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[Biomedical Sciences](#)

Admission requirements

On this page, you will find all important information about the application (such as deadlines, admission requirements, required documents and application and selection assessment) for the bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences for the *academic year 2023-2024*.

Selection

The bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences (BMS) is an educational fixus programme, as of academic year 2023/2024. This fixus is introduced to guarantee the quality of education. Not everybody who meets the admission requirements will be offered a place in the study programme. A selection will be made amongst the candidates who qualify for admission.

A maximum of 400 candidates will be offered a place. This means that, provided you seriously partake in the selection procedure, you stand a realistic chance of acquiring a place. The application deadline for this programme on Studielink is set on 15 January 23:59 CET.

You only qualify for admission if you have the right previous education (diploma level) and your diploma contains specific subjects, the so-called additional admission requirements. It does not automatically mean that you qualify for admission if you have a (foreign) diploma with the right curriculum. There are strict requirements concerning the number of study hours, content, difficulty of the material dealt with, and completed examinations.

The selection for the bachelor's programme BMS consists of two parts: an online questionnaire and an online test, which are assessed together.

Please read all information on this page carefully.

Questions?

Do you have any questions regarding the **selection procedure** of Biomedical Sciences? We are happy to help you via email. Please contact us via selectionbms@maastrichtuniversity.

Do you need more information on **Studielink, the general application process, your diploma validation, visa, housing, tuition fees or student life in Maastricht**? Please contact us via study@maastrichtuniversity.nl.

Important deadlines for this study programme

Applicable when starting on 1 September 2023

It is important that you inform yourself of the deadlines that you need to meet for a successful application.

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
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Studielink is open for applications for the academic year 2023-2024 as of 1 October 2022 up to and including 15 January 2023, 23:59 CET

1 October 2022

Please note! If your diploma or degree is not on the list of European previous education (see the heading 'Applicants with a non-Dutch diploma' on this page), UM will assess on an individual basis whether your previous education makes that you qualify for admission. This assessment will take extra time. Therefore, if your diploma is not on the list, please apply as early as possible, preferably before 1 November 2022.

Please be aware that if you register after 1 November 2022, you are taking the risk that assessing whether you qualify for admission and/or you eliminating one (or more) of your deficiencies will not be completed on time. As a result, you may not be able to start the study programme in the academic year 2023-2024.

Up to and including 15 January 2023, 23:59 CET

Deadline for completing the entire application process for all applicants (both EU/EEA and non-EU/EEA applicants)

Only candidates with a completed application will receive an email with a link to the online questionnaire (part 1 of the selection procedure) on 16 January 2023

Non-EU/EEA applicants require a [visa or residence permit](#))

Deadline for submitting the completed questionnaire via Qualtrics

If you have a (foreign) diploma that requires a further 'sufficiency check', you need to upload a syllabus per subject (deficiency) that needs to be checked in the MyApplication portal. This will be communicated to you via the MyApplication portal.

Up to and including 31 January 2023, 16:00 CET

For every subject labelled as deficient, you need to present a plan of action for how you plan to eliminate that deficiency before the start of the academic year.

Please note: a sufficiency check takes time, so make sure to apply as early as possible if you expect that it is not clear right away whether you qualify for admission!

You will receive a link for an online test per email (part 2 of the selection procedure) and a link to a *practice test*

16 February 2023

With the practice test, you can check if the software (both the test software and the proctoring software) work on your computer, to prevent any problems during the actual online test.

Please note: to be able to take a proctored exam, your [computer](#) and [test surroundings](#) need to meet certain requirements: check these on time!

4 March 2023

Online selection test (part 2 of the selection procedure)

During the selection test, you will perform several online assignments, based on which we can gain insight into your competencies (cognitive and (inter)personal qualities and skills) that are central for a Biomed and on which the biomedical curriculum is focused: Biomedical Expert, Communicator, Investigator and

Date	What you need to know about this date
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15 April 2023	<p>Professional.</p> <p>Ranking numbers will be announced and Studielink will begin to issue proofs of placements</p> <p>You will receive your personal ranking number in the order we established based on how you scored during the selection, meaning the combination of part 1, the online questionnaire, and part 2, the online test. If your ranking number is lower or equal to 400, you will automatically receive a placement offer via Studielink.</p> <p>Please note: you must redeem your proof of placement in Studielink within two weeks (14 x 24 hrs). If you do not do so in time, you will forfeit the place you have been offered and the next candidate in the ranking is offered the opportunity to accept the placement.</p>
Up to and including 16 July 2023, 16:00 CET	<p>Deadline for providing evidence that you eliminated all your deficiencies</p> <p>Next, send a certified copy of the passed Boswel-Bèta, CCVX or similar exam by postal mail as soon as possible to:</p> <p>Maastricht University Student Services Centre UM Admissions Post box 616 6200 MD Maastricht The Netherlands</p> <p>If you are unable to provide evidence that you eliminated all your deficiencies before 16 July 2023, 16:00 CET, you need to send an email to selectionbms@maastrichtuniversity.nl</p>

General requirements: previous education

Whether you qualify for admission - based on the applicable requirements for the academic year 2023-2024 for the bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences - depends among other things on your previous education. Please check below which steps you need to take to qualify for admission.

