

**Regulations on admission to the master's degree program  
Master of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine  
of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences  
of the University of Cologne**

from 27.06.2023

On the basis of Section 2, Paragraph 4, Sentence 1 of the Act on the Universities of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (Higher Education Act - HG) in the version of the Higher Education Act (HZG NRW) of September 16, 2014 (GV. NRW. p. 547), last amended by Article 1 of the Act concerning the Membership of University Hospitals in the Employers' Association of the State of 30. June 2022 (GV. NRW. S. 780b), and of § 4 paragraph 1 of the Examination Regulations for the Master's Degree Program Master of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne of June 27, 2023 (Amtliche Mitteilungen xx/2023), the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne issues the following regulations:

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**§ 1**

**Scope of application**

These regulations govern access and admission to the Master's degree program Master of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne (hereinafter: Master's degree program).

**§ 2**

**Access requirements**

(1)<sup>1</sup> The admission requirement for the Master's degree program, even if applying to a higher semester, is a first professional degree in a Bachelor's degree program in biochemistry or in a biochemistry-related natural science program with an overall grade of at least "good" and a duration of at least six semesters in which at least 180 credit points were acquired, or an equivalent relevant degree program. <sup>2</sup>As part of the first professional qualification, at least

36 credit points must have been earned in the field of biochemistry, molecular medicine or cell biology, in the courses of which mainly experimental work was carried out. <sup>3</sup>Degrees obtained abroad are classified by the Admissions Committee on the basis of the evaluation proposals provided by the Central Office for Foreign Education in the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the anabin database.

(2)<sup>1</sup> If the underlying study program has not yet been completed at the time of application, an application is possible in deviation from paragraph 1 if at least 80 percent of the credit points to be acquired or the achievements recognized as equivalent have already been proven and all examinations have been taken by March 31 in the case of an application for the summer semester or by September 30 of the same year in the case of an application for the winter semester. <sup>2</sup>In this case, a result calculated and certified by the examination office of the Bachelor's degree program on the basis of the examinations taken up to that point shall take the place of the degree according to paragraph 1. <sup>3</sup>In this case, the further admission requirements of paragraph 1 must be fulfilled within the framework of the previous performance.

(3)<sup>1</sup> Applicants who have neither acquired their university entrance qualification nor their first professional qualification in English must provide proof of knowledge of the English language at a high level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. <sup>2</sup>This can be proven by

1. TOEFL: Paper-based 580 / Computer-based 237 / Internet-based 93,
2. IELTS test: 6.5, level of each subcomponent at least 6.0,
3. Cambridge English Qualifications: B2 First, Cambridge English Scale 175,
4. TOEIC: 460 (listening), 425 (reading) / 170 (writing), 175 (speaking) or
5. university entrance qualification from the area covered by the Basic Law, showing at least 6 years of English language instruction.

### **§ 3**

#### **Admission requirements**

(1) The selection and admission of applicants is based on the relevant provisions of the Law on Admission to University Studies in North Rhine-Westphalia, the Ordinance on the Allocation of Study Places in North Rhine-Westphalia, the Framework Regulations for the Implementation of Selection Procedures in Admission-restricted Study Programs at the University of Cologne, and the provisions of the Regulations on the Admission to Studies of Foreign Students at the University of Cologne, as amended from time to time.

(2)<sup>1</sup> The number of study places may be limited and shall be re-determined annually in this case. <sup>2</sup>If in this case the number of applicants entitled to admission exceeds the number of available study places, the selection among the applicants shall be made according to the overall grade of the first degree qualifying for admission or, in the case of an application according to § 2 paragraph 2, according to the grade point average achieved at the time of application. <sup>3</sup>In the event of equal ranking, the order of admission shall be decided by lot.

(3) Admission to the master's degree program shall be denied if

1. the access requirements according to § 2 are not fulfilled or
2. the applicant has already obtained the degree of Master of Science or an equivalent

degree in the same course of study at a higher education institution within the area of application of the Basic Law, or

3. the applicant has definitively failed an examination required by the examination regulations in the Master's degree program in question at a higher education institution within the area of application of the Basic Law; this applies accordingly to degree programs that have a considerable proximity in terms of content.

#### **§ 4**

##### **Application, application deadline**

(1)<sup>1</sup> The application for admission must be submitted by July 15 of a year in the case of an application for the winter semester, and by January 15 of a year in the case of an application for the summer semester for the master's degree program (cut-off deadlines). <sup>2</sup>It is only valid for the allocation of study places for the coming semester.

