



English
Language



Full Time
Format



September
Start date



Maastricht
Location

Master Systems Biology and Bioinformatics

Are you ready to work at the cutting edge of biology? Get skills in data science and math to study the dynamic interactions within living systems. Learn to understand and predict biological processes. Join our Systems Biology and Bioinformatics master's.

[Download brochure](#)

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 Systems Biology and Bioinformatics for the *academic year 2026-2027*. If you have questions about admissions, email us at fse-admissions@maastrichtuniversity.nl

For this master's programme, selection takes place on the basis of your quality and suitability. For this, your motivation, previous education and your (professional) experience are important.

Application deadlines

The master's programme in Systems Biology and Bioinformatics starts in September.

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

Note: If you are viewing this webpage on your phone, 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* (open for applications for the academic year 2026-2027 from 1 October)
15 January 2026, 23:59 CET	Application deadline for applicants with a non-EU/EEA nationality who want to be considered for the UM Brightlands Talent Scholarship .
1 May 2026, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing the entire application process for applicants with an non-EU/EEA or Swiss nationality (in most cases, you will need a visa or residence permit)
1 June 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** 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:

- ⦿ Find out if you can apply for a **scholarship or financial aid**.
Deadlines for scholarships are often earlier than the dates mentioned above.
- ⦿ In Studielink you need to **choose the starting moment**.
Please make sure to select **September 2026** in the dropdown menu, so that you will apply for the start of the next academic year.

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 academic year 2026-2027 for the master's programme in Systems Biology and Bioinformatics depend on your previous education. Please check below which requirements apply to you.

Contact us

Graduates from other relevant bachelor's programmes

You qualify for admission if you have:

- ⦿ a UM bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences
- ⦿ a UM bachelor's degree in Regenerative Medicine and Technology
- ⦿ a UM bachelor's degree in Maastricht Science Programme
- ⦿ a UM bachelor's degree in Computer Science
- ⦿ a UM bachelor's degree in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence
- ⦿ a UM bachelor's degree in Brain Science

Relevant fields are:

- ⦿ Biochemistry
- ⦿ Bioinformatics
- ⦿ Biology
- ⦿ Biomedical Engineering
- ⦿ Biomedical Sciences or (Molecular) Life Sciences
- ⦿ Data Science
- ⦿ Informatics or Computer Sciences
- ⦿ Life Sciences and Technology
- ⦿ Medical Natural Sciences

- ⦿ Mathematics
- ⦿ Neuroscience
- ⦿ Physics

If you're unsure whether your bachelor's degree is in a relevant field, we recommend that you apply and complete the selection procedure. If you have additional questions, please contact our admissions office: fse-admissions@maastrichtuniversity.nl

UM graduates applying for a continuing master's programme

You qualify for admission if you hold a bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences, Regenerative Medicine and Technology, Maastricht Science Programme, Computer Science or Data Science and Artificial Intelligence from Maastricht University (UM).

Graduates from equivalent Dutch HBO bachelor's programmes

You qualify for admission, but you need additional approval by the Board of Admissions. We recommend that you apply and complete the selection procedure.

Graduates from universities of applied sciences

If you have a degree from a university of applied sciences (Dutch HBO or international equivalent) in a related field, you could gain direct access to the master's programme without the need for a pre-master's. In any case, you must first apply for the master's programme. After the selection procedure the Board of Admissions will decide whether a one-semester pre-master's programme is required. If you complete the pre-master's successfully, you qualify for direct admission to the master's programme.

The pre-master's programme will be tailor-made based on your previous knowledge and skills. For more information, please

contact fse-admissions@maastrichtuniversity.nl

We have rolling admissions. The earlier you apply, the earlier you will know whether or not you have a place in the programme. We advise you to apply as early as possible, especially if you think you are likely to receive a pre-master's advice. We suggest you apply at least one month before the deadline.

➤ [More information about the pre-master's programme for the master's in Systems Biology and Bioinformatics](#)

For applicants with a non-EEA diploma it is not possible to apply for our pre-master's programmes directly. You will have to apply for one of our regular master's programmes first. If your credentials and previous education are insufficient to qualify for direct admission into one of our master's programmes, the Board of Admissions will determine whether a pre-master's programme can be offered.

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](#).

Documents required for the application process

During the application process for this study programme you will need to complete a number of 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.

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 of your current bachelor's programme**

🕒 **A copy of your diploma of your current bachelor's programme** if you have obtained it

If you have not graduated yet, you can upload your

official grades transcript from your bachelor's programme.

🕒 **Your curriculum vitae**

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

🕒 **A motivation letter (max. 500 words)**

- *Provide good arguments about why you want to do this master's programme at Maastricht University and why you believe that you can successfully complete the programme.*
- *Your letter should answer the following questions:*
 - *Why did you choose Maastricht University?*
 - *Why do you want to study the master's in Systems Biology?*
 - *What makes you a suitable candidate for this programme?*
 - *How do your background/strengths/skills relate to the field of systems biology? To answer this, you can describe any previous experience you might have. For example, describe any courses you might have taken, participation in bachelor or extracurricular research or projects (if any), experience with English, experience or views on teamwork, etc. It all counts.*
 - *What do you hope to learn/develop by studying Systems Biology at Maastricht University?*

**As a UM student it is not necessary to upload these documents in the MyApplication portal, unless your passport is not valid on 1 September 2026. In that case, you do have to upload a copy of your passport.*

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

🕒 **Document(s) that demonstrate your proficiency in English (if applicable)**

Answer the questions concerning language requirements under 'Language requirements for English-language master's 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.

- ⦿ **A letter from your home university stating the language of instruction was English** (if applicable)
 - ⦿ **Permission for document verification form** (if applicable)
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.
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How we assess your application

This master's programme involves a selection procedure.

The Board of Admissions will review and assess your application. You will be informed whether you are selected for an interview.

The admissions interview

The interview is intended to find out whether there is a match between you and our master's programme. The interview is conducted in English by two members of the Board of Admissions and takes approximately 30 minutes. The interview takes place online via Microsoft Teams.

Preparation

Your application and motivation letter will be the starting point for the interview. You should also inform yourself well about the Systems Biology and Bioinformatics programme. Sources to do so are this website, our (online) Experience Days, or (if possible) an open day you have visited.

After the interview

Within one week after the interview, the Board of Admissions will inform you whether you are offered a place in the master's in Systems Biology and Bioinformatics or not.

Finalisation of your application at Systems Biology and Bioinformatics

After accepting the offered place in the Systems Biology and Bioinformatics master's programme and successfully completing the admission process, you will receive an email informing you of the steps to take in order to finalise your enrolment at UM. Furthermore, you will receive a request to pay your tuition fee.

Scholarships

At Maastricht University, scholarships are handled directly by the Scholarship Office (not by the study programmes). [For information about available scholarships and deadlines, please consult this website.](#)



UM visiting address

Minderbroedersberg 4-6
6211 LK Maastricht
+31 43 388 2222

UM postal address

P.O. Box 616
6200 MD Maastricht

Bluesky

Facebook

Instagram

LinkedIn

TikTok

YouTube

Contact

Transparency & Accountability

Privacy & security

Systems Biology

Support and Bioinformatics

Feedback

Why this

programme

Courses &

Your future

› **Admission
requirements**

Admission &
enrolment

Tuition fees

Contact