys

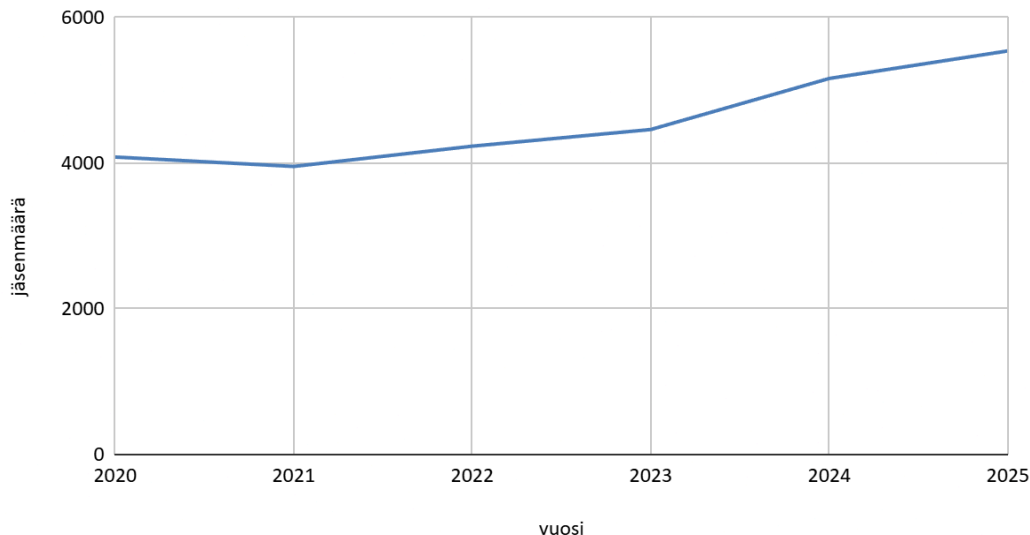


Figure 1. Development in the number of members.
In the x-axis is the year, and in the y-axis the number of members.

How the membership fee has developed

The Student Union membership fee has decreased. According to the Medium-term Financial Plan, raising the membership fee is the last resort to increase income and where possible, we aim to lower the membership fee as long as it does not compromise the Student Union's operational budget. The 2026 budget proposes a one-euro reduction in membership fee, which makes it 74 € per academic year. If this reduction is approved, the Student Union membership fee has been lowered by 11 % in the last three years. Accounting for inflation, i.e. the change in the value of money, the membership fee has decreased by approximately 23 % from 2021 (source: Statistics Finland).