(2) The application shall be accompanied by the following documents in German or English or a certified translation:

1. Evidence of the access requirements according to § 2,
2. Presentation of the (previous) course of studies (Transcript of Records),
3. Admissions Committee application form completed in full in English, and
4. tabular curriculum vitae in English.

(3)<sup>1</sup> For applicants who obtain their first professional degree in the current summer or winter semester, it is sufficient, in deviation from paragraph 2, number 1 in conjunction with § 2, paragraph 1, to submit the grades obtained by January 15 or July 15 with an indication of the grade point average as well as proof of the expected date of acceptance of the outstanding examinations. <sup>2</sup>The certificate of the first professional qualification must be submitted by June 30 in the case of an application for the summer semester or by December 31 in the case of an application for the winter semester. <sup>3</sup>If the certificate is not submitted in time, enrollment in the master's program expires.

(4)<sup>1</sup> Applications are submitted via the campus management system of the University of Cologne. <sup>2</sup>Applicants who have not acquired their first professional qualification within the area of application of the German Basic Law (Grundgesetz) must apply to the Arbeits- und Servicestelle für internationale Studienbewerbungen (uni-assist) e.V. in good time in advance for pre-verification documentation (VPD) of the application documents on the basis of their current certificate documents and submit the result of this application together with the application via the campus management system.

#### **§ 5**

##### **Approval / rejection notice**

(1)<sup>1</sup> Applicants will be informed of an existing offer of admission via the e-mail address they submitted as part of their application and via the application portal of the University of Cologne. <sup>2</sup>The applicant will be given a period of seven days in which to submit a declaration of acceptance of the admission offer. <sup>3</sup>The period begins with the announcement of the offer of admission. <sup>4</sup>If the declaration of acceptance of the offer of admission is not made or not

made within the deadline, the places that have become free will be reallocated. <sup>5</sup>The applicants are excluded from the further procedure.

(2)<sup>1</sup> If not all of the applicants admitted in accordance with paragraph 1 declare their acceptance of the offer of admission within the set deadline, a corresponding number of applicants who have not initially received an offer of admission will be admitted in the order of the rank they have achieved in accordance with § 3 paragraph 2 (move-up procedure), insofar as free study places are available within the framework of the number of admission places set by the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia for the Master's degree program. <sup>2</sup>Applicants will be informed of an existing offer of admission in the move-up procedure via the e-mail address they provided in their application as well as via the application portal of the University of Cologne. <sup>3</sup> The applicant will be given a period of four days in which to submit a declaration of acceptance of the existing offer of admission. <sup>4</sup>The period begins with the announcement of the offer of admission. <sup>5</sup>If the declaration of acceptance of the offer of admission is not made or is not made within the deadline, the study places that have become free will be reallocated in accordance with sentence 1. <sup>6</sup>The applicants are excluded from the further procedure.

(3) Applicants who cannot be admitted at the end of the selection procedure will receive a rejection notice with instructions on how to appeal.

(4) The admission of secondary students is governed by the enrollment regulations of the University of Cologne as amended from time to time.

## **§ 6**

### **Withdrawal, revocation**

<sup>1</sup>Admission can be withdrawn or revoked if it subsequently transpires that the applicant was wrongly admitted to the program, in particular if this was done on the basis of false information in the application process. <sup>2</sup>If the applicant has already been enrolled, he or she will be de-registered from the Master's program. <sup>3</sup>The person concerned must be given the opportunity to comment before a decision is made by the admissions committee.

## **§ 7**

### **Admissions Committee**

<sup>1</sup>The Admissions Committee for the Master's program Master of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences is responsible for the application procedure. <sup>2</sup>For the meeting of the Admissions Committee, expert opinions of university professors can be obtained.

## **§ 8**

### **Entry into force, publication**

<sup>1</sup>These regulations come into force on the day following their publication in the Official Notices of the University of Cologne. <sup>2</sup>It applies for the first time for admission to the winter semester 2023/2024.<sup>3</sup> At the same time, the Regulations on Admission to the Master's Program Master of Biochemistry of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne of 04.04.2022 (Official Notices 24/2022) shall cease to apply.

Issued on the basis of the resolution of the Narrow Faculty of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of 20.04.2023 and after examination of the legality by the Rectorate of 13.06.2023.

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The Vice Dean for Research  
of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences  
of the University of Cologne  
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