



English
Language



Full Time
Format



September
Start date



Maastricht
Location

Master Responsible Data Science

Wanted: Pioneers in Responsible Data Science! From healthcare algorithms to smartphone AI, data is everywhere. But who ensures fairness, transparency, and safety? Responsible Data Science teaches you how to lead the way!

[Contact us](#)

Admission requirements

On this page, you will find important details of the application process (such as deadlines, admission requirements, required documents and application assessment) for the master's programme in Responsible Data Science for the *academic year 2026-2027*.

Application deadlines

The master's programme in Responsible Data Science currently has one intake: September.

The deadlines below are applicable for applying for a start in September 2026.

Note: If you are viewing this webpage on your smartphone, we recommend using landscape mode.

Date	What you need to know about this date
As soon as possible after 1 October 2025	Apply via Studielink*. The study starts in September 2026.
1 May 2026, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing the entire application process if you have a non-EU/EEA nationality (in most cases, you will need a visa and/or residence permit)
1 July 2026, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing the entire application process if you have an EU/EEA or Swiss nationality
1 August 2026	Strongly recommended deadline for paying the tuition fee
31 August 2026, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing all tasks in the MyApplication portal**, including (if applicable) submitting English proficiency test results (TOEFL/IELTS) for all applicants If you need a visa or residence permit , you must complete most tasks by an earlier date.

**Studielink is the national registration system for higher education,*

***The MyApplication portal is Maastricht University's application and enrolment platform.*

Please note:

- 🕒 In Studielink you also need to **choose the starting moment**. Please make sure to select **September 2026**.
- 🕒 Find out if you can apply for a [scholarship](#) or [financial aid](#). Deadlines for scholarships are often earlier than the dates

mentioned above.

Visa/residence permit for study

Are you a non-EU/EEA national requiring a visa/residence permit for study? Click here for — more information

Please note that Maastricht University can **only** formally apply for your [visa/residence permit](#) if you have met all admission and enrolment requirements.

This means you have to have completed all admission and enrolment tasks in the MyApplication portal (except the 'visa/residence permit'-task and the 'send certified copy of diploma'-task) before we can send your application to the IND (Dutch Immigration and Naturalization Service).

We have to send the application to the IND before 1 July if you are starting your studies in September. Please note: a few pre-master and master programmes offer a start in February. If your study programme offers a start in February and you want to start your studies in February, we have to send the application to the IND before 1 December. You can find out if your study programme offers a start in February on the admission requirements web page of that programme ([pre-master's](#), [master's](#)).

Therefore, we **strongly recommend** that you reconsider applying for this study programme if you are not sure that you will meet the following requirements before 1 July/1 December (if applicable in your situation):

- ⦿ Having remedied all subject and/or language deficiencies (if applicable)
- ⦿ Having qualified for admission to your study programme, including being selected ([if applicable to your study programme](#)) AND
- ⦿ Having paid the tuition fee for your study programme

General requirements: previous education

The admission requirements for the academic year 2026-2027 for the master's programme in Responsible Data Science depend on your previous education. Please check below which requirements apply to you.

Note: You must have passed all your bachelor's requirements by 31 August at the latest for the September intake.

Graduates from related programmes at Maastricht, Aachen and Hasselt universities

1 Graduates from the following bachelor's programmes qualify directly for admission: —

- ⦿ Bachelor's programme in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (formerly known as Data Science and Knowledge Engineering) from Maastricht University
- ⦿ Bachelor's programme in Computer Science from Hasselt University/Maastricht University
- ⦿ Bachelor's programme in Brain Science from Maastricht University
- ⦿ Bachelor's programme in Business Analytics from Maastricht University
- ⦿ Bachelor's programme in Business Engineering from Maastricht University
- ⦿ Bachelor's programme in Econometrics & Operations Research from Maastricht University
- ⦿ Bachelor's programme in Angewandte Mathematik und Informatik (formerly known as Scientific Programming) from Aachen University (MATSE)

2 Graduates from the following bachelor's programmes qualify for admission, depending on the courses they followed: —

- ⦿ Bachelor's programme in Health Sciences (only students that graduated with the specialisation 'Digital Technology & Care') from Maastricht University

- ⦿ Bachelor's programme University College Maastricht (only students that graduated with the concentration 'Sciences') from Maastricht University
-

Graduates from a research university

You will be considered for admission by the Board of Admissions if you have a bachelor's degree or an equivalent diploma from a research university in a programme such as Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Applied Mathematics, Computer Science, Operations Research, Econometrics, Applied Physics, Maastricht Science Programme, Psychology, Circular Engineering, Social Sciences, Humanities or Engineering **and** if you have obtained at least 30 ECTS in your bachelor's degree in the minimal required competences.

The minimal required competences are:

- ⦿ **Mathematics:** statistics, probability theory, linear algebra
- ⦿ **Programming:** proficiency of a procedural programming language (e.g., Python, Java, C#, C, C++, Julia)

Furthermore, each application that satisfies the above will be looked at individually.

Graduates from a research university, please note!

