



**English**  
Language



**Full Time**  
Format



**September**  
Start date



**Maastricht**  
Location

## Bachelor Biomedical Sciences

Delve into the human body, diseases, and medication. Learn how to improve health from molecules to cells, to organs and the human body as a whole. After graduation, a world of opportunities awaits in biotech, pharma, or research.

[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 bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences for the *academic year 2025-2026*. Questions about admission? Contact us via [study@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:study@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

## Important deadlines for application

*The bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences starts in September.*

*The deadlines below are applicable for applicants who want to*

**Note:** if you are viewing this webpage on your phone, we recommend that you use landscape mode.

Date	What you need to know about this date
<b>1 October 2024</b>	<b>Studielink is open for applications for the academic year 2025-2026</b>
<b>31 January 2025, 16:00 CET*</b>	<b>Applying for a sufficiency check (if applicable) for non-EU/EEA applicants who need a visa or residence permit</b>  A number of applicants can apply for a 'sufficiency check' if the knowledge in a specific subject needs to be assessed. Applicants notified of this in the MyApplication portal will have the opportunity to upload a syllabus in the MyApplication portal before the deadline of 31 January.  Requests submitted after this date will not be taken into consideration.
<b>1 April 2025, 23:59 CET*</b>	<b>Deadline for completing the entire application process for non-EU/EEA applicants (these applicants require a <a href="#">visa or residence permit</a>)</b>
<b>1 May 2025, 23:59 CET*</b>	<b>Deadline for completing the entire application process for applicants from the EU/EEA or Switzerland</b>
<b>1 June 2025, 16:00 CET*</b>	<b>Applying for sufficiency check (if applicable) for applicants from the EU/EEA or Switzerland</b>  A number of applicants can apply for a sufficiency check if the knowledge in a specific subject needs to be assessed. Applicants notified of this in the My Application portal will have the opportunity to upload a syllabus in the My Application portal before the deadline of 1 June.  Requests submitted after this date will not be taken into consideration.

Date	What you need to know about this date
<b>31 August 2025, 16:00 CET*</b>	You must <b>submit proof that you meet the statutory (further) previous education requirements 2025-2026</b> by this deadline at the latest, so please take this into account.

*\*Be aware of the time zone in the Netherlands (CET) and check possible time difference!*

## Are you a non-EU citizen requiring a visa/residence permit for study?

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 tasks 'Arrange visa / legal residence' and 'Send certified copy of diploma') before we can send your application to the IND (Dutch Immigration and Naturalisation 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's and master's programmes offer a start in February. If you are applying 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 2025-2026 for the bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences depend on your previous education. Please check below which requirements apply to you.

### Applicants with a Dutch diploma —

If you possess one of the diplomas stated below then, in principle, you qualify for admission.

- ⦿ A new-style VWO diploma with **the profile Natuur en Gezondheid** (Science and Health) **with profile subject Physics and Mathematics**.
- ⦿ A new-style VWO diploma with **the profile Natuur en Techniek** (Science and Engineering) **with profile subject Biology**
- ⦿ An OU (Open University) propaedeutic diploma, HBO propaedeutic diploma, HBO degree diploma, university propaedeutic diploma or university degree diploma. Sufficient knowledge at VWO level of the subjects Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics A or B is required.

An old-style VWO diploma no longer gives the right to admission.

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### Applicants with a non-Dutch diploma —

If you have a non-Dutch diploma that is equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma, you qualify - in principle - for admission to this programme. Check if this applies to your diploma.

➤ [List of diplomas equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma 2025-2026](#)

**Please note:** if your diploma is not on this list, UM must first assess your diploma on an individual basis to see if you qualify

for admission.

Your previous education must not only be equivalent to the Dutch VWO level but must also contain specific subjects. The subjects Mathematics A or B, Physics, Chemistry and Biology need to have been included at VWO exam level in your previous education.

## Additional subject requirements for applicants with a non-Dutch diploma

To qualify for admission to the bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences, you need to have the following subjects in your previous education with a duration and depth equivalent to the Dutch VWO: Mathematics A or B, Physics, Chemistry and Biology. The following diplomas satisfy those requirements:

