



Make sure to follow **@palokuntaleirit** on social media, so you can keep up with the latest new of the camp!

GREETING FROM CAMP MANAGEMENT

Welcome to HÄLY 2026 – the international youth fire fighters' camp in Masku!

Firefighting is a diverse and communal hobby, where the best part is spending time with friends, but also learning new things and helping others. All of this is summarized in the camp activities for young firefighters.

HÄLY 2026 will welcome foreign campers, with whom we will get to spend time, which we consider important in this increasingly international world.

We have made responsible practices a central part of the camp planning, and they will be reflected in everything we do throughout the camp.

Let's make this a memorable camp where everyone has a good time!

Camp management:
Mikko, Eija and Heli

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CAMP

HÄLY 2026 – more than a camp!

In July 2026, a unique village will rise within Masku's landscape – a tent city pulsating with community spirit, the joy of learning, and the enthusiasm of firefighters. HÄLY 2026 is an international youth fire brigade camp that will bring together around 3,000 participants from all over Finland and the world.

This is not just a camp – it is a week-long experience where young people can train in age groups, develop their skills, practice for real-life situations as well as meet new firefighting colleagues and build networks - and above all, create unforgettable memories.

A reformed training system will be introduced at the camp, challenging and renewing the training of young firefighters. You will be able to learn more about the system later in the camp letter.

The core of the camp is cooperation: it involves young firefighters and their trainers, but also other firefighters from across departmental and regional boundaries. HÄLY 2026 brings together different generations, expertise and a shared passion for firefighting.

Safety, community spirit and memorable experiences are the cornerstones of the camp. And all this is made possible by an amazing group of people – around 1,000 volunteers and numerous partners. Without them, this wonderful event would not be possible.

UPCOMING CAMP SCHEDULES AND OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

REGISTRATION OPENS AT HAKA.SPEK.FI November 3, 2025

You can find the event in HAKA under the name **HÄLY 2026, Kansainvälinen palokuntanuorten suurleiri**.

- The main way to register for the camp is through HAKA.
- There is also an alternative system if the fire department does not use the HAKA system.
- More detailed registration instructions and the camper ID card will be available on the camp website during October (www.haly2026.fi/en/).



Separate instructions for camp registration will be provided, as the courses, their content, and registration instructions are still being finalized. Remember to check your email and forward the message to fire departments and other relevant parties!

Cancellation policy

Registration is binding, but you can replace the person who registered. You can cancel your registration/participation in the camp free of charge with a doctor's certificate or employer's certificate, e.g., if a young person's summer job is confirmed or an adult's vacation is cancelled (due to work).

Camp fee invoicing

Camp fees for those registered through Haka will be billed to the fire department. As Haka's information may be outdated or incomplete, up-to-date billing information must be provided at the time of registration.

Fire departments and other organizations

The following is required for invoicing:

- Business ID (if the association does not have a business ID, enter 1234567-8)
- Official name
- Postal address
- E-invoice address and operator or email invoice address
- Name and telephone number of contact person

The contact person must be the person responsible for invoicing.

The invoicing email address must be an official address of the fire department.

If the invoice is paid by a firefighters' association, rescue service, or welfare district, the details of the paying organization must be filled in.

Private persons

If the participant is not affiliated with a fire department or other organization, billing information will be collected at the time of registration as follows:

- First and last name
- Street address
- Email address for billing purposes
- Phone number

Foreign fire brigades

A separate Excel spreadsheet is used for foreign fire brigades, which contains both billing and participant information. The spreadsheet is available in different languages.

Other things to note

- The registration dates determine the billing dates, and billing takes place **immediately after the registration period ends.**
- **Prices, price scales, and cancellation terms can be found in the upper sections of the letter.**
- **An invoicing surcharge of €8 will be added to paper invoices and a surcharge of €5 will be added to email invoices.**
- All information will be processed in accordance with data protection legislation.

Firefighter! Check your details in HAKA!
Make sure your contact details are correct. This will make it easier to register for the camp and ensure that you receive all important messages on time.



INTRODUCTION TO THE CAMPSITE

The future camp area will form a functional and pleasant whole, with all key functions conveniently located within a 500-meter radius of each other.

The area will include two schools, which will provide excellent facilities and support the smooth running of the camp.



