

FINLAND

Population: 5.3 m.	GDP:	Purchasing power:	Latent demand: 7.74 m
Official languages:	Finnish, Swedish		
Terms for translators:			
Range of fees:			

Academic qualifications required:	None
Professional certification required:	None
Association membership required:	None

Taxation status:	Not known
Census status:	Not known
Government translators:	Not known
Certification of sworn translators:	<p>The authorization or certification of the translator is granted by a board, on the basis of an examination (or, in exceptional cases, on the basis of completion of required study module as part of university translator training). The board is under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, and consists of representatives of different languages, academics, professional translators, and representatives of the legal profession and the translators' association. The examination is hard, and the pass rate low. It consists of two translations (one is a legal / administrative text, the second is a choice of economic, technical or medical test), plus a multiple choice part on the legal aspects of authorized translation, which requires fairly detailed knowledge of the relevant laws and statutes. To get authorization on the basis of university studies alone, the studies must include a module on these legal details.</p> <p>Authorization is granted for periods of five years at a time. There is a fee. To get another five years, there must be evidence that you have worked as an authorized translator in the previous period and are otherwise qualified (you are not certified as insane, for instance).</p>
Other certification systems:	Not known

Translator associations:	<p>The Finnish Association of Translators and Interpreters - http://www.sktl.fi/in-english/ It brings some status, and helps market your skills. It helps to host an annual conference with a university, publishes an excellent journal, and fosters a sense of community that links academic and professionals. It helps with translation contracts, arbitration etc., and fights to stop fees being dumped. Legal help, yes; not, I think, insurance or healthcare.</p>
Translation company associations:	<p>Association of Finnish Translation Companies - http://www.sktol.org/en/index.html</p>

Expert informant:	Andrew Chesterman, University of Helsinki
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