- ⦿ **German 'Zeugnis der allgemeinen Hochschulreife':**
  - Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry: as 'Grundkurs' up to and including the final year. Biology as 'Leistungsfach'
- ⦿ **Belgian Diploma of Secondary Education** of one of the following tracks:
  - Greek-Sciences
  - Latin-Sciences
  - Modern Languages-Sciences
  - Sciences-Mathematics
- ⦿ **Diploma International Baccalaureate** with
  - Mathematics Analysis and Approaches HL or SL, or Mathematics Applications and Interpretations HL, or Mathematics SL or HL (exam before 2021).
  - Physics SL or HL
  - Chemistry SL or HL
  - Biology HL
- ⦿ **Diploma European Baccalaureate** with
  - Mathematics: written or oral exams, at least 3 hours/week in the last 2 years;
  - Physics: written or oral exams
  - Chemistry: written or oral exams;
  - Biology: written or oral exams, at least 4 hours/week in the last 2 years.
- ⦿ **British A/AS levels, (I) GCSEs:**
  - Mathematics: GCE A or AS level
  - Physics: GCE A or AS level
  - Chemistry: GCE A level
  - Biology: GCE A level

### ⦿ **US High School Diploma:**

- Mathematics: AP exam Statistics or Calculus
- Physics: AP exam Physics 1+2 or AP exam Physics 1 + C: Mechanics or AP exam Physics 2 + C: Mechanics
- Chemistry: AP exam Chemistry
- Biology: AP exam Biology

### ⦿ **Diplôme du Baccalauréat Général:**

- Mathematics: Spécialité Mathématique (Première) + Mathématique Complémentaires (Terminale) or Spécialité Mathématique (Première and Terminale) or Spécialité Mathématique (Première and Terminale) + Mathématiques Expertes
- Physics: Spécialité Physique-Chimie (Première and Terminale)
- Chemistry: Spécialité Physique-Chimie (Première and Terminale)
- Biology: Spécialité Sciences de la Vie et de la Terre (Première and Terminale)

### ➤ [Additional subject requirement pertaining to non-Dutch entry qualifications 2025-2026](#)

If your diploma or degree differs from those listed above, UM will assess whether you can demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the four compulsory subjects (Mathematics A or B, Chemistry, Physics, and Biology) and therefore qualify for an exemption (sufficiëntieverklaring) for these subjects on an individual basis. This assessment is based on the attainment aims for final examination in Dutch secondary education (VWO) in the relevant subject and the national agreements made within the Central Commissions Pre-examination (in Dutch: CCVX) and Boswell-Bèta. The assessment takes extra time, so be sure to register as early as possible.

**Please note:** taking an exam in a particular subject certainly does not automatically mean that you meet the further previous education requirements. There are strict requirements regarding the number of hours, the content and depth of the material covered and the exams taken.

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## **Applicants without the appropriate diploma or with missing courses**

If you do not have the necessary diplomas, you may still be eligible for admission with an entrance exam (the Colloquium

Doctum exam). **For this, you must be 21 years of age or older.**

The Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences (FHML) of the UM does not organise a Colloquium Doctum exam. You must demonstrate with certificates that you have mastered the required subjects **at Dutch VWO-level new style**. These are: English, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics.

To find out whether you meet the English language requirements, check out '[Additional requirements](#)' further down this page.

You must arrange obtaining the certificates yourself.

- ⦿ You can take courses in Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics at [Boswell-Bèta](#)
- ⦿ For the Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics exams, you can go to [Boswell-Bèta](#) and/or [Central Committees for Entrance Exams \(CCVX\)](#)
- ⦿ For the English subject, you can go to [Babel](#) and/or the [UM Language Centre](#)

Once you pass the exams, you must send the certificates to UM by postal mail or to a designated email address. You will find more information in the MyApplication portal under 'Certified copy diploma'.

Respect the deadline (see table [Important deadlines for application](#))

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## Eliminate missing subjects (deficiencies)

If you already have or will be awarded a Dutch secondary education (VWO new style) or equivalent diploma, but you do not (completely) satisfy the additional requirements (meaning that these subjects were not included in your curriculum and therefore you did not take part in a final examination for these subjects, resulting in (one or more) deficiencies), you must take (an) additional examination(s) to qualify for admission to the bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences. These examinations can be conducted both in Dutch and English at [Centrale Commissies Voortentamen \(CCVX\)](#) or [Boswell-Bèta](#).

**Please note:** you have to arrange these examinations yourself. In specific cases, Boswell-Bèta offers the possibility for foreign

students to take these examinations online. You have to contact Boswell-Bèta personally to request an online examination.

German students can also opt to complete the so-called Vorsemaster at the [Rheinische Bildungszentrum](#) in Cologne for deficiencies in Biology, Physics or Chemistry.