Applicants with a Dutch diploma

If you hold a new-style VWO diploma with the profile *Natuur en Gezondheid* (Science and Health) including Physics or the profile *Natuur en Techniek* (Science and Engineering) including Biology then, in principle, you qualify directly for admission.

For the following Dutch diplomas, Maastricht University (UM) will assess whether you qualify for admission. This depends on your previous education, and whether this guarantees sufficient knowledge at VWO-level of the subjects Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics. You also need to be able to prove you hold:

- a Dutch VWO diploma from before 2007,
- a propaedeutic diploma from a university of applied sciences (HBO), or
- an Open University (OU) propaedeutic diploma or an OU bachelor's diploma.

Applicants with a non-Dutch diploma

If you have a non-Dutch diploma equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma you qualify for admission. Check whether your diploma is on [the list of non-Dutch diplomas equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma](#). 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, Physics, Chemistry and Biology need to have been included at VWO exam level in your previous education. Please see the [diploma requirements for these required subjects for several European diplomas](#).

Please note! If your diploma is not on this list of European diplomas, UM must first assess your diploma on an individual basis to see if you qualify for admission. This assessment will take extra time. Therefore, if your diploma is not on the list, please apply as early as possible, preferably before 1 November 2022. Please be aware that if you register after 1 November 2022, you are taking the risk that assessing whether you qualify for admission and/or you eliminating one (or more) of your deficiencies will not be completed on time. As a result, you may not be able to start the study programme in the academic year 2023-2024.

Additional subject requirements for non-Dutch applicants

To qualify for admission to the bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences, you need to have the following subjects in your previous education: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology with a duration and depth equivalent to the Dutch VWO. 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 from Geneva** with
 - Mathematics Analysis and Approaches HL or SL, or Mathematics Applications and Interpretations HL, or Mathematics SL or HL (exam before 2021).
 - Physics and 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 and/or AICE:**
 - Mathematics: GCE A or AS level
 - Physics: GCE A or AS level
 - Chemistry: GCE A level
 - Biology: GCE A level

As stated earlier: 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, 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 Boswel Bèta. The assessment takes extra time, so be sure to register as early as possible, preferably before **1 November 2022**.

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 [subject requirements for Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology](#) (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 BMS. 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 Vorsemerster at the [Rheinische Bildungszentrum](#) in Cologne for deficiencies in Biology, Physics or Chemistry.

Please be aware that if you apply after 1 November 2022, you are taking the risk that assessing whether you qualify for admission and/or you eliminating one (or more) of your deficiencies will not be completed in time. As a result, you may not be able to start the programme in the academic year 2023-2024, even if you were offered and you accepted a placement for the bachelor's in Biomedical Sciences based on the selection.

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 Beta.

Uploading certificates in MyApplication portal

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

The CCVX or Boswell-Beta certificates must be received as [certified copies](#). You can send these by postal mail to:

Maastricht University
Student Services Centre
UM Admissions
Post box 616
6200 MD Maastricht
The Netherlands

If you are unable to meet all subject requirements before the start of the academic year, you need to send an email as soon as possible to selectionbms@maastrichtuniversity.nl, and we will jointly look for a possible solution. You must submit proof that you meet the statutory (further) previous education requirements 2023-2024 by 16 July 2023, 16:00 CET at the latest, so please take this into account and be sure to contact us in a timely manner.

Applying for sufficiency check

If UM determines after receiving your application that you have a (foreign) diploma that requires a further sufficiency check for one or more subjects, you need to apply for this.

You need to compile and hand in a file per subject (so for every subject for which sufficiency is not yet clear) as part of the sufficiency check. This/these separate file(s) then need to be uploaded to the MyApplication portal. This assignment is also shown as a task in the MyApplication portal: you can download a syllabus per subject, fill it in and upload it again.

Be aware: the deadline for handing in the required sufficiency check is **1 June 2023**. Requests handed in after this date will not be taken into consideration.

