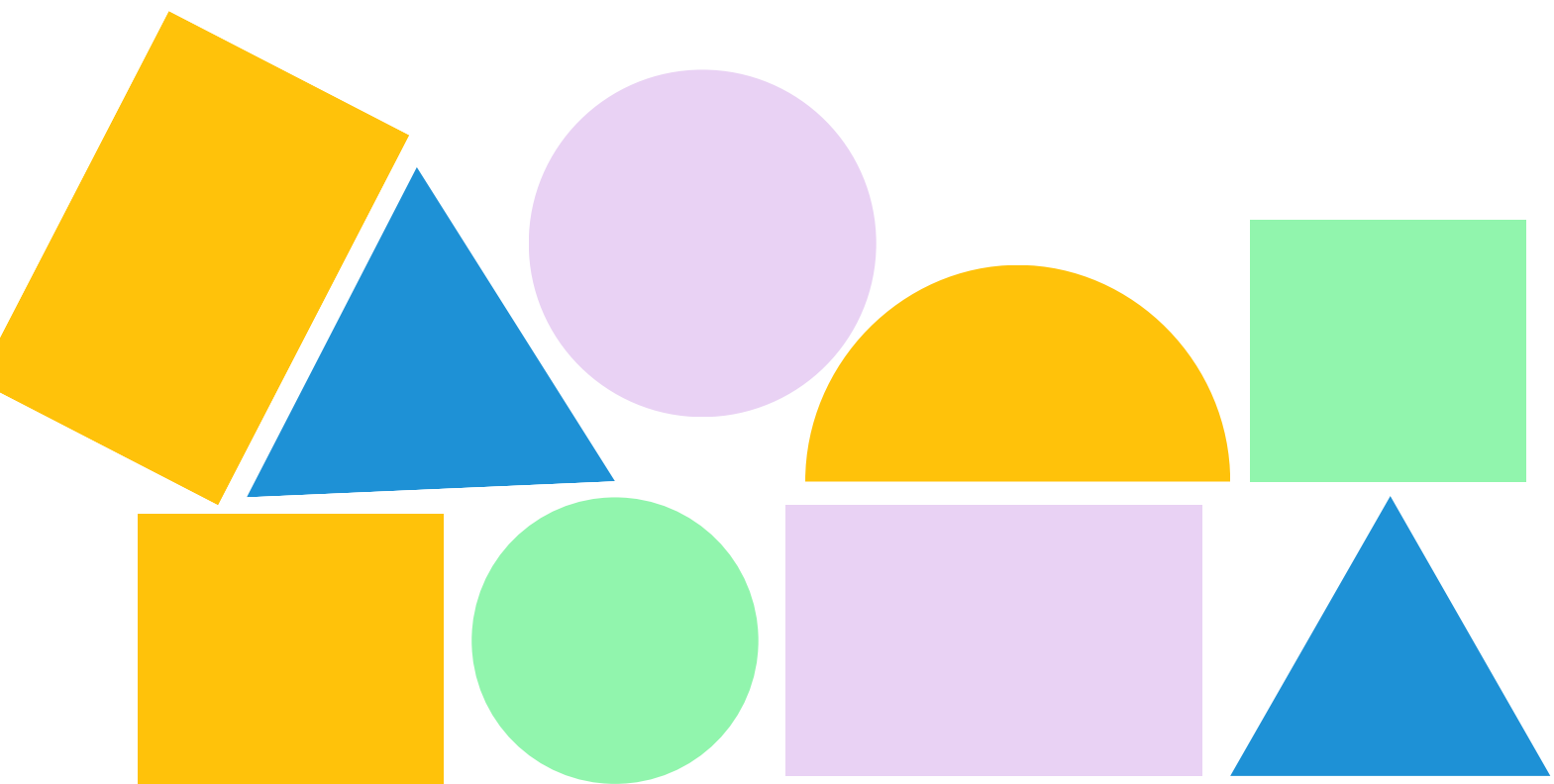


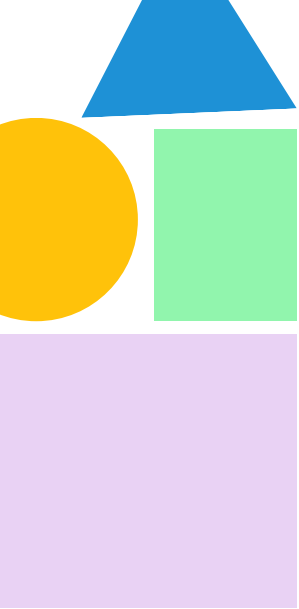


# RELIABLE BUILDING BLOCKS CREATE A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

The Parliamentary Election Programme  
of University Students in Vaasa 2027

**#PalikatPaikoilleen2027**





Students are building Finland's future. Without the essentials, they cannot bear the responsibility for tomorrow's society. The university students in Vaasa suggest four solutions, which will ensure the wellbeing and humanity of students' daily life, a high-quality university education, and a Finland that is internationally competitive. When these supporting structures are intact, we can secure the foundations for the world's best knowledge and guard the future of Finland.



## SECURE SUBSISTENCE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Studying must be considered the full-time job of students, and it should not require unreasonable debt to cover basic living expenses. The development of Vaasa as a university city has raised rents and challenged students' subsistence.

**Increasing the amount of study grant:** The amount of study grant must increase to make the student loan a voluntary supplement to subsistence, not an essential to survival. Student benefits must be linked to the National Pensions Index and freezing the index must be stopped.

**Raising the maximum limit for housing costs in Vaasa:** The rents in Vaasa have significantly increased. Vaasa must be moved to a higher category in the municipality ranking for housing costs within the general housing allowance. This will match the actual housing expenses.

