Petrozavodsk State University (PetrSU) was founded in 1940 as the Finnish-Karelian University and was renamed in 1956. Throughout its history, PetrSU has become the largest and leading university in Northern European Russia and has trained more than 60,000 students.

Today, more than 11,670 students are enrolled in PetrSU’s undergraduate, master’s, and doctorate programs, which are taught by 891 lecturers including Doctors and Candidates of Science, professors, and associate professors. PetrSU has 9 faculties and 6 institutes, containing 79 departments and occupying 13 buildings scattered throughout Petrozavodsk. We are confident you can find the education you’re looking for at PetrSU.

PetrSU has been very active in the international arena over the years. There are currently 375 international students studying at PetrSU and 10 professors teaching here through exchange programs. PetrSU has about 90 active international agreements with 30 countries. We always seek to expand our international program and improve our international students’ experiences here in Petrozavodsk. PetrSU will do everything possible to ensure exchange students successfully transition here and have a successful term in Petrozavodsk.

PetrSU’s exchange students do not have to pay tuition. In addition, the cost of living in Petrozavodsk is fairly low. Buying food may cost 7-8,000 RUB per month. Getting around on public transportation may cost around 500 RUB per month. Student dormitories cost 500 - 1000 RUB per month.

When preparing a budget for a course of study in Petrozavodsk, international students should remember to consider costs besides these school-associated ones. Petrozavodsk is the Republic of Karelia’s largest city with a population of about 262,000. As such, Petrozavodsk is home to many cafes, restaurants, theaters, museums, and more in which you can pass the time. The Karelian Philharmonic Orchestra, the Karelian Musical Theater, the National Library of Karelia, and the Finnish-Speaking National Theater of Karelia (among other places) all find their home in Petrozavodsk. In addition, these places are easy to reach for PetrSU students due to the close proximity of PetrSU’s buildings and dormitories.
One of Petrozavodsk’s most beautiful and enjoyable spots, and one that doesn’t cost anything, is the embankment on Lake Onega. Here, residents enjoy walking or running, gathering for celebrations, spending time with their families, or simply admiring the view of the lake. The embankment is also home to many postmodernist sculptures that were presented to Petrozavodsk as gifts from its sister-cities.

Karelia as a whole is also full of world-famous natural and man-made attractions that can be reached quite easily. One of Karelia’s most famous attractions is Kizhi Island. The island contains more than 80 wooden structures, including two major churches and a bell tower, constructed in the 18th century. These buildings are considered masterpieces of Russian architecture. Kizhi can be easily reached from the embankment of Petrozavodsk with a boat ticket.

Like Kizhi, The Monasteries of Valaam and Solovetsky are also considered masterpieces of Russian architecture. Additionally, these islands are rich in history.

Another important place to see in Karelia is the Kivach Waterfall, a 10.7 m high waterfall on the Suna River. The waterfall isn’t as impressive as it once was, as part of the river was diverted in 1936 to power a hydroelectric dam. However, Kivach is still a “must see” in Karelia.

Despite the host of interesting places Petrozavodsk and Karelia offer, they are not their best features. Karelia would not be as great as it is without the hospitable people who call it home. Though Petrozavodsk is Karelia’s largest city, it is still quite calm and has real Russian charm thanks, in part, to its wonderful people. If you choose to study at PetrSU, you will have the option to live in the student dormitories. In the dorms you will meet many other students who will always be eager to help you.
With the 9 faculties and 6 institutes of PetrSU, we are confident you will find the education you’re looking for and have a successful term here in Petrozavodsk. We offer:

**Faculty of Agriculture**

The Faculty of Agriculture is the only agricultural training faculty in Northwestern Russia and fosters scientific progress throughout Karelia in the areas of the resistance of plants and animals to disease, fodder production, and animal reproduction. In addition, the faculty maintains contacts in Finland, Norway, Germany, and Sweden and undergoes joint research in dairy farming, food production, and agroecology.


**Faculty of Mining and Geology**

The Faculty of Mining and Geology takes charge of the development of a system of continued mining and geological education in Karelia, preserving and developing better systems of domestic education in the area of specialist training in the questions of the use and development of a mineral resource base.


**Faculty of Mathematics and IT**

Students of the Faculty of Mathematics and IT conduct dynamic science and research work and represent Karelia every year at conferences, exhibitions, academic competitions, and championships. PetrSU is the leading international school in the training of programmers.


**Faculty of Physics and Technology**

The Faculty of Physics and Technology offers training in 7 areas of bachelor’s studies and 4 areas of master’s studies. More than 900 students of the faculty study in two new, specialized buildings of PetrSU, equipped with modern study and research equipment, under the leadership of highly qualified teachers and research fellows. Teachers and students actively use computers and networking technology as an effective means of learning and communicating.


