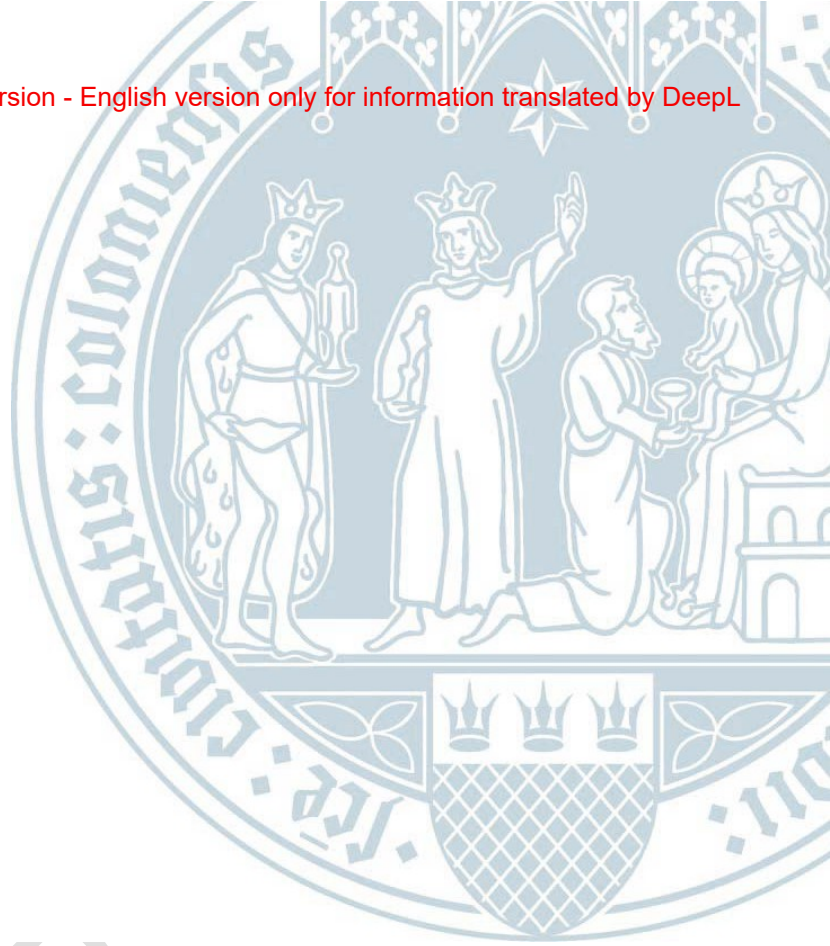


AM 34/2024



Official Notices 34/2024

**Regulations on admission to the Master's degree programs MSc. in Genetics and Biology of Aging and Regeneration, MSc. in Computational Biology, MSc. in Ecology, Evolution and Environment, MSc. in Molecular Plant and Microbial Sciences and MSc. in Neuroscience at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne
from 6.6.2024**

Universität zu Köln



Obligation to give notice of defects:

In accordance with Section 12 (5) of the North Rhine-Westphalia Higher Education Act (Hochschulgesetz-HG NRW), the violation of procedural or formal regulations of the Higher Education Act or the regulations or other autonomous law of the university can no longer be asserted after the expiry of one year since the publication of these regulations, unless,

1. the order has not been duly published,
2. the Rectorate has previously objected to the resolution of the body adopting the regulations,
3. the formal or procedural defect has been notified to the university in advance, stating the violated legal provision and the fact giving rise to the defect, or
4. no reference was made to the legal consequences of the exclusion of complaints when the order was published.