STAFF BANK AT CAMP

At the camp, you can sign up for the Staff Bank, where volunteers are assigned to different sectors in advance based on their interests and skills. The aim is to ensure that there are enough staff for various tasks, such as working in the canteen on visiting days, assisting with course exams, and organizing larger events in the program.

- Campers staying for the entire week should primarily register directly for their preferred sector. The Staff Bank is a secondary option.
- Those staying at the camp for part of the week should primarily choose the Staff Bank.

SECTOR INTRODUCTIONS

Accountability

The goal of the accountability sector is to develop youth fire brigade camp activities towards a socially sustainable, engaging, psychologically and physically safe, socially accessible and economically efficient future that involves all fire brigade members.

The accountability sector strives to ensure good and appropriate interaction between people in every area and to maintain the common fire brigade spirit that has existed in fire brigades for centuries.

Accountability is about taking small steps in the right direction.

In practice, these steps can be huge leaps forward.

Our job is to do our part to ensure that the camp is as good as possible for young people, adults and the rest of the environment.



Services

The Services sector is responsible for training, training areas, equipment, the program, childcare, human resources management and the camp office.

The Training sub-division plans and implements training in accordance with the course system and is responsible for the safety of training, training areas, equipment, and logistics. You can read more about the new training system in the camp letter later on.

The Program sub-division ensures that there are meaningful activities to do after training. The program offering is diverse, with something for everyone. The program office creates a framework for new experiences, such as climbing or spending time with new and old fire brigade friends. There are also games, competitions, crafts, and water fights. The aim is to create a pleasant atmosphere in the evenings and the best camp memories to take home from HÄLY.

The services sector also includes childcare, which allows the whole family to participate in the camp. Daycare is provided for children under the course age, taking into account the needs of different age groups and the rhythm of camp life.

In addition to normal office work, the camp office is responsible for the Staff Bank, which enables the efficient use of resources and directs people to the right place at the right time. The office also operates an information desk, which provides assistance if you are lost or unsure of where you should be. If an answer cannot be found immediately, the matter will be clarified together.

Technical operations

Our sector is responsible for camp safety, medical care and first aid, the camp fire brigade, camp maintenance and internal logistics, arrangements, catering, and canteen operations. We are also responsible for the construction camp that takes place before the camp and the dismantling that takes place after the camp. We have divided the sector's internal areas of activity into three sub-sectors.

The technical operations sector is therefore responsible for many aspects of the camp's success: ensuring that everyone gets food and has access to washing facilities, that there is paper in the toilets, so that everyone can sleep safely at night, and so on. In other words, we are generally responsible for ensuring that all structural matters outside of training and administration function properly at the camp. Our sector includes many things that others take for granted and don't even notice when they work, but if problems arise, it negatively affects the camp experience for many.

Internationality

The International Youth Fire Brigade Camp gives you and your fire brigade the opportunity to make new acquaintances and find new friends not only from Finland but also from other countries. Even before registration officially opened, approximately 300 foreign firefighters had already registered, including participants from Germany and Italy. The goal is for all foreign fire departments to have a Finnish partner fire department at the camp. We will help partner fire departments contact their foreign partner fire departments before the camp. We will help the partner fire departments to contact their foreign partner fire departments before the camp. During the camp, the tents of the foreign and Finnish fire departments will be located next to each other, and the partner fire department can provide support to the foreign fire department if necessary. If you and your fire brigade would like to act as a partner fire brigade, please contact hanna.pihanpera@haly2026.fi.

Foreign camp participants will be integrated into the camp so that foreign young people attend the same courses as Finnish young people and foreign adults have the same tasks as Finnish adults. If you are interested in working in a position where you will have contact with foreign fire departments, please also contact hanna.pihanpera@haly2026.fi.

We are still looking for translators and interpreters for our international activities, as the camp operates in three languages: Finnish, Swedish, and English.



Communications

Communications – the most visible part of the camp

The communications sector is responsible for internal and external communications before, during, and after the camp. Its task is to ensure that information is disseminated, the atmosphere is conveyed, and camp information reaches the right audiences at the right time.

Internal communication

Internal communication channels include camp radio and the camp newspaper, which are responsible for keeping campers up to date, strengthening team spirit, and documenting camp life. HÄLY 2026 will also have an internet radio station, so you can enjoy the camp atmosphere in real time, even from your sofa at home.

External communication

External communication focuses on the camp's visibility on social media and online. It produces content for social media channels and the camp's website, i.e., it is responsible for external communications. External communications include those responsible for recording, such as photographers and drone photographers.