Jäsenmaksun kehitys

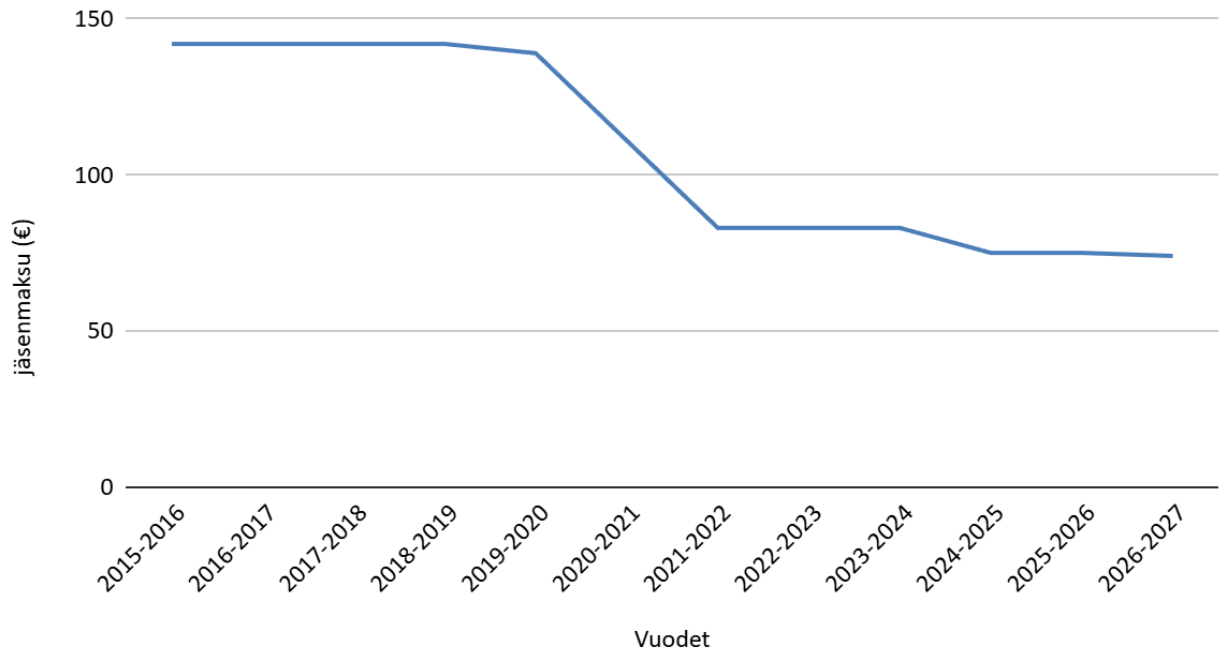


Figure 2. The amount of membership fee from 2015 to 2026.

The x-axis shows the academic years and the y-axis the amount of membership fee in euros.

Distribution of the membership fee

Considering all expenses in the Student Union budget and dividing the membership fee among them, the membership fee is distributed for different categories as follows. This distribution accounts for other expenses in voluntary work, which in the budget fall under Administration, but in practice include the general expenses from the Representative Council and Executive Board.

Jäsenmaksun jakautuminen

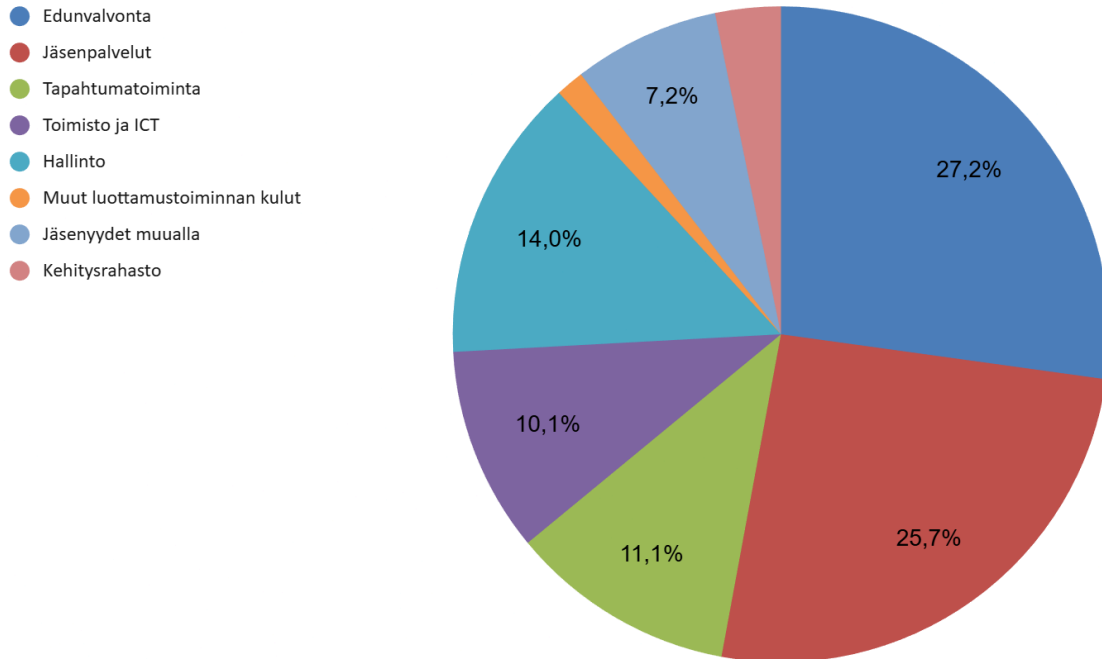


Figure 3. Distribution of the membership fee.