I N P R E S S U M

Publisher: UNIVERSITY OF
COLOGNE THE
RECTOR

Address: ALBERTUS-MAGNUS-
PLATZ 50923 COLOGNE

Publication date : JUNE 7, 2024

**Regulations for admission to the Master of Science in Genetics and
Biology of Aging and Regeneration, Master of Science in
Computational Biology, Master of Science in Ecology, Evolution and
Environment, Master of Science in Molecular Plant and Microbial
Sciences and Master of Science in Neuroscience of the Faculty of
Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne**

from 06.06.2024

Based on Section 2 (4) sentence 1 of the Higher Education Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia (Higher Education Act - HG) in the version of the Higher Education Future Act (HZG NRW) of September 16, 2014 (GV. NRW. p. 547), last amended by Article 2 of the Act Amending the Hospital Organization Act of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Higher Education Act, the University Hospital Ordinance and the Act Implementing the Transplantation Act of December 5, 2023 (GV. NRW. p. 1278), and Section 4 (1) of the Examination Regulations for the Master of Science in Genetics and Biology of Aging and Regeneration, Master of Science in Computational Biology, Master of Science in Ecology, Evolution and Environment, Master of Science in Molecular Plant and Microbial Sciences and Master of Science in Neuroscience of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne of 6 June 2024 (Amtliche Mitteilungen 33/2024), the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne issues the following regulations:

Table of contents

- § 1 Scope of application
- § 2 Admission requirements
- § 3 Admission requirements
- § 4 Application , application deadline
- § 5 Admission / rejection notice
- § 6 Withdrawal , revocation
- § 7 Admissions Committee
- § 8 Entry into force, publication
- Appendix

§ 1

Area of application

These regulations govern access and admission to the Master of Science in Genetics and Biology of Aging and Regeneration, Master of Science in Computational Biology, Master of Science in Ecology, Evolution and Environment, Master of Science in Molecular Plant and Microbial Sciences and Master of Science in Neuroscience of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne (hereinafter: Master's degree programs).

§ 2

Admission requirements

(1) ¹The admission requirement for the Master's degree programs, even if applying for a higher semester, is a first professionally qualifying degree in a mathematics, natural sciences or engineering degree program with an overall grade of at least 2.7 and a duration of at least six semesters in which at least 180 credit points were earned, or an equivalent relevant degree program. ²As part of the first professionally qualifying degree, additional credits must have been earned to the extent specified in the appendix. ³Degrees obtained abroad are classified by the admissions committee on the basis of the assessment proposals provided by the Central Office for Foreign Education at the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs within the anabin database.

(2) ¹If the underlying course of study 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 credits recognized as equivalent have already been proven and all examinations have been taken by 30 September of the same year. ²In this case, a result calculated and certified by the examination office of the Bachelor's degree course on the basis of the examinations taken up to that point shall take the place of the degree in accordance with paragraph 1. ³In this case, the further admission requirements of paragraph 1 and the appendix must be fulfilled within the scope of the previous achievements.

(3) Applicants who have not obtained their higher education entrance qualification or their first professional qualification in English must provide proof of English language proficiency at a high level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. This can be demonstrated by

- a. TOEFL: Paper-based 580 / Computer-based 237 / Internet-based 93,
- b. IELTS test: 6.5, level of each sub-component at least 6.0,
- c. Cambridge English Qualifications: B2 First, Cambridge English Scale: 175,
- d. TOEIC: 460 (listening), 425 (reading) / 170 (writing), 175 (speaking) or
- e. University entrance qualification from the area of application of the Grundgesetz, in which at least 6 years of English lessons are shown.

§ 3

Admission requirements

(1) Applicants are selected and admitted on the basis of the relevant provisions of the law on admission to higher education 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 degree programs at the University of Cologne and the provisions of the regulations on the admission of foreign students at the University of Cologne, as amended.

(2) ¹The number of study places may be limited and will be re-determined annually in this case. ²If, in this case, the number of applicants eligible for admission exceeds the number of places available, the applicants will be selected according to the overall grade of the first professionally qualifying degree or, in the case of an application in accordance with Section 2 (2), the average grade achieved at the time of application. ³In the event of equal ranking, the order of admission is determined by lot.

(3) Admission to the Master's degree program must be refused if

1. the admission requirements according to § 2 are not met or
2. the applicant has already obtained the degree of Master of Science or an equivalent degree in the same degree program at a university within the scope of the Basic Law, or
3. the applicant has definitively failed an examination required by the examination regulations in the respective Master's degree program at a higher education institution within the scope of the Grundgesetz; this applies accordingly to degree programs that have a considerable similarity in content.

