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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 Forensic Psychology for *academic year 2022-2023*.

International students: also check the [study progress requirements](#)

Important deadlines for application for this study programme

Applicable when starting on 1 September 2022.

When you want to apply or are applying for this study programme, it is important that you inform yourself of the deadlines that you need to meet. The important deadlines when applying for this study programme are provided in the table below.

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
1 October 2021	Studielink is open for applications for the academic year 2022-2023
Up to and including 15 January 2022, 23:59 CET	Deadline first* selection round for completing the entire application process for all applicants Non-EU/EEA applicants need to require a visa or residence permit
Up to and including 15 January 2022, 23:59 CET	Application deadline for non-EU/EEA applicants who want to be considered for the UM High Potential/Holland Scholarship
Up to and including 1 April 2022, 23:59 CET	Deadline second* selection round for completing the entire application process for all applicants Non-EU/EEA applicants need to require a visa or residence permit

* You can apply in the first or second selection round. Both selection rounds have equal admission chances.

General requirements: prior qualifications

The admission requirements for academic year 2022-2023 for the master's programme Forensic Psychology depend on your prior qualifications. Please check below which requirements apply to you.

Graduates from a Dutch university bachelor in Psychology or Mental Health Science

You are eligible for admission to this master's programme.

Graduates from a relevant non-Dutch bachelor's programme

You are eligible for admission if you have a university bachelor's degree with the following subjects relevant to this master's programme:

- Basic training in clinical interviewing skills
- Basic training in psychological assessment
- Basic training in research methodology and statistical analysis
- Basic training in psychopathology

Additional requirements

Language requirements for English-language master 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?

YesNoUndo

Prospective students who received their prior education in a non-EU/EEA country (handling fee)

Prospective students applying for this study programme who received their prior 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. 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 passport picture***
The passport picture must satisfy certain requirements.
- **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 certified copy of your transcript of records**

- **A certified copy of your bachelor's diploma**
If you have not graduated yet, you can upload the official transcript of records of your bachelor's programme.
- **A 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 UM and why you believe that you can successfully complete the programme.
- **An Academic Background Form**
[Download the form](#), save it on your device and re-open it in order to complete it. Save the form and upload it in the MyUM portal using the category 'Academic background'.
- **Two academic references**
[Ask two \(academic\) referees to fill in the reference form](#). Make sure that you give the referees your Maastricht University student ID number and specialisation. Completed reference forms submitted before the application deadlines will be taken into account. No more than two reference forms can be submitted with your application and other references will not be considered.
Please note: your application will be assessed, even without references; however, submitted references can make an important contribution to a positive evaluation of your application.

*As a UM student it is not necessary to upload these documents in the MyUM portal. Unless your passport is not valid on 1 September 2022; in that case you do have to upload a copy of your passport.

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

- **A copy of your English language test with sufficient results** (if applicable)

Please note:

Make sure to upload the documents in the MyUM portal in **PDF** or **Word-format**. Do not upload **Zip files**, we cannot open these files.

Only **complete** registrations will be taken into consideration.

All documents must be in **English**.

Avoid last-minute application stress! Last-minute applications may delay the scheduling of a possible interview and the communication of your application outcome as well.

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. You can find more information about this here.

For the master's programme Forensic Psychology selection takes place based on your knowledge and skills. But your suitability is also important. You need an attitude and motivation that fits a programme that embraces the scientist-practitioner model. The intention of the selection procedure is to optimise the chances that you will be able to complete the programme within the time stipulated. A maximum of 24 students will be admitted.

There are two selection rounds: one in January/February and one in April/May. Both selection rounds have equal admission chances.

Every round exists of two phases.

Application phases

Phase 1, assessment of your application

After all required documents (including the reference forms) have been received, the Board of Admissions will carefully assess your application. Within six weeks after the relevant application deadline, you will be notified whether or not you have been selected for the second phase of the admission procedure.

Phase 2, interview

In the second phase of the admission procedure you will be invited for an (online) interview. On the basis of the interview, the Board of Admissions evaluates your knowledge and skills level, attitude and motivation in relation to the programme's objectives. The Board applies the following selection criteria:

- Motivation and ability to acquire knowledge in the area of forensic psychology.
- Motivation and ability to critically analyse the scientific research base in a specific forensic domain.
- Attitude and communication skills necessary for a future career in forensic settings.
- Motivation and ability to further scientific and clinical developments in the forensic field.
- Openness to learning within an international student environment.
- Excellent command of the English language.

Interviews will take place in January/February (first selection round), and April/May (second selection round).

Message about admission

Based on the documents you have submitted and the admission procedure for your chosen programme, the UM decides on whether to admit you. Once the UM has made a decision on your admissibility, you will be informed about this by email. We strive to let you know if you are admitted or not within six weeks from the application deadline. If there are too many candidates for admission, eligible candidates may be placed on a waiting list. This means that the final acceptance decision is delayed and that admission depends on the availability of places. Candidates that have been placed on the waiting list will receive regular updates on the status of their application.

Enrolment before completing prior education (zachte knip regulation)

To help students who have experienced delays in their studies due to COVID-19, we have put the 'zachte knip' regulation in place. This regulation means that you can enrol in your next education programme before you have completed your prior education.

Were you, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, unable to earn enough credits in the academic year 2021-22 to complete your prior education on time? In that case, you will be given the opportunity to conditionally start your next education programme at UM under certain terms in academic year 2022-23 (study start in September or February)

When are you eligible for the 'zachte knip'?

Would you like to go from:

- a bachelor's programme to a UM pre-master's or master's programme,
- a pre-master's or 'schakel' programme to a UM master's programme, or
- an HBO propedeuse (first-year diploma at a university of applied sciences) to a UM bachelor's programme?

[Read here](#) about the conditions for qualifying for the 'zachte knip'.

Are you already an FPN student?

Please check [AskPsy](#) for specific FPN regulations.

How and when do you file an application for the 'zachte knip'?

Beginning of July, we will let you know [here](#) how and when to apply for the 'zachte knip' regulation.