

The English version of these regulations is a translation of the German original for information purposes only. The English version of these regulations is not legally binding. In cases of conflict, the original (German) version shall prevail.



SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS/COMPUTER SCIENCE/PHYSICS
AND THE
SCHOOL OF BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY

REGULATIONS ON ACCESS AND ADMISSION FOR THE
CONSECUTIVE MASTER'S PROGRAM IN
“NANOSCIENCES –
MATERIALS, MOLECULES AND CELLS”

Updated Version
Resolved

by the school executive board of the School of Physics in a circulation procedure on 28.02.2023
and by the school executive board of the School of Biology/Chemistry in a circulation procedure on
05.01.2023,
endorsed in the 174th meeting of the Central Commission for Teaching and Study
and Program Quality Assurance (ZSK) on 08.03.2023
resolved at the 210th meeting of the Senate on 12.04.2023
approved by email by the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture (MWK) on 13.04.2023, file no.:
27.5-74509-128.765
Osnabrück University official gazette No. 03/2023 dated 02.05.2023, p. 470.

Amendments agreed

by the school executive board of the School of Biology/Chemistry in a circulation procedure on
06.02.2024
and at the 5th meeting of the school executive board of the School of Mathematics/Computer Sci-
ence/Physics on 20.02.2024
endorsed at the 181th meeting of the Central Commission for Teaching
and Study and Program Quality Assurance (ZSK) on 13.03.2024x
resolved at the 216th Meeting of the Senate on 03.04.2024
approved by email by the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture (MWK) on 09.04.2024, file no.:
27.5-74509-026,765
Osnabrück University official gazette No. 03/2024 dated 30.04.2024, p. 128

The English version of these regulations is a translation of the German original for information purposes only. The English version of these regulations is not legally binding. In cases of conflict, the original (German) version shall prevail.

Contents:

Section 1 Applicability.....	3
Section 2 Explanatory Notes	3
Section 3 Digitalization, Data Protection, E-Files, Communications, Duty of Cooperation.....	3
Section 4 Admission Requirements	4
Section 5 Program Commencement, Deadlines and Format of Applications for Admission	6
Section 6 Selection Procedure	8
Section 7 Selection Committee	8
Section 8 Notification of Acceptance, Succession Procedures, Completion of Procedures.....	9
Section 9 Admission to Higher Semesters	9
Section 10 Entry into Force	10

The English version of these regulations is a translation of the German original for information purposes ³ only. The English version of these regulations is not legally binding. In cases of conflict, the original (German) version shall prevail.

The Senate of Osnabrück University, in its 216th meeting on 03.04.2024 in accordance with Section 18 subsection 8 of the Lower Saxony Higher Education Law (NHG) in the version dated 26.02.2007 (Official Gazette (GVBl.) p. 69 of 01 March 2007), updated version dated 23.03.2022 (GVBl.11/2022 p. 218), and Section 7 of the Lower Saxony University Admissions Law (NHZG) of 29 January 1998 (Lower Saxony GVBl. No. 3/1998) in the version dated 19 November 2019 (Lower Saxony GVBl. no. 19/2019), passed the following regulations.

Section 1 **Applicability**

- (1) These regulations specify the terms of access and admission to the Master's program in "Nanosciences – Materials, Molecules and Cells" and its three specialist fields Life Science, Chemistry and Physics.
- (2) The admission requirements are set out in Section 4 of these regulations.
- (3) ¹If the degree program is subject to admission restrictions and a greater number of applicants fulfill the admission requirements than there are places on the program, then these places shall be awarded on the basis of the university's internal selection procedures (Section 6). ²If there are not more applicants than there are available places on the program, then a selection procedure does not take place.

Section 2 **Explanatory Notes**

- (1) Osnabrück University's **application portal** (hisinone.uos.de for applicants) is an online portal which handles applications and admission procedures for Osnabrück University.
- (2) The core function of the organization **uni-assist e.V.** is the assessment of international school and higher education certification in order to establish its formal equivalence for the German education system.
- (3) **Access** means the general entitlement to study at Osnabrück University.
- (4) **Admission** means that a place at the university may be offered to an applicant within the framework of an allocation process.