The categories are as follows:

- Advocacy: 27.2 %
- Member services: 25.7 %
- Events: 11.1 %
- Office and ICT: 10.1 %
- Administration: 14.0 %
- Other voluntary work expenses: 1.4 %
- Memberships elsewhere: 7.2 %
- Development fund: 3.2 %

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Income overview	
Advocacy in social policy	0
Advocacy in educational policy	0
International advocacy and other operations	0
Member services	23 000
Annual Ball	14 000
Boom City Appro	18 000
The Wappu Crawl	5000
Other events	34 000
Tutoring	35 500
Administration	2000
Office	5000
Fundraising	437 880
Investments and finance	11 800
Total income	586 180
Expenses overview	
Advocacy in social policy	-66 894
Advocacy in educational policy	-56 650
International advocacy and other operations	-23 121
Member services	-136 036
Annual Ball	-14 000

Boom City Appro	-15 600
The Wappu Crawl	-3850
Other events	-26 550
Tutoring	-38 145
Administration	-106 875
Office	-40 050
Fundraising	-57 600
Investments and finance	0
Total expenses	-585 371
The profit/loss of the financial year	809

ADVOCACY AND INTERNATIONALITY

The section Advocacy and Internationality includes the concrete expenses from advocacy, as well as staff expenses distributed between educational policy, social policy, and internationality.

General about advocacy in social policy

The section for Social Policy only accounts for the income and expenses that are specifically tied to the Student Union's advocacy in social policy:

- Campaigns and other activities include a reservation for expenses that occur in advocacy in social policy, as well as various salary costs and those costs that are necessary to fulfill the goals set in the Action Plan.
- Communications includes expenses from communications related to social policy and possible printing costs.
- The cooperation agreement includes half of the expenses from the advocacy agreement with the Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences Student Union and a reservation for a similar agreement with the student organizations in Pori.
- Other expenses cover those expenses that do not fit in the above-mentioned categories.
- The sections for staff expenses include 45 % of the (wage and non-wage) expenses for the Advocacy Specialist, 15 % of the expenses for the Secretary General, and 20 % of the expenses for the Communications Specialist. These expenses are divided based on the average work-hour distribution for advocacy in social policy.
- This section also includes 45 % of the annual compensation for the Chair of the Executive Board, and the total annual compensation for two Executive Board members (those responsible for municipal and social policy).

Advocacy in Social Policy	
Income from advocacy in social policy	
Event income	0
Other income	0
Total income from advocacy in social policy	0
Expenses from advocacy in social policy	

Campaigns and other advocacy events	-2500
Communications	-450
Cooperation agreements	-2000
Accommodation	-1500
Travel expenses	-4000
Participation expenses	-2100
Other expenses	-100
Compensation for Chair of the Executive Board	-4500
Compensation for Executive Board members	-12 000
Wage expenses	-28 900
Non-wage labor expenses	-6780
Culture/sports/lunch benefits	-637
Per diem/daily allowance	-800
Staff training	-627
Total expenses from advocacy in social policy	-66 894
Profit/loss from advocacy in social policy	-66 894

General about advocacy in educational policy

The section for Advocacy in Educational Policy only accounts for the income and expenses that are specifically tied to the Student Union's advocacy in educational policy:

- Campaigns and other activities include expenses that can occur for advocacy in educational policy, various wage and salary costs, and those costs that are necessary to fulfill the goals set in the Action Plan.
- The section Communications includes expenses from communications relating to educational policy and possible printing costs.

The Student Union of the University of Vaasa
Est. 1968.



- The cooperation agreement includes half of the expenses from the advocacy agreement with the Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences Student Union and a reservation for a similar agreement with the student organizations in Pori.
- Other expenses cover those expenses that do not fit in the above-mentioned categories.
- The section for staff expenses includes 45 % of the (wage and non-wage) expenses for the Advocacy Specialist, 15 % of the expenses for the Secretary General, and 20 % of the expenses for the Communications Specialist. These expenses are divided based on the average work-hour distribution for advocacy in educational policy.
- This section also includes 45 % of the annual compensation for the Chair of the Executive Board, and the total annual compensation for one Executive Board member (responsible for educational policy).