Colloquium Doctum: not admissible based on your diploma and at least 21 years old

Not the right diploma:

Does your completed previous education (diploma) not offer a sufficient basis to qualify for admission to the bachelor's programme BMS at Maastricht University, but you are at least 21 years at the start of the programme? Then you might be eligible to take a special entrance exam, the so-called 'Colloquium Doctum'.

FHML does not organise a Colloquium Doctum exam, but can provide a Colloquium Doctum statement. To qualify for a Colloquium Doctum statement, you must demonstrate with certificates that, other than on the basis of your previous education, you have mastered the following subjects: the English language, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology at Dutch VWO level new style.

If you think you qualify for a Colloquium Doctum statement, please contact sc-ba-fhml@maastrichtuniversity.nl. If there is any doubt about your sufficiency, we will refer you to the Centrale Commissies Voortentamens or to Boswell Bèta for the subjects Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology. For the subject English (as it is an English-language programme), we will refer you to Babel or the UM Language Centre, if the questionnaire below show that further certification is required.

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?

YesNoUndo

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. Uploading is done via the 'MyApplication portal'. You need to do the following in the MyApplication portal:

- Upload a **recent portrait picture**
- Upload a **copy of your valid passport or your EU identity card**
- Upload a **copy of your most recent grades transcript and a copy of your diploma if you have obtained it**

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 prior 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 bachelor's programmes' on this webpage to find out if you do or don't meet the language requirements. And - in case you don't meet the language requirements - what diploma/certificate you need to obtain and hand in to prove your proficiency

You must submit evidence that you satisfy all the statutory previous education and/or additional subject requirements 2023-2024 by 16 July 2023, 16:00 CET at the latest. You can do this by means of a VWO diploma with the required final exam subjects, or an equivalent diploma, or a diploma supplemented with CCVX or Boswell Bèta certified certificates. If you are unable to demonstrate that you have rectified any deficiencies by 16 July 2023, 16:00 CET at the latest, for example because your exam results will only be issued after 16 July 2023, then you must send an email to selectionbms@maastrichtuniversity.nl. Bear in mind that institutes such as [CCVX](#) and [Boswell Bèta](#) have a maximum of 20 working days to make the result known. Therefore, make sure you take your exam on time.

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.

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 below.

Maastricht University (UM) will first assess whether your prior education makes that you qualify for admission to the bachelor's programme to which you applied. Therefore, it is very important that you check beforehand whether meet the admission requirements and that you have an obtainable

plan to eliminate any deficiencies in your previous education.

Selection procedure

If you qualify for admission, you will follow the selection and application procedure, as this is a fixus programme. It is important that you keep regular track of your messages and to-do-list in Studielink and the MyApplication portal and that you follow the instructions carefully and timely.

Round one: questionnaire

This concerns an online questionnaire administered via Qualtrics. To access this questionnaire, you will receive an email with a link. The questionnaire will ask, among other things, about your previous education grades.

The selection committee will assess the completed online questionnaire. The results will be combined with the results of part 2, so you will not receive a separate result for the first part. You will automatically be invited to the second part of the selection: the selection test.

Round 2: selection test

The online selection test is taken on **4 March 2023**. During the selection test, you will perform several online assignments, based on which we gain insight into your cognitive and (inter)personal skills that are central for an accomplished Biomed: Biomedical Expert, Communicator, Investigator and Professional.

Assessment and ranking

Based on the results obtained during the selection procedure, the selection committee will produce a ranking of the candidates. This ranking is submitted to Studielink. On **15 April 2023**, you will be informed about your ranking number and Studielink will begin to issue proofs of placements.

You must redeem your proof of placement in Studielink **within two weeks (within 14 x 24 hrs)**. If you do not do so by the deadline, you will forfeit the place you have been offered. Therefore, keep a close eye on your email from 15 April 2023 onwards. This is an absolute deadline and if you accept an offered placement too late, you are really too late.

Please note: depending on the COVID-19 infections and measures, decisions can be taken to adjust the selection procedure. In this is the case, all candidates will be informed appropriately.

Please note: receipt and acceptance of a proof of placement cannot be considered as official Proof of Admission for the bachelor's programme in Biomedical Sciences at Maastricht University (UM). The application is not complete until you have met all admission, application and enrolment requirements, including the timely elimination of any deficiencies and payment. See the heading 'General requirements: previous education' for information on deficiencies.

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 obtain a predetermined number of study credits to be admitted to the second year of the programme. The number of credits that must be earned, is documented in the Education and Examination Regulations (EER) of each study programme.