



A BRIEF HISTORY OF EUAS

The Estonian Entrepreneurship University of Applied Sciences was founded by a consulting firm Mainor. Originally, the school bore the name Mainor Business School. In order to better reflect the substantive changes, the school's name has been changed twice. Below are a brief overview of the changes in the name of the schools and the levels of education.

School highlights:

- The Estonian Entrepreneurship University of Applied Sciences (EUAS) commenced its activities in the autumn of 1992. Between 1992-2002, the school bore the name Mainor Business School (MBS). The founder of the school was the consulting firm Mainor and in the early years the school taught mainly economics and management. In collaboration with the Youth Training Center - Norax a school was opened in Rakvere in business administration. In the academic year 1992/93 in Tallinn were opened 3 study groups in the specialty of business manager and secretary-assistant to the manager. In total in the first academic year in MBS studied 75 vocational secondary level students. The curricula and subject programs were produced in collaboration with the economists of Mainor, Tallinn University of Technology and the University of Tartu. Tea Varrak was elected as the first rector of MBS.
- According to the Private Schools Act adopted on 2 June 1993, Mainor Business School was registered on 4 November 1993 as one of the first private schools in Estonia.
- In 1993/94 academic year was opened the Viljandi training center which operated in the premises of Viljandi Rural Secondary School.
- From 1994/95 academic year cooperation was launched with the Central Estonian Development Centre (CEDC). In cooperation MBS training centers were opened in Paide (1994), and Jõhvi and Jõgeva (1995). In 1995, Maie Oblikas was elected as the Rector of MBS.
- In autumn 1996 admission for the specialty of financial management was started.
- In 1997, MBS received the right of training at the higher education level. The first diploma studies education licenses were issued on four specialties - the specialties of Business Administration, Financial Management, Marketing Management and Psychology. In addition, Mainor Business School was the first university in Estonia that introduced the three-year curricula corresponding to the Bologna agreement. Meanwhile the regional expansion of MBS continued: in the spring of 1997 was opened Tartu Learning Center which evolved into the second most important learning center of MBS after Tallinn and a Learning Center was also opened in Valga.
- In 1998 cooperation continued with CEDC, learning centers were opened in Võru (1998) and in Rapla (1998)
- In the academic year 1998/1999 started 42 student groups with 1050 students in ten centers.
- In March 1999, Mainor Business School passed for the first time accreditation with an international commission. The first class of business managers graduated in the same year and a new specialty - Information Technology- was added.



- In the year 1999 (due to changes in the Private Schools Act) the company AS Erahariiduskeskus was founded under which Mainor Business School continued its activities. These changes created the foundations for organization of the commercial management and the network of learning centers of the school. Over the next few years were closed the learning centers in Jõhvi, Jõgeva and Valga. In accordance with the Institutions of Professional Higher Education Act adopted in the same year, MBS continued its activity as an institution of professional higher education.
- In the year 2000 AS Erahariiduskeskus increased the share capital and began investing heavily in the development of school infrastructure. That same year was bought, renovated and furnished the first academic building in Tartu. As a new sub-institution of AS Erahariiduskeskus, began the operations of Mainor Business Institute, (MBI) Peeter Kross was elected as the Rector. MBS study groups were opened in Tallinn and Tartu and in the academic year 2001/2002 there were studying 453 students in MBS and 453 students in MBI.
- The spring of 2001 brought a recognition to Mainor Business School: the Business Administration curriculum received a full accreditation on the recommendation of the international accreditation commission. That same year, AS Erahariiduskeskus started development of the long-term development concept Ecinor, which focused on the implementation of the development of professional higher education. The Acting Rector of MBS was Toomas Saal.
- At the beginning of the year 2002 it was decided to abandon the direction of academic higher education and MBI joined the Audentes University. MBS was renamed Mainor Institution of Higher Education. The positive impact of concentrating on the professional higher education manifested itself expressively in the admission in the year 2002 when more than 700 new students began their studies. Acting Rector of the MIHE was Tauno Õunapuu.
- In 2003 Learning Centers in Pärnu and Kuressaare were opened. Since the year 2003 the Rector of MIHE was Prof. Ülo Pärnits.
- The rapid growth in student numbers created the conditions for both the rise in quality as well as for new regional expansion. In 2004 the IT curriculum was awarded a full international accreditation and the curriculum of Applied Psychology was awarded a conditional international accreditation.
- In the years 2005-2006, properties in the city centers of Paide and Pärnu and in Tallinn in Ülemiste City in the Smart Business Center were acquired and renovated as modern academic buildings. In 2005 Prof. Mati Lukas was elected as a Rector.
- In 2006 the academic structure of the school was reorganized and four institutes were formed. A new field - Design - was added. In 2006 a new Learning Center in Narva - Accession to the Higher School of Design, was opened.
- In 2007 a Learning Center was opened in Kärđla in collaboration with Hiiu County Government.
- In the academic year 2007/2008 the Mainor Institution of Higher Education began developing and implementing a quality management system in order to keep track of and manage the quality of the organization. The implemented quality management system also helps to prepare the University for Institutional Accreditation. The implemented management quality assurance system is based on the requirements of the European