Advocacy in Educational Policy	
Income from advocacy in educational policy	
Event income	0
Other income	0
Total income from advocacy in educational policy	0
Expenses from advocacy in educational policy	
Campaigns and other advocacy events	-1000
Communications	-450
Cooperation agreements	-2000
Accommodation	-1500
Travel expenses	-4000
Participation expenses	-2100
Other expenses	-100
Compensation for Chair of the Executive Board	-4500
Compensation for Executive Board members	-6000
Staff wage expenses	-28900
Non-wage labor expenses	-4036
Per diem/daily allowance	-800
Culture/sports/lunch benefits	-637
Staff training	-627
Total expenses from advocacy in educational policy	-56650

Profit/loss from advocacy in educational policy	-56650

General about internationality

The Internationality section only accounts for the income and expenses that are specifically tied to the Student Union's advocacy in internationality:

- The section for staff expenses includes 10 % of the (wage and non-wage) expenses for the Advocacy Specialist, 10 % of the expenses for the Secretary General, and 10 % of the expenses for the Communications Specialist. These expenses are divided based on the average work-hour distribution for advocacy in internationality,
- This section also includes 10 % of the annual compensation for the Chair of the Executive Board and the total annual compensation for one Executive Board member (responsible for internationality).

Internationality	
Income from internationality	
Event income	0
Other income	0
Total income from internationality	0
Expenses from internationality	
Campaigns and other advocacy events	-500
Communications	-300
Compensation for Chair of the Executive Board	-1000
Compensation for Executive Board member	-6000
Wage expenses for permanent staff	-12780
Non-wage labor expenses	-1783
Per diem/daily allowance	-200
Culture/sports/lunch benefits	-281
Staff training	-277
Total expenses from internationality	-23121
Profit/loss from internationality	-23121

MEMBER SERVICES, EVENTS, AND TUTORING

The section Member Services lists estimates about the income from the Student Union's events and various member services. Events include smaller individual events as their own section, and bigger projects like Wappu, Boom City Appro, and the Annual Ball have their own sections.

General about member services

The category Member Services lists income and expenses, excluding the tutor project and events, that are identified here:

- Income from corporate relations, where the revenue is a general form of support for the Student Union and not a sponsorship tied to a specific event.
- Grants and training offered to organizations are listed here.
- Income and expenses from the Leipätehdas sauna facilities.
- Other member services like rental items, the costs for the OMAGO rental van, and expenses from other member service agreements.
- We have reserved funds for developing member services as specified in the Action Plan.
- The annual compensation for the Vice-Chair of the Executive Board and two Executive Board members (responsible for events, and for organizations and member services).
- The categories for staff expenses include the entire (wage and non-wage) expense for the Member Services Assistant, 40 % of the expenses for the Finance and Administration Specialist (who handles all payment transactions and is in charge of developing the Leipsis sauna facilities and participates in developing member services), and 15 % of the expenses for the Secretary General.

Member Services	
Income from member services	
Leipätehdas sauna facility	16000
Collaborations	6000
Student cards	1000
Total income for member services	23000
Expenses from member services	
Leipätehdas sauna facility	-14000

Project grants	-2500
Seminar for organizations	-3000
Training for organizations	-2000
Other activity for organizations	-2100
Operational grants for organizations	-5200
Student cards	-1000
Other expenses	-300
Development of member services	-2000
Rental items	-500
Other member services	-14500
Compensation for the Vice-Chair of the Executive Board	-7500
Compensation for the Executive Board members	-12000
Wage expenses for permanent staff	-54800
Non-wage labor expenses	-7643
Per diem/daily allowance	-100
Culture/sports/lunch benefits	-1206
Staff training	-1187
Other advertisement costs	-4500
Total expenses from member services	-136036
Profit/loss from member services	-113036

General about Boom City Appro

For Boom City Appro, the budget includes an estimate about what producing the event costs and generates:

- The Appro does not include direct wage expenses, because the Member Services Assistant is in charge of coordinating the event. Their wage expenses are accounted for under Member services, because they would work with member services even if the Appro was not organized.
- Other staff expenses include e.g. salary for performers and possible compensation for the Appro crew.

Boom City Appro	
Income from Boom City Appro	
Collaborations	1000
Event income	17000

Total income from Boom City Appro	18000
Expenses from Boom City Appro	
Overall patches	-800
Event personnel	-11000
Apparel	-500
Event technology	-1200
Other event rentals	-1000
Other event equipment	-600
Other event expenses	-500
Total expenses from Boom City Appro	-15600
Profit/loss from Boom City Appro	2400

General about the Annual Ball

The Annual Ball includes an estimate about the income and expenses from organizing the Annual Ball:

- Organizing the Annual Ball and communications related to the event.
- Traditional purchases include e.g. expenses from various commemorations, rewards, and carvings detailed in the Student Union's Record of Tradition.
- The salary for the Annual Ball Coordinators is included under Project commissions.

