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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 Systems Biology for the *academic year 2022-2023*.

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

## Important deadlines for study programme application

*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 1 May 2022, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing the entire application process for <b>non-EU/EEA</b> applicants ( <a href="#">these applicants require a visa or residence permit</a> ).
Up to and including 1 August 2022, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing the entire application process for <b>EU/EEA</b> applicants

### 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 2022** in the pulldown-menu, so that you will apply for the start of the next academic year.

### Office of Admissions

[fse-admissions@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:fse-admissions@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

+ 31 43 388 2226

## General requirements: prior qualifications

The admission requirements for academic year 2022/2023 for the master's programme in Systems Biology depend on your prior qualifications. Please check below which requirements apply to you.

### Graduates from other relevant bachelor's programmes

You are eligible for admission if you have:

- a bachelor's degree in a relevant field composed of at least 180 ECTS;
- at least 15 ECTS (or equivalent) in mathematics at bachelor's level. The mathematics should include the topics: Linear and/or geometric algebra, analysis and calculus, trigonometry, and basic statistics (data analysis and evaluation). This prerequisite can be waived dependent on individual backgrounds and programmes.

### [Contact us](#)

Relevant fields are:

- Biology
- Biomedical sciences
- Molecular life sciences
- Life sciences and technology
- Medical natural sciences
- Mathematics
- Informatics
- Data Science
- Physics
- Chemistry

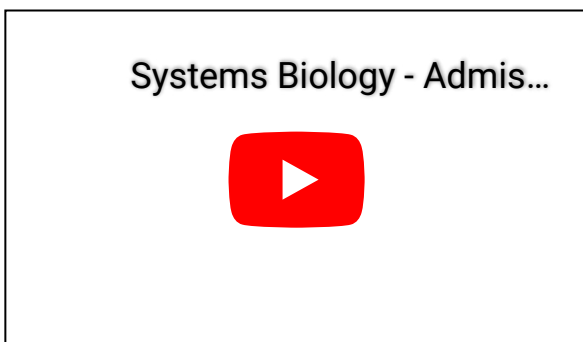
If you're unsure whether you have a bachelor's degree in a relevant field, please contact our admissions office: [fse-admissions@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:fse-admissions@maastrichtuniversity.nl)

## **UM graduates applying for a continuing master's programme**

You are eligible for admission if you have a degree in BSc Biomedical Sciences, BSc Maastricht Science Programme, BSc Data Science and Artificial Intelligence from DKE issued by Maastricht University.

## **Graduates from equivalent Dutch HBO bachelor's programmes**

You are eligible for admission, but you need additional approval by the Board of Admissions. 10-15ECTS (or equivalent) in mathematics at bachelor's level is recommended.



## **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,

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

### Exceptions to the rule

As an exception to the standard, some programmes of the Faculty of Science and Engineering apply an adjusted standard to admit students on the basis of the 'zachte knip': As an exception to the 80% standard of this regulation, it may be possible to make use of the zachte knip regulation if you are missing more ECTS. However, only if these belong to your bachelor thesis.

For more information, [please contact our admissions office.](#)

## 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.

### 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 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 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 most recent grades transcript of your current bachelor's programme**
- **A certified 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 MSc 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 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 language test with sufficient results** (if applicable)

**Please note:**

- **Only complete applications** will be reviewed.
- All documents must be **in English**.

## **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 this master's programme, selection takes place.

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 lasts approximately 30 minutes. The interview takes place at Maastricht Randwyck. If you are unable to visit Systems Biology for an in-person interview, the interview can take place via Zoom/Skype.

## **Preparation**

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

## **After the interview**

Within three weeks after the interview, the Board of Admissions will inform you whether you are invited to attend Systems Biology or not.

## **Finalisation of your application at Systems Biology**

After accepting our invitation to attend the Systems Biology master's programme and successfully completing the admissions process, you will receive an email informing you on the steps to take in order to finalise your registration at UM. Furthermore, you will receive a request to pay your tuition fee.