**Faculty of Philology**

The Faculty of Philology is famous in Russia and abroad thanks to its research in linguistics and folklore, ethnolinguistics (the study of the relationship between linguistics and culture), Russian dialectology, historical poetics, comparative linguistics, the ancient and Christian traditions of Russian literature, the works of Pushkin and
Dostoevsky, comparative analyses of folklore and science fiction, children’s literature, and Finno-Ugric philology. This high level of research is supplemented by numerous monographs and collections of scientific papers.


**Faculty of Ecology and Biology**

Students of the Faculty of Ecology and Biology are taught in humanitarian sciences (history, foreign languages, psychology, pedagogy, and economics), natural sciences (mathematics, physics, chemistry, geology, and soil science), and special biological and ecological sciences (botany, zoology, ecology, biochemistry, molecular biology, geography, plant, human, animal, and ecological physiology, microbiology, soil science, biogeography, nature protection, and others). Students master practical skills in the course of work in laboratories of botany, zoology, chemistry, biochemistry, and more. An obligatory part of the education process is the summer educational practice, which occurs on the grounds of PetrSU’s botanical garden and bio-station.


**Faculty of Economics**

The Faculty of Economics trains specialists in the areas of economics and management. Graduates are able to successfully apply their training in various companies throughout the region, perform scientific work, and carry out personal research projects. Faculty and postgraduate students conduct their research for regional companies and collaborate with the Institute of Economics of the Karelian Research Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences in the area of economic studies.


**Faculty of Law**

The Faculty of Law was established in 1994 and was the first in Karelia with a training subdivision. Students and professors of the Faculty of Law take part in scientific conferences and competitions and win prizes. The following events are held annually in the faculty: the “Cup of Talents,” the Legal Olympics, which brings together students and lawyers, representing state authorities and community law organizations, to compete in sports such as volleyball, basketball, tennis, and chess, among others, Lawyer Day, the “Challenge Cup” for freshman, a drama contest in English, and a film contest.


**Institute of History and Political and Social Sciences**

The Institute of History and Political and Social Sciences provides students with a full picture of today’s world in both synchronic and diachronic aspects. Professors from Saint-Petersburg, Moscow, other Russian cities, and other countries often come and give lectures at the Institute, giving students the opportunity to gain extra knowledge.
and experience. Almost all programs provide language training (English, Finnish, Swedish, Danish, French, German, and Norwegian), enabling students to take part in international programs and study and work abroad.


**Institute of Medicine**

The Institute of Medicine conducts the training of specialists in three directions: “General Medicine,” “Pediatrics,” and “Pharmaceuticals.” The main task of the institute is the training of qualified specialists for healthcare systems. The training of students in future professions is conducted with the use of modern education technologies. In the Institute of Medicine, the Unified Multifunctional Center of Modular Education allows students to acquire professional, medical skills in conditions as close as possible to those found in healthcare systems.


**Institute of Forestry, Engineering, and Construction Sciences**

The Institute of Forestry, Engineering, and Construction Sciences trains highly qualified specialists for the main sectors of the national economy: forest industries, construction and mechanical engineering as they relate to highway transportation and motorways, and others. The institute is the only educational structure in Karelia offering higher education in engineering (bachelor’s and master’s degrees) with the possibility of obtaining a Candidate of Engineering or Agricultural Science degree and a Doctorate of Engineering.


**Institute of Foreign Languages**

At this moment, the Institute of Foreign Languages is the main center in Karelia for professional training in the areas of foreign languages and cultures. In the Institute of Foreign Languages, a group of leading and highly qualified professors work, most of whom are Doctors and Candidates of Science. Among our professors are authors of monographs, textbooks, and articles of leading Russian and foreign journals.


**Institute of Education and Psychology**

In 2013, in connection with the reorganization of universities in Karelia, the State Pedagogical Academy became a part of PetrSU. Three institutes were created from the academy’s nine faculties, one of which was the Institute of Pedagogics and Psychology, made up of four faculties: Psychology, Technology and Business, Primary Education, and Preschool Pedagogy and Psychology. Here the fundamental psychological and pedagogical training of skilled, Karelian workers is concentrated.

Institute of Physical Education, Sport and Tourism

Graduates of the Institute of Physical Education, Sports, and Tourism respond to future employer’s requests concerning the training of modern workers in the areas of physical education, sports, tourism, and health and safety, who possess key competencies, project experience, and modern technologies associated with increased qualifications and continued education.


With the courses offered at Petrozavodsk State University and the devotion of faculty and staff to your successful education in Petrozavodsk, we are confident that PetrSU is a good choice that can lead to a very successful term. In addition, PetrSU is located in a beautiful, friendly city and republic, ensuring you will always feel at home here and the time outside of your classes will never be boring.