The Annual Ball	
Income from the Annual Ball	
Collaborations	2000
Event income	12000
Total income from the Annual Ball	14000
Expenses from the Annual Ball	
Communications	-200
Catering	-8600
Transportation	-600
Entrance fees and cloakroom	-500
Event personnel	-1300

Printing and printed products	-200
Other event rentals	-500
Traditional purchases	-100
Project commissions	-2000
Total expenses from the Annual Ball	-14000
Profit/loss from the Annual Ball	0

General about the Wappu Crawl

The section Wappu Crawl lists income and expenses related to organizing VYY's own Wappu Crawl events.

- We have decided to forego the party on 30 April, because other parties take place simultaneously, and this Wappu Eve party has been the single biggest expense relating to Wappu.
- Expenses mainly include overall patches, Wappu event expenses, and communications relating to Wappu.

The Wappu Crawl	
Income from the Wappu Crawl	
Event income	5000
Total income from the Wappu Crawl	5000
Expenses from the Wappu Crawl	
Communications	-400
Venue rentals	-600
Catering	-500
Overall patches	-1000
Event personnel	-250
Other event rentals	-500
Other event equipment	-300
Other event expenses	-300
Total expenses from the Wappu Crawl	-3850
Profit/loss from the Wappu Crawl	1150

General about other events

Here listed are other events organized by the Student Union. These include the Party season opening and the End of the party season, the Independence Day Parade, the practice sitz party, and other events like those during the Fresher Fall.

Other events	
Income from other events	
Event income	34000
Other income	0
Total income from other events	34000
Expenses from other events	
Communications	-350
Venue rentals	-2550
Catering	-9250
Overall patches	-1200
Entrance fees and cloakroom	-12000
Event personnel	-250
Other event rentals	-700
Other expenses	-250
Total expenses from other events	-26550
Profit/loss from other events	7450

General about tutoring

Tutoring includes the expenses and income that are based on the funding we receive from the University for implementing the tutor project:

- Staff expenses include the wage and non-wage expenses from the Tutor Coordinator and the International Tutor Coordinator.
- The compensation we have negotiated with the University of Vaasa is listed under Collaborations.
- Event income includes minor event revenue from events that are a part of the tutor project and that are not parties. Parties have been listed under Other events.

- Expenses include the costs that come from organizing tutoring as agreed with the University. Possible events in the tutor project have been included under Other events. If tutoring requires going over budget, the balance has been compensated from other event income.

Tutoring	
Income from tutoring	
Collaborations	35000
Event income	500
Total income from tutoring	35500
Expenses from tutoring	
Communications	-400
Venue rentals	-1200
Catering	-700
Overall patches	-4000
Transportation	-1200
Event personnel	-250
Apparel	-3500
Other event rentals	-200
Other event equipment	-500
Other event expenses	-1500
Wage expenses for fixed-term project workers	-21030
Non-wage labor expenses	-2820
Culture/sports/lunch benefits	-445
Other expenses	-400
Total expenses from tutoring	-38145
Profit/loss from tutoring	-2645

ADMINISTRATION AND OFFICE

Listed under Administration are the administrative expenses from running our operations, such as financial management, ICT costs, office rentals, etc. Listed under Fundraising are e.g. the income from membership fees and expenses from umbrella organization memberships.

General about administration

The category Administration includes the system license costs that administration and operations require, as well as other statutory administrative expenses for the Student Union. These include occupational healthcare, human resource management, and financial management expenses.

- Listed under Administration are e.g. expenses from financial management, such as licences for accounting and software and other expenses directly related to administration.
- Also under Administration are the operational expenses for the Executive Board and Representative Council. This also includes the attendance fees for the Chair of the Representative Council, and the fee is valued at 50 €/meeting with the assumption that annually, there are 9 Representative Council meetings.
- Administration also includes other software expenses, e.g. for productivity, communications, and carbon footprint counting.
- The category ADP machines and software leasing includes expenses from licences that the Student Union needs for fulfilling its statutory administrative duties. This enables e.g. more efficient electronic archiving.
- Memberships include the membership fees for the Ostrobothnia Chamber of Commerce, the Service Sector Employers Palta ry, and the support membership fees for Vaasan Yrittäjät and Seta ry.
- Listed under staff expenses are 40 % of the wage and non-wage expenses for the Secretary General and 60 % of the expenses for the Finance and Administration Specialist.