§ 4

Application, application deadline

(1) ¹The application for admission for the first semester must be submitted for the Master's degree program by 15 July of each year (cut-off deadline). ²It is only valid for the allocation of study places for the coming semester. ³Applications for admission to a higher semester must be submitted for the Master's degree program by 15 September of each year (cut-off deadline). ⁴They only apply to the allocation of study places for the coming semester.

(2) The application must be accompanied by the following documents in German or English (points 1. and 3.) or in English (points 4. and 5.) or a certified translation:

1. Proof of the admission requirements according to § 2,
2. Presentation of the (previous) course of study (Transcript of Records),
3. Curriculum vitae in tabular form including two references,
4. The application form, which is made available by the Admissions Committee in an appropriate manner.

(3) ¹Notwithstanding paragraph 2 number 1 in conjunction with § 2 paragraph 1, applicants who obtain their first professionally qualifying degree in the current summer semester only need to submit proof of their achievements by July 15, stating their grade point average, as well as proof of the expected date of completion of the outstanding examinations. ²The certificate for the first professionally qualifying degree must be submitted by March 31 of the following year. ³If the certificate is not submitted on time, enrolment in the Master's degree program will expire.

(4) ¹Applications are submitted via the campus management system of the University of Cologne. ²Applicants who have not obtained their first professionally qualifying degree within the scope of the Grundgesetz must apply to the Arbeits- und Servicestelle für internationale Studienbewerbungen (uniassist) e.V. in good time in advance for a preliminary examination documentation (VPD) of the application documents for the University of Cologne on the basis of their current certificate documents and submit the result of this application with the application via the campus management system.

§ 5

Notification of approval / rejection

(1) ¹Applicants will be informed of an offer of admission via the e-mail address they provided in their application and via the application portal of the University of Cologne. ²Applicants are given a period of seven days in which to submit a declaration of acceptance of the offer of admission. ³The period begins with the announcement of the offer of admission. ⁴If the declaration of acceptance of the offer of admission is not made or not made within the deadline, the vacant study places will be reallocated. ⁵Applicants are excluded from the further procedure.

(2) ¹If 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 ranking places they have achieved in accordance with § 3 paragraph 2 (succession procedure), provided that there are free places available within the number of admissions set by the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia for the respective Master's degree program. ²Applicants will be informed of an available offer of admission in the succession procedure via the e-mail address they provided in their application and via the application portal of the University of Cologne. ³Applicants are given a period of four days in which to submit a declaration of acceptance of the offer of admission. ⁴The deadline begins with the announcement of the offer of admission. ⁵If the declaration of acceptance of the offer of admission is not made or not made within the deadline, the vacant study places will be reallocated in accordance with sentence 1. ⁶The applicants are excluded from the further procedure.

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

- (4) The authorization of secondary listeners is regulated according to the enrollment regulations of the University of Cologne as amended.

§ 6

Withdrawal, revocation

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

§ 7

Admissions Committee

¹The joint Examination Board for the Master of Science in Genetics and Biology of Aging and Regeneration, Master of Science in Computational Biology, Master of Science in Ecology, Evolution and Environment, Master of Science in Molecular Plant and Microbial Sciences and Master of Science in Neuroscience of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences (Admissions Board) is responsible for the award procedure. ²In order to assess the subject-specific admission requirements in accordance with Section 2 (1) and the Annex, expert opinions are obtained from at least two persons involved in teaching or course guidance for the specific Master's degree program, including at least one university professor. ³These persons are invited to the meeting of the admissions committee and participate in an advisory capacity.

§ 8

Entry into force, publication

¹These regulations enter into force on the day following their publication in the Official Notices of the University of Cologne. ²It applies for the first time for admission to the winter semester 2024/2025.³ At the same time, the regulations on admission to the Master of Science in Genetics and Biology of Aging and Regeneration, Master of Science in Computational Biology, Master of Science in Ecology, Evolution and Environment, Master of Science in Molecular Plant and Microbial Sciences and Master of Science in Neuroscience of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the University of Cologne dated 11 July 2022 (Official Notices 49/2022) shall cease to apply.