⚠ You may qualify for admission to the programme if your qualification provides sufficient preparation both in terms of academic level and content. The level of your degree should be equivalent to a bachelor's degree from a research university in the Netherlands. This is indicated as '3 years of WO' in the [Nuffic list of equivalent diplomas](#) that we use in our assessment (Nuffic is the Dutch Organisation for Internationalisation in Education).

Please, carefully check the Nuffic information on your country before applying. If your previous diploma is not equivalent to a Dutch WO bachelor (3 years of WO), you do **not** qualify for admission. If your diploma is

equivalent, we will assess your application further and take into account the national standing of your university and the grades you obtained. If there is no Nuffic qualification available for your country or diploma type, a credential evaluation has to be requested with Nuffic. This can take up to six weeks. The credential evaluation by Nuffic is binding.

⚠ We do **not** accept bachelor diplomas from online universities.

Graduates from Zuyd Hogeschool (university of applied sciences)

- ⦿ Bachelor's students graduating from Applied Data Science & Artificial Intelligence at Zuyd Hogeschool, who have completed a particular set of minors at their own institution qualify directly for admission to the master's programme in Responsible Data Science.
- ⦿ Bachelor's students graduating from HBO-ICT at Zuyd Hogeschool, who have completed a particular set of minors at their own institution (the minor Design Science Research, and one out of the two minors Artificial Intelligence or Data Science) qualify directly for admission to the master's programme in Responsible Data Science.

Contact your study advisor at Zuyd Hogeschool if you are interested in one of these options.

Pre-master's in Responsible Data Science

The Department of Advanced Computing Sciences is working on establishing a pre-master possibility. More information will be published in spring 2026.

Additional requirements

Language requirements for English-language master's programmes

As English is the language of instruction in this study programme, it is essential that your English language skills are good enough for you to undertake intensive and challenging academic courses that are taught and examined in English.

Answer the questions below to find out if you meet the language requirements.

Do you hold a bachelor's or master's degree in which English was the sole language of instruction?

Yes

No

Applicants whose diploma is based on a non-EU-EEA curriculum (handling fee)

Applicants for this study programme whose diploma is based on a non-EU/EEA curriculum are required to pay a handling fee. This applies even if the educational institution is located within the EU/EEA, as the fee is based on the curriculum, not the location of the institution. More information on this handling fee and how to arrange this payment can be found on the [handling fee page](#).

Exemptions

You can apply for course exemptions if you have completed courses at a recognised and accredited higher education institution that are similar in terms of content and level.

For more information, please contact the Board of Examiners at dacs-boe@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Documents required for the application process

During the application process for this study programme you will need to complete several tasks for which you will often

have to upload documents. The list below gives you an insight into what documents you will (and might) need to prepare.

Please note:

- ⦿ Only **complete** applications will be reviewed
- ⦿ All **other documents** may be handed in in **English, Dutch or German**

1 Required documents for all applicants to this study programme —

- ⦿ **A recent portrait photo***

The portrait photo must satisfy certain requirements. You can find these requirements in the task description 'Upload portrait photo' in the MyApplication portal.

- ⦿ **A copy of your valid passport or your EU/EEA identity card***

Make a copy of the page with your personal details. Save this copy as 'passport copy' and not as 'passport picture'

- ⦿ **A copy of your most recent grades transcript**

- ⦿ **A copy of your diploma** if you have obtained it

If you have obtained a diploma for more relevant studies than one, please upload all diplomas and grade transcripts.

- ⦿ **Your Curriculum Vitae**

List your education, relevant extracurricular activities and internship/professional experience.

- ⦿ **A motivation essay**

Give good arguments about why you want to do this master's programme at Maastricht University, and why you expect that you can successfully complete the programme.

*As a current UM student it is not necessary to upload these documents in the MyApplication portal, unless your passport will not be valid on 1 September 2026. In that case, a specific task to upload a copy of your passport will appear in the MyApplication portal.

2 Documents that might be required depending on your (academic) background —

- **Course descriptions** (in English) of the **mathematics and programming courses** that are listed on your grade transcript

We always advise you to provide this document, especially if your grade transcript does not contain the same course names as the topics mentioned in the [admission requirements](#).

- **Evidence of other courses or tests in mathematics/programming sciences** that are not part of your grade transcript, but which you think are relevant to assess your application (for instance an additional online programming course)

Advised for all applicants.

- **Document(s) that demonstrate your proficiency in English**

Answer the questions concerning language requirements under 'Language requirements for English-language master programmes' on this webpage to find out if you need to provide additional documentation. The outcome of your answers will indicate which documents you can use to prove your proficiency.

- **Permission for document verification form**

If your diploma is not verified by DUO (Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs, the Dutch government agency responsible for education-related matters), you will need to upload the form 'Permission for document verification' in the MyApplication portal. This form allows Maastricht University to verify your diploma, grades transcript or other required documents directly with the issuing institution or relevant qualification registry.

How do we assess your application?

When you want to apply or are applying for this study programme, it is useful to know how we assess your

application.

Based on the documents you have submitted and the admission procedure for your chosen programme, the UM decides on whether to admit you. Once UM has decided whether you qualify for admission, you will be informed about this by email.



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