Administration	
Income from administration	
Event income	0
Kela reimbursements from occupational health care	2000
Total income from administration	2000

Expenses from administration	
Executive Board	-2000
Representative Council	-2000
Representation fees	-3000
Other representation fees	-500
ADP machines and software leasing	-12000
Financial management software	-5600
Other software	-2500
Financial management services	-8000
Financial audit services	-3000
Specialist salaries	-1000
Memberships	-1200
Post, courier, and shipping fees	-200
Banking fees	-6000
Insurance	-750
Compensation for the Chair of the Representative Council	-450
Wage expenses for permanent staff	-36050
Non-wage labor expenses	-5031
Culture/sports/lunch benefits	-794
Per diem/daily allowance	-300
Occupational healthcare	-5000
Commemorations	-500
Recreational activities	-3000
Depreciation	-8000
Total expenses from administration	-106875
Profit/loss from administration	-104875

General about office

Office expenses include those costs that come from daily operations in the office and upkeep:

- The Student Union pays rent to the University for its facilities.
- The Student Union has rented a separate warehouse from VOAS.
- Listed under Other office expenses are the expenses brought about by the secure fibre network from JNT.



- The category ADP machines and software leasing includes the annual costs for the staff's equipment.
- Traditional purchases include a reservation for items listed in our Record of Tradition, including the Student Union's ribbon, badges of merit, banners, etc.
- Device purchases include a reservation for all devices required to work in the office, such as equipment for video conferencing, monitors for conference rooms, etc.
- Listed under Office supplies are other expenses that come from working in the office, such as printing paper, batteries, coffee, other equipment, etc.

Office	
Income from office	
Event income	0
Sales and rental income	5000
Other income	0
Total income from office	5000
Expenses from office	
Office rent	-22000
Warehouse rent	-600
Other office expenses	-2500
Products for sale	-700
Apparel	-1000
Traditional purchases	-1200
Telephone connections	-2800
Websites	-1500
ADP machines and software leasing	-4000
Device purchases	-2000
Office supplies	-1750
Total expenses from office	-40050
Profit/loss from office	-35050

FUNDRAISING AND INVESTMENTS

The category Fundraising includes income from membership fees and expenses from the Student Union's membership fees to umbrella organizations. These fees are based on our number of members. There is also a reservation for the development fund. Investments include the income from investments related to our operational budget.

General about fundraising

The category Fundraising shows income from collected membership fees and direct expenses related to the number of members.

- Income from membership fees is calculated with 5800 members paying the 74 € membership fee.
- The estimate for membership fees from postgraduate students assumes that 40 students pay the postgraduate membership fee.
- The Student Union owns a studio apartment on Kirkkopuistikko. Listed under Income from fundraising is rental income from the apartment.
- Listed under expenses are the membership fees for the National Union of University Students in Finland (SYL) and the Finnish Student Sports Federation (OLL).
- Transfer to DevFund capital means transferring money to the development fund, which acts as the Student Union's "rainy day" fund in case of weaker financial times. In practice, the money is in savings that stay with the Student Union but that are not included in our operational budget during the financial year.

Fundraising	
Income from fundraising	
Student membership fees	429200
Postgraduate membership fees	1600
Apartment on Kirkkopuistikko	7080
Total income from fundraising	437880
Expenses from fundraising	
SYL membership	-34220
OLL membership	-3480
Transfer to DevFund capital	-17400
Apartment on Kirkkopuistikko	-2500
Total expenses from fundraising	-57600
Profit/loss from fundraising	380280

General about investments and finance

VYY owns stocks from e.g. the former Vaasan puhelin, now known as Loihde Oy, and investments in Vaasa's OP cooperative bank Profit Share. These are investments that generate income into our daily budget annually.

- In the income category are entities that are a part of the Student Union's so-called cash portfolio and not the assets portfolio, which is why they show in our income statement.
- Investments and finance do not generate expenses shown on the income statement. Managing our portfolio or expenses from our shares are listed in the balance sheet and do not generate direct financial transactions.

Investments and finance	
Income from investments and finance	
Dividend income	800
Other investment income	11000
Total income from investments and finance	11800
Expenses from investments and finance	
Other expenses from investments and finance	0
Total expenses from investments and finance	0
Profit/loss from investments and finance	11800