**Making housing allowance year-round:** We must secure a year-round housing allowance, which is independent of the rate at which the student progresses in their studies. This will also protect housing in the summer months.

**Securing the funding for student housing:** We must respond to the growing need for student housing by reinstating investment grants, strengthening the financial capacity of the interest rate subsidies, and creating a predictable six-year housing plan, which will enable long-term sustainable construction for student housing foundations.

# SUFFICIENT CORE FUNDING FOR UNIVERSITIES AND ACCESSIBLE DEGREE EDUCATION

The funding of universities must be versatile and reliable to ensure that universities can provide high-quality education and research. Sufficient funding enables long-term development, the realization of innovative research projects, and the support for student wellbeing. The constant evaluation and development of the funding model are crucial, so that universities can meet the changing needs and challenges in our society.

**Renewing the model of funding:** The model of funding must move from a results-based model to a stronger significance on core funding. Additionally, it must emphasize the quality of education instead of quantity, for example by enhancing the qualitative criteria. The main funds must come from the state and not from reciprocal private funding.

**Maintaining free degree education:** We must maintain the current extent of free degree education.

**Securing the regional equality of education:** We must secure the accessibility of high-quality, research-based education in the entire country. A broad network of universities is protected to ensure social equality, the national level of education, and innovation projects.