**Bear in mind that institutes such as CCVX and Boswell-Bèta have a maximum of 20 working days to make the result known.**

**Please note:** proof of an extra examination in a certain subject at a different institute than the ones mentioned above (CCVX/Boswell-Bèta/Rheinische Bildungszentrum) does not automatically mean that you satisfy the requirements for that subject. The level of the extra examination will need to be assessed on an individual basis. Strict requirements concerning number of study hours, content, difficulty of the material dealt with, and examinations completed apply here. In case of doubt, we will require you to demonstrate sufficient knowledge and skills through an additional satisfactory examination at CCVX or Boswell-Bèta (or Rheinisches Bildungszentrum for German applicants).

## Uploading certificates in MyApplication portal

Once you have successfully completed your additional examinations, you need to upload the certificates in the MyApplication portal.

Respect the deadline (see table [Important deadlines for application](#))

To find out whether you meet the English language requirements, check out 'Additional requirements' further down this page.

## Applying for a sufficiency check

In the evaluation of your diploma / grades transcript, it is possible that it is not clear whether you meet the subject requirements in a specific subject. Because education programmes can vary widely, we then need detailed information about the curriculum of the specific subject you



have taken in order to assess your knowledge level. The knowledge requirements are based on the attainment levels for the final examination in Dutch pre-university education (VWO) and the national agreements made within the Dutch Central Committees for Entrance Exams (CCVX).

If this is applicable to you, we offer you the possibility to fill in a syllabus to have your knowledge of the specific subject assessed by the Colloquium Doctum committee. Guidelines and requirements of the syllabus can then be found in the MyApplication portal.

Respect the deadline (see table [Important deadlines for application](#))

## Additional requirements

### Language requirements for English-language 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 Dutch pre-university education (VWO) diploma?

Yes

No

### Applicants who received their previous education in a non-EU/EEA country (handling fee)

Applicants for this study programme who received their previous education in a non-EU/EEA country will have to pay a

handling fee. More information on this handling fee and how to arrange this payment can be found on the [handling fee page](#).

## Documents required for 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 in the MyApplication portal. The list below gives you an insight into what documents you will (and might) need to prepare.

### *Disclaimer*

- ⦿ *Maastricht University will keep your personal information confidential.*
- ⦿ *The information provided is stored in a secure environment and treated according to the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).*
- ⦿ *Maastricht University will not share your information with third parties without your prior explicit permission.*

## Required documents for all applicants to this study programme

- ⦿ **A recent portrait picture**  
*This picture must satisfy certain requirements. You can find these requirements in the task description 'Upload portrait picture' 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 AND/OR a copy of your diploma if you already have obtained it**

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

- ⦿ Check if you need to pay a [handling fee](#) (administration costs) and arrange the payment  
*In principle, this only applies if you received your previous education in a non-European country, but please check for exemptions to this rule!*  
*If applicable: upload the exemption form 'handling fee' if you think that you are eligible for exemption based on the above information.*
  - ⦿ Check if your **knowledge of Mathematics** is sufficient and provide proof
  - ⦿ Check if your **knowledge of Biology** is sufficient and provide proof
  - ⦿ Check if your **knowledge of Physics** is sufficient and provide proof
  - ⦿ Check if your **knowledge of Chemistry** is sufficient and provide proof
  - ⦿ Check if your **language proficiency in English** is sufficient  
*Answer the questions concerning language requirements under 'Language requirements for English-language programmes' on this webpage to find out if you need to provide additional documentation. The outcome of your answers will indicate which document(s) you can use to prove your proficiency.*
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## How do we assess your application?

When you want to apply or are applying for a study programme, it is useful to know how we assess your application. You can find more information about this in this section.

Maastricht University (UM) will assess whether your previous education makes that you qualify for admission.

Additional documents may be required to assess your previous education. If so, you will receive a request by email, so please keep an eye on your inbox.

You will receive a message once UM has made the decision.

# Matching Procedure

Maastricht University finds it important that you choose a study programme and learning environment which suits you well and in which you can be successful. This is why we offer you several opportunities to explore whether the programme matches your background and interest (for example Open Days and Experience Days). In addition, you may pose questions to evaluate your match with the programme and/or arrange a meeting with one of our study advisers by sending an email to: [studiekeuzecheck@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:studiekeuzecheck@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

## Privacy statement Matching Procedure

➤ [Read more about the privacy statement for the Matching Procedure](#)

## Study advice at end of bachelor year 1

At the end of year 1 of the study programme, every student receives advice on whether or not to continue his/her study. This advice is not binding. However, students must meet predetermined requirements, which are documented in the [Education and Examination Regulations \(EER\) of the study programme](#).



**Maastricht University**

Biomedical

UM visiting address

Minderbroedersberg 4-6  
6211 LK Maastricht

+31 43 388 2222

UM postal address

P.O. Box 616  
6200 MD Maastricht

**Admission  
requirements**

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