EDUCATION REFORM

The course system for young firefighters is being reformed, and at the HÄLY 2026 camp, the former beginner and advanced courses will be replaced with new training modules. The teaching materials and curriculum will be changed and updated to take into account the age group of the training module. In the reform, SPEK and its training working group have sought to shift the focus of training to practical exercises.

In short, many terms will change and new content will be added, but the camp will continue to teach young people the same basic skills as before. In the new system, the content of the former level courses has been divided into clear themes in training packages for different age groups.

Educational programs for 7–9-year-olds

There are three training modules, and their themes are safety skills, equipment, and clearings. The themes represent the overarching concepts that connect the topics and content of the training modules. The themes of the training modules are the same for the 7–9 and 10–12 age groups. Nevertheless, there are differences in the topics and content between the two groups.

Children aged 7–9 are relatively young, which is why fire brigade activities should be playful and fun, with an emphasis on experiences. Important topics and issues can be explored in many different ways. This package includes initial training, in which young people are introduced to the fire brigade.

In the old course system, these training courses correspond to the AKU 1 and AKU 2 courses, which have now been divided into three parts in terms of content.

Target group and requirements:

The training packages are aimed at children aged 7–9, i.e., those in grades 1–3. The children may be first-timers at the camp or very new enthusiasts participating in fire brigade activities. The most important thing for children of this age is to provide them with memorable and safe experiences. Fire department topics and theoretical learning are covered in more depth in later training modules.



Educational programs for 10–12-year-olds

There are three training modules, and their themes are safety skills, equipment, and clearings. The themes represent the overarching concepts in the training modules, around which the topics and content are organized. The age groups 7–9 and 10–12 have the same themes in the training modules. Nevertheless, there are differences in the topics and content between these two groups.

The 10–12-year-olds are a little older, so they are offered an appropriate level of challenge and meaningful activities. This package includes basic training, in which young people are taught the basic skills of a firefighter.

In the old course system, these courses correspond to the TAKU 1, TAKU 2, and TIKU courses, which have now been reorganized into three modules.

Target group and requirements:

The training packages are aimed at children aged 10–12, i.e., those in grades 4–6. The children may be new to the fire brigade or already have some experience, depending on the age limits for participation in the fire brigade. They want challenges, but at the same time they want activities that allow them to be as active as possible. This training package teaches young people the basic skills needed for fire brigade activities.

Educational programs for 13–15-year-olds

There are three training modules, and their themes are the built environment, traffic, and terrain. The themes represent the overarching concepts in the training modules, around which the topics and content are organized. The themes for 13–15-year-olds have been created based on the tasks and functional training content of fire departments. The themes for this age group differ from those of the two previous training modules. Previous training modules have introduced and taught knowledge and skills, whereas in this module, the things learned are applied in practice in modules built around different themes.

In the training of 13–15-year-olds, the content and implementation methods are adapted to the level of knowledge and skills of young people and provide a sufficient amount of new, meaningful, and challenging activities. These modules include in-depth training, in which young people are trained to apply the skills of a firefighter.

In the old course system, these courses are comparable to the TAKU 3 and TAKU 4 courses, which have now been reorganized into three modules with additional content.

Target group and requirements:

The training programs are aimed at young people aged 13–15, i.e., those in grades 7–9. These young people may have been involved in activities for several years, trained at camps and weekly exercises, practiced and participated in various competitions, and have experience in fire brigade activities. Young people of this age have already been able to make independent decisions at school, for example, regarding elective subjects and further studies. It is important to offer young people high-quality, meaningful, and challenging activities that allow them to develop and demonstrate their skills to themselves, each other, and others.



CAMP ORGANIZATION CHART



CONTACT INFO

firstname.surname@haly2026.fi

CAMP PARTICIPATION FEES

- 3 November 2025 – 28 February 2026 registered 190 € / person
- 1 March – 3 May 2026 registered 240 € / person
- 1 June 2026 and onwards registered 290 € / person

Everyone, get actively involved in the camp – let's make HÄLY 2026 the best camp ever!

CAMP INFORMATION CHANNELS

Web page: www.haly2026.fi
Instagram: @palokuntaleirit
Facebook: @palokuntaleirit

[Sign up for the camp news letter via this link or scan the QR code!](#)



[Check out the open positions for the camp here!](#)