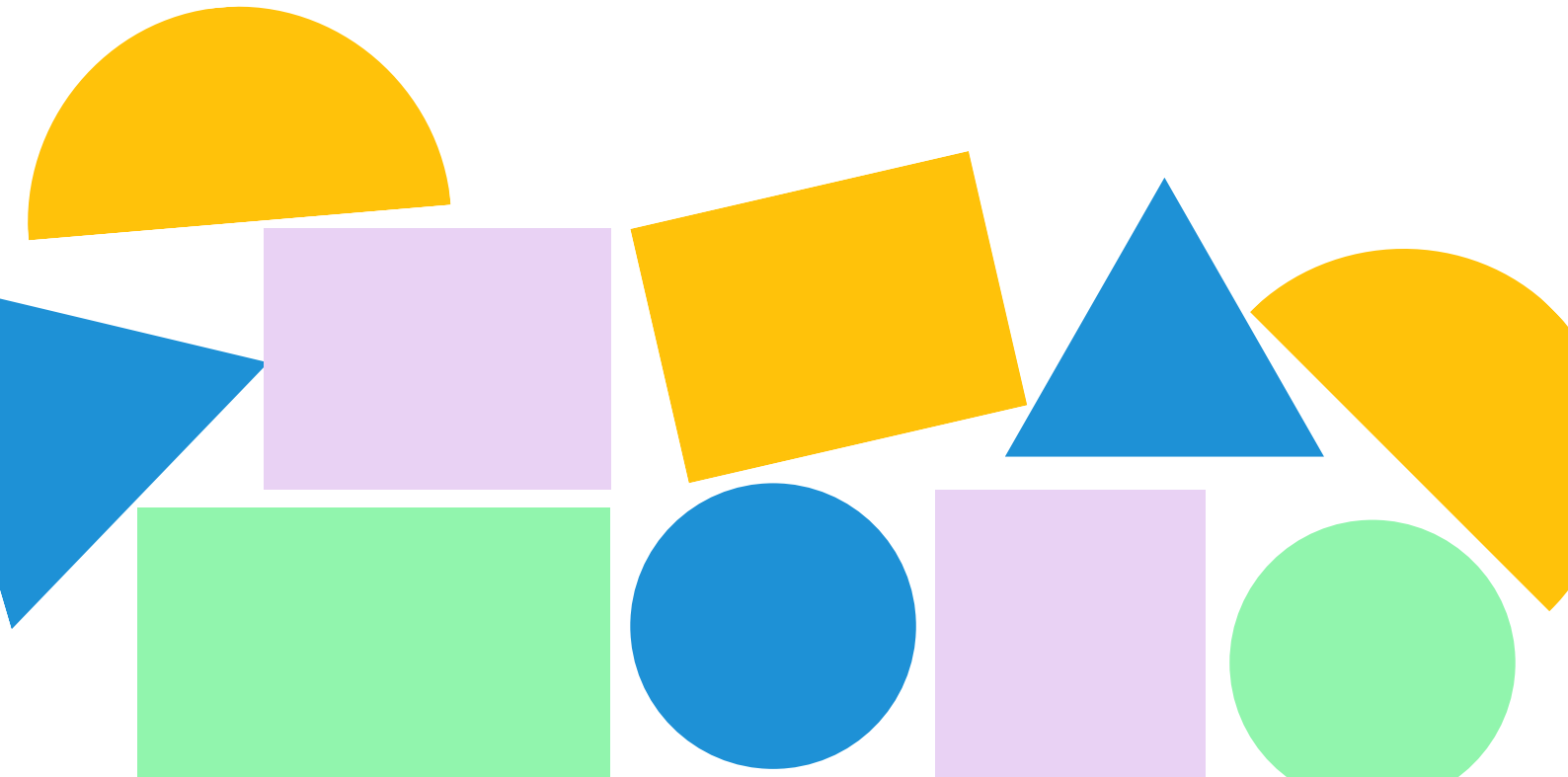
## BETTER DAILY LIFE AND COMMITMENT TO FINLAND FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International degree students must receive sufficient support both during and after studies. The employment of international students in Finland after graduation is an essential part of Finland's future.

**Paving the way for citizenship:** We must ease the permit processes and automatically grant a permanent residence permit to everyone graduating from a Finnish university.

**Creating flexibility and employment:** We must enable unlimited work during studies and create permit procedures that allow for a smooth transition between studies, employment, and entrepreneurship.

**Supporting and engaging international talent:** The position of international students must not be weakened on the basis of financial distress. Additionally, we must research and implement a system of incentives, which secures subsistence for international students during their studies and rewards like tax deductions for finding employment in Finland after graduation.



# HEALTHY STUDENTS AND EFFECTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

Student wellbeing and resilience are the prerequisites for a smooth study life. The Finnish Student Health Service (FSHS) plays a central role in enhancing student health and wellbeing. By ensuring adequate core funding, we can secure high-quality accessible services to all higher education students around Finland. Adequate funding for instances promoting wellbeing must be secured.

**Ensuring access to treatment:** We must ensure that students can access treatment at the FSHS within 14 days, and we must extend the therapy guarantee to everyone under 29 years of age and to all higher education students.

**Including exchange students in the FSHS:** Exchange students must be able to pay the student healthcare fee and receive healthcare from the FSHS.

**Increasing the services:** We must increase the services provided by the FSHS with free birth control and with reinstating the services of a dermatologist and gynecologist.

**Securing the essentials for university sports:** We must promote an active lifestyle for students by including it in the legislation for higher education, similarly to the model implemented for basic education. We must secure future ability to work by developing the funding for sport services as part of the funding model for institutions of higher education.

## MORE INFORMATION

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