The National Union of Finnish Students (SYL) website includes a database of grants available for students: <u>http://apurahat.syl.fi</u>.

A search engine in Swedish for grants available in Finland is Luckan. To get an idea about what is available and for various links concerning different grants and scholarships, please visit fyrk.luckan.fi for more information.

Some private foundations and institutions offer grants for students pursuing a university degree. Furthermore, universities might participate in externally funded projects offering scholarships for degree studies. Information on this type of funding is usually available from the universities web pages.

The Aurora-database enables you to browse between different opportunities for funding in the fields of science, art and culture. The database holds information about sponsors situated both in Finland and abroad.

Applying for a grant is possible for native Finns and people residing in Finland. There are around 800 different sponsors stated in Aurora and the database is updated frequently when new funding opportunities arise.

For more information please see: www.aurora-tietokanta.fi.

Information about research grants at Åbo Akademi University can be found at <u>www.abo.fi/forskning/</u> <u>en/finansiering</u>.

2.13 Friendship Programme (only in Åbo)

During the autumn/spring it is possible to participate in a voluntary-based Friendship Programme. The programme aims at offering international visitors and local families a chance for mutual cultural exchange. With a friend from the local community it is possible to learn about Finnish culture and everyday life. All activities within the Friendship Programme are voluntary, which means that the international visitor and his/her Friend decide on their own how much and in what way they want to spend time together. The participants of the programme are ordinary Finnish families and people of different ages living in Åbo or the neighbouring area. The programme period is one term. The application form and more information can be found at: <u>http://www.abo.fi/stud</u>ent/en/Content/ Document/document/27447