Issued on the basis of the resolution of the Engeren Fakultät of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of 25.04.2024 and after examination of legality by the Rectorate of 06.05.2024.

Cologne, 06.06.2024

The Dean
of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of
the University of Cologne

signed.

i.V. University Professor Dr.' Alga Zuccaro

Appendix

Services to be proven in accordance with § 2 paragraph 1

(1) Additional admission requirements for the Master of Science in Genetics and Biology of Aging and Regeneration degree program are:

- at least 40 credit points from at least three of the subject areas biochemistry, developmental/regeneration biology, genetics, immunology, molecular biology, animal physiology or cell biology,
- at least 35 further credit points in the fields of biochemistry, bioinformatics / biomathematics / computational biology, biophysics, botany / plant sciences, developmental / regeneration biology, evolutionary biology, genetics, immunobiology, microbiology, molecular biology, neurobiology / neurosciences, physiology, virology, cell biology and / or zoology,
- of which at least 30 credit points in the experimental / practical field of biochemistry, developmental / regeneration biology, genetics, immunology, microbiology, molecular biology, neurobiology, physiology, virology and / or cell biology,
- at least 5 additional credit points in basic mathematics, statistics and/or physics and
- at least 10 further credit points in Fundamentals of Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry and/or Theoretical Chemistry.

(2) Additional admission requirements for the Master of Science in Computational Biology program are:

- at least 12 credit points in the fields of genetics and / or molecular biology,
- at least 60 further credit points from at least three of the subject areas of biochemistry, botany / plant sciences, developmental biology, evolutionary biology, genetics, microbiology, molecular biology, ecology, neurobiology / neurosciences, physiology or cell biology and
- at least 24 additional credit points in Fundamentals of Mathematics, Statistics, Physics, Bioinformatics and / or Biomathematics, of which at least 6 credit points in Bioinformatics / Computational Biology.

(3) Additional admission requirements for the Master of Science in Ecology, Evolution and Environment degree program are:

- at least 30 credit points in the fields of zoology and / or ecology and / or molecular biology and / or genetics,
- at least 45 additional credit points in the fields of biochemistry, bioinformatics / biomathematics, botany / plant sciences, developmental biology, microbiology, physiology and / or cell biology,

- at least 12 additional credit points from the Bachelor's thesis in the fields of ecology, zoology, biochemistry, bioinformatics / computational biology, botany / plant sciences, developmental biology, genetics, microbiology, molecular biology, neurobiology / neurosciences, physiology and / or cell biology and

- at least 5 additional credit points in mathematics and / or statistics and / or bioinformatics and / or biophysics.

(4) Additional admission requirements for the Master of Science in Molecular Plant and Microbial Sciences program are:

- at least 50 credit points from at least three of the following disciplines: biochemistry, bioinformatics / biomathematics, botany / plant sciences, developmental biology, genetics, microbiology, molecular biology, ecology, neurobiology / neurosciences, physiology or cell biology,

- of which at least 20 credit points in the experimental / practical field of biochemistry, bioinformatics / biomathematics, botany / plant sciences, developmental biology, genetics, microbiology, molecular biology, ecology, neurobiology / neurosciences, physiology and / or cell biology as well as

- at least 10 additional credit points in basic mathematics, statistics, physics, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry and / or physical chemistry.

(5) Additional admission requirements for the Master of Science in Neuroscience degree program are:

- at least 4 credit points from the fields of neurobiology / neuroscience or animal physiology,

- at least 12 additional credit points from at least two of the following disciplines: biochemistry, bioinformatics, biomathematics, developmental biology, genetics, molecular biology, cell biology, biophysics, cognitive sciences, robotics, behavioral biology or ecology,

- at least 6 credit points in the experimental / practical field of biochemistry, developmental biology, genetics, molecular biology / cell biology, neurobiology / neuroscience, psychology, experimental physics and / or chemistry as well as

- at least a further 10 credit points from the fields of mathematics, statistics, physics, physical chemistry, inorganic chemistry and/or organic chemistry.