

Future Expert Launchpad

Oulu employment and growth services, autumn 2026. Information pack for participants.

Health, social care, education and creative fields

WHAT FELP IS

Eight weeks of real development work on company challenges

Future Expert Launchpad is Demola's eight-week programme where you solve a company-validated challenge in a multidisciplinary team. You take part as an expert, not as a job seeker. In eight weeks you build skills, networks and evidence of your work that count directly in the labour market.

Your skills made visible

You get concrete evidence of your work and the words to describe your own expertise.

Topics come from companies

You solve a real company need, not a classroom exercise.

Contacts and a team

The work connects you to companies and to four other professionals.

8

weeks of development work on a company partner's challenge

5

people in a multidisciplinary team on average, backgrounds mixed

3

main events: kick-off 5 Oct, mid-event 26 Oct and finals 2 Dec

What Demola is

Demola is a Finnish company that has connected universities, companies and public organisations in innovation projects since 2008. More than 7,000 projects have been run in over 40 countries. In the spring 2026 round in Oulu, 69 participants worked in 15 teams.

HOW TO APPLY

A low threshold to apply, a clear path in

Who the programme is for

University-educated professional

You gain evidence of your work and contacts, not another course.

No prerequisites

Taking part requires no ready-made idea and no interest in entrepreneurship.

Finnish and English

The programme runs in both languages, so language is not a barrier.

How you apply

1. **Read through the project topics** in this pack and on the project list in the portal.
2. **Create a Demola profile** in the portal and apply yourself to the projects that interest you.
3. **Come to a short conversation** with Demola. You can also meet the Demola team at MegaMatchmaking at Tullisali on 23 Sept. Teams are formed from the applications as applicants come in.
4. **Start at the kick-off on 5 Oct** and work in your team for eight weeks until the finals on 2 Dec.

How the projects work in practice

A team of around five people, one company challenge.

A Demola facilitator guides the work throughout.

The outcome is a concept or prototype to take further with companies, as a new company or as a thesis.

A weekly rhythm: team meetings and interim tasks.

Work happens in Demola Hub, the digital workspace.

Expect a few hours a day on average.

Schedule, autumn 2026

The September dates belong to the application period. The actual project work runs 5 Oct - 2 Dec 2026.

APPLICATION PERIOD 1 SEPT
- 27 SEPT

PROJECT WORK 5 OCT - 2 DEC

23 Sept

MegaMatchmaking
at Tullisali

27 Sept

Applications
close

5 Oct

Kick-off, work begins

26 Oct

Mid-event

2 Dec

Finals

PROJECT TOPICS

Health, social care, education and creative fields

These four topics were selected especially for this field. You can apply to any project of the autumn round, also outside this list.

The project topics have been shaped together with the Radical AI Deployment consortium (Wärtsilä, Valmet, Kempower, Danfoss, Bittium and the Pirkanmaa and Ostrobothnia wellbeing services counties).

Asynchronous Remote Rehabilitation

Remote rehabilitation has so far meant video appointments where one therapist serves one client at a time. This project designs a rehabilitation path where the client performs and records their exercises at their own pace and the physiotherapist gives feedback afterwards. The goal is a service model that flexes around the client's everyday life and frees therapist time for a far larger number of clients.

Why this could fit you: a health and social care background lets you see immediately what works in the service model from the client's point of view.

<https://portal.demola.net/projects/3282?locationId=oulu>

Remote Rehabilitation Onboarding: Days 0 to 14

The first remote appointment too often goes into fixing browsers, microphones and logins, and the therapist ends up as IT support. The team designs a service path and a prototype, for example AI-assisted guidance, that lets the client complete the technical setup themselves before the first meeting.

Why this could fit you: a guidance or teaching background helps you build instructions that a less digitally confident client will actually follow.

<https://portal.demola.net/projects/3284?locationId=oulu>

Customer Segmentation for Welfare-Region Services

A recent change in legislation allows welfare regions to profile their clients more broadly. The team develops a new kind of customer segmentation that goes beyond traditional age and diagnosis categories and helps target preventive services better. The work is done with synthetic data, so no real personal data is processed.

Why this could fit you: someone who knows welfare services knows what the client groups look like in practice and can challenge classifications built on data alone.

<https://portal.demola.net/projects/3281?locationId=oulu>

Sustainability Storyteller

Engineers deliver fuel savings and emission cuts, but the customer's sustainability team speaks in CO2 tonnes, ESG ratings and reporting. The team builds an AI solution that turns technical improvements automatically into credible customer stories for different audiences.

Why this could fit you: communications, content and creative skills are exactly what this needs: making a difficult subject understandable.

<https://portal.demola.net/projects/3294?locationId=oulu>

All other topics are open to you too

The full autumn project list is online. You can choose any topic, as long as it is genuinely meaningful and interesting to you.

<https://portal.demola.net/?locationId=oulu>

What you take away in eight weeks

Evidence of real work

A concrete project on a company partner's challenge for your portfolio: what you did, how, and what came out of it.

Certificate and 360 review

A certificate of participation plus feedback from your team and facilitator on how you worked.

Rights to your own results

You may use the project results in your portfolio and job search, and take them further with companies, as a new company or as a thesis.

Networks and contacts

You meet company partner representatives, facilitators and four other professionals in your team.

What the programme asks of you

A few hours a day on average, 5 Oct - 2 Dec.

Attendance at the kick-off 5 Oct, mid-event 26 Oct and finals 2 Dec.

Weekly work with your team.

Taking part does not affect earnings-related benefits.

How to apply

Applying, profile and all topics

<https://portal.demola.net/?locationId=oulu>

Applications close

27 Sept 2026

Come to MegaMatchmaking at Tullisali on 23 Sept. You can meet Demola representatives there and ask about the projects directly.

Who to contact

Jere Wessman

Head of Talent Development and Academic Partnerships

+358 40 631 4029

jere@demola.net

Joonas Kemppainen

COO

+358 50 529 1845

joonas@demola.net