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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 Forensics, Criminology and Law for the *academic year 2022-2023*.

## 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).

## 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'.

## 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.

## Important deadlines for this study programme

*The master's programme in Forensics, Criminology and Law starts in September.*  
**The deadlines below are applicable for applying for a start in 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.

<b>Date</b>	<b>What you need to know about this date</b>
<b>1 October 2021</b>	Studielink is open for applications for the academic year 2022-2023
<b>Up to and including 1 May 2022, 23:59 CET</b>	Deadline for completing the entire application process for <b>non-EU/EEA</b> applicants (these applicants require a <a href="#">visa or residence permit</a> )
<b>Up to and including 1 June 2022, 23:59 CET</b>	Deadline for completing the entire application process for <b>EU/EEA</b> applicants

If you are unable to meet the deadlines, please contact the admissions office [admissions-law@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:admissions-law@maastrichtuniversity.nl) to discuss the possibilities.

## General requirements: prior qualifications

The admission requirements for academic year 2022/23 for the master's programme Forensics, Criminology and Law depend on your prior qualifications. Please check below which requirements apply to you.

### Graduates from a Dutch or Belgian university bachelor's or master's programme in Criminology

You are eligible for admission to the master's programme Forensics, Criminology and Law. No extra requirements apply to you.

### Graduates from an acknowledged university bachelor's or master's programme in Law

You are eligible for admission to the master's programme Forensics, Criminology and Law if you have a university bachelor's degree in Law. Most European academic law programmes give direct access to the master FCL, as well as a number of non-European Law programmes. The master coordinator has a final say in relation to the eligibility. An Introductory course in criminology, psychology and law, forensic psychiatry or forensic psychology is recommended.

### Graduates from other university bachelor's or master's programmes

If you have another educational background, it is up to the master coordinator to decide whether your academic background is suitable, and your motivation sufficient, for participation in the master FCL. If so, you will be invited to do an entrance-exam. You'll have to pass this exam to get access to the master programme.

Read more about [the Entrance exam in Forensics, Criminology and Law](#)

## 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 portrait picture**

*This 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 copy of your most recent certified grades transcript and a copy of your certified diploma if you have obtained it. If you have not graduated yet, you can upload your official grades transcript from your bachelor's programme**

- **Letter of motivation**

*All candidates must write a well-prepared and structured letter of motivation for this specific master's programme. The letter should explain your motivation for choosing this specific Master's programme. It should also include an overview of what you intend to learn and how this programme fits into your future professional plans. The letter must be dated and addressed to the Board of Admissions of the Faculty of Law.*

- **Demonstrate your Proficiency in English**

*All candidates are required to submit a language certificate (IELTS, TOEFL, or Cambridge) in order to prove their proficiency in academic English, except when they have previously completed a study programme in this language or have obtained a sufficient number of ECTS in English-taught courses.*

**Please note:** Only complete registrations will be taken into consideration. All documents must be in Dutch, English or German.

Please also send a certified copy of your diploma by regular post to:

Maastricht University

**Student Services Centre**

**Admissions & Registration**

PO Box 616  
6200 MD Maastricht  
The Netherlands

## How do we assess your application?

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

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

Note: only complete applications will be assessed. We therefore recommend that you adhere to the deadlines provided in the table under 'Important deadlines for application to this study programme' on this page. We strive to assess your application and communicate the result to you within three to four weeks.