Higher Education Area standard, which aims to ensure higher quality learning and stakeholder satisfaction. That same year, MIHE participated in the the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) project "Committed to Excellence" and was awarded the EFQM recognition, which was issued by the Estonian Association for Quality on 30.09.2008.

- In 2008, the Learning Center in Jõhvi was reopened. In 2008 in the 12 Learning Center's of MIHE were accommodated a total of 3745 students. In the spring of 2008, Mainor Institution of Higher Education repeated its success in the accreditation of curricula; the international accreditation commission granted the specialty of Business Administration the full accreditation on the professional higher education level.
- In 2009, all three Master's curricula of MIHE received international accreditation. Within the framework of SA Archimedes program Primus, Mainor Institution of Higher Education was elected as the best partner. The Commission highlighted the deliberately planned development of teaching and supervision skills of the lecturers of the MIHE, purposeful use of the training budget, timely submission of reports, open and constructive communication and active participation in all program activities.
- In April 2009, Mainor Institution of Higher Education held the 20th Anniversary Conference of Space (European Network for Business Studies and Languages) in Tallinn.
- In the academic year 2009/2010, MIHE vigorously developed foreign cooperation. MIHE participated in important international fairs: in December 2009 in Studia fair in Helsinki; in March 2010 in the China International Exhibition Tour, in April 2010 in the CIEET 2010 fair in Istanbul; in October 2010 and in February 2011 in international fairs in St. Petersburg.
- The year 2010 brought a number of recognitions: the e-course quality label was awarded for the e-course "The European Union" prepared by the Rector of MIHE Professor Mati Lukas, in the framework of the Month of Good Service, the Mainor Institution of Higher Education was in the TOP 100 of the most praised companies. In the Estonian Quality Award competition, MIHE received the first prize in the SME category. Based on a study conducted by TNS Emor, Mainor Institution of Higher Education was the most prestigious private university in Estonia (TNS Emor Brand Rankings 2010).
- In 13-15 October 2011, Mainor Institution of Higher Education organized in collaboration with the Estonian Rectors' Conference of Universities of Applied Sciences (RKRN) in Tallinn a EURASHE (European Association of Institutions in Higher Education) 20th Anniversary Conference.
- From 1 December 2010, Mainor Institution of Higher Education introduced a new name - the Estonian Entrepreneurship University of Applied Sciences (EUAS).
- The largest curriculum of EUAS Business Administration underwent a transition assessment, gaining the rights of provision of education for seven years.
- On 20 January 2011 was inaugurated a new Rector of EUAS, Krista Tuulik and the windmill and the new school flag were consecrated.
- On 9 November 2012 the Estonian Entrepreneurship University of Applied Sciences celebrated its 20th year of operations by organizing an Anniversary Day, which was attended by students, alumni, employees, former employees and also partners. The Anniversary Day began with an International Conference, where speakers were both from the EUAS faculty and faculty from abroad. The Anniversary Day ceremony was held



in the Estonia Concert Hall and the day was closed in the Club Teater. A brief overview film of the history of EUAS was prepared for the 20th anniversary of EUAS in 2012 ([link](#))

- In 2013 EUAS underwent a re-evaluation of IT, Design and Business and Administration (Master's and international) curricula and achieved the perpetual license for provision of education in the Design and Business and Administration curriculum groups and a temporary license for provision of education in the IT curriculum group. In June, takeover of the Economics and Management Institute ECOMEN took place and as of autumn, the former ECOMEN students are allowed to graduate in the two new registered curricula.
- In 2014 EUAS underwent the process of institutional accreditation, acquiring a perpetual accreditation. The school was awarded the EKKK quality label.
- In 2015 professor Ülo Pärnits, the founder of the school, was elected as the rector of EEK. The structure of the school was reorganised based on the specialities, taking the principles of matrix management even more into account. A regular and systematic programme for developing the teaching methodology of lecturers was created. An opportunity to continue their studies was enabled for the students of Estonian School of Hotel and Tourism Management, which closed. An English-based international joint of Creativity and Business Innovation was opened.
- In 2016, students from four continents started their studies in EUAS. According to the number of students admitted, EUAS is the fastest growing institute of higher education in Estonia. Preparations were made to open an English-based software development curriculum.