Section 3 **Digitalization, Data Protection, E-Files, Communications, Duty of Cooperation**

- (1) ¹Admission procedures and other procedures set out in these regulations relating to studying and learning are automated and digitalized. ²If the allocation of places at the university is coordinated through the Dialogue-Oriented Service Provider (DoSV) and the application portal "Hochschulstart", then the regulations of the Lower Saxony university admissions directive (NHZVO) take precedence. ³If applicants can credibly demonstrate that their participation in automated and digital procedures is unreasonable or impossible, then they shall be permitted to submit applications and documentation in paper form to the admissions office. ⁴Provisions governing deadlines remain unaffected.
- (2) ¹In the course of the procedures set out in subsection 1, personal data will be collected and processed for the purposes of completing the required tasks. ²Particulars are set out in the up-to-date version of Osnabrück University's Data Processing Directive which was passed by the Senate in accordance with Section 17 Lower Saxony Higher Education Law (NHG). ³In accordance with these regulations, the university deals with the collection, storage, processing and archiving of digitally submitted documentation and data in an electronic file (e-file) as set out in Section 10 subsection 1 of the Lower Saxony law on digital administration and information security (NDIG). ⁴This is also the case for digital forms and, depending on the degree of technological implementation, digital identification.

The English version of these regulations is a translation of the German original for information purposes ⁴ only. The English version of these regulations is not legally binding. In cases of conflict, the original (German) version shall prevail.

- (3) ¹The contact email address to be used by applicants shall be the email address provided to applicants by this application portal. ²Applicants are obliged to regularly check their email accounts linked to their respective email address for incoming mail. ³Should applicants wish to set up an automatic forwarding mechanism for their incoming email to an additional email address which is provided by a third party, then they do so at their own risk.
- (4) ¹With the consent of the applicants, electronic administrative files may be disclosed in accordance with Section 9 Online Access Act (OZG) if they are accessed by the applicant or their authorized representatives using publicly accessible networks from their mailboxes in accordance with Section 2 subsection 7 OZG, which are part of a user account in accordance with Section 2 subsection 5 OZG. ²The university shall ensure that access may only be granted following authentication by the authorized person and that the electronic administrative file may be saved by them. ³The administrative file shall be deemed to have been issued on the third day after it is made available for retrieval. ⁴In case of doubt, Osnabrück University is obliged to prove the issuance and the time of issuance should a legal fiction arise. ⁵Applicants or their authorized representatives shall be informed of the possibility for retrieval no later than the day upon which administrative files are made available for retrieval using the address they have provided for this purpose. ⁶If retrieval takes place before the new disclosure of the administrative file, the day of the first retrieval remains decisive for the receipt. ⁷As long as the user account is set up in accordance with Section 2 subsection 2 OZG or no declaration of consent is extant in accordance with sentence 1, then Section 1 subsection 1 Lower Saxony Administrative Procedure Act (NVwVfG) in conjunction with Section 41 Federal Administrative Procedure Act (VwVfG) prevails.
- (5) ¹Notifications about individual personal information relating to the application process shall be made available to applicants via the Osnabrück University application portal. ²As a rule, applicants shall be notified of the existence of new messages by email via the contact email address in accordance with subsection 3. ³Applicants are obliged to check regularly for the arrival of new messages in the application portal and in doing so to contribute to the functioning of the automated and digitalized operative processes used by Osnabrück University. ⁴The use of the application portal is exclusively for the purpose of processing applications to Osnabrück University. ⁵In the event of improper use, user access to content may be either temporarily or permanently limited or completely suspended.

Section 4 Admission Requirements

- (1) ¹In order to be admitted to the Master's program in "Nanosciences – Materials, Molecules and Cells", the applicant must
- have successfully completed a minimum six-semester Bachelor's degree program or equivalent program in biology, chemistry, physics or material sciences with a specialization in the natural sciences or a dual-major Bachelor's degree in mathematics-natural sciences with a specialization in biology, chemistry or physics or have completed a comparable program at a German university or a university abroad which is in one of the Bologna-signatory countries to a total of at least 180 ECTS credit points, or
 - hold a comparable qualification in a three-year-long program of study in a comparable or closely-related field from another university abroad that is not in one of the Bologna-signatory countries; equivalence of non-German qualifications is determined in accordance with the assessment proposals of the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) at the Administrative Office of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK);
 - not have irrevocably failed a Master's examination or a comparable examination in a comparable specialist subject nor lost their right of examination entry at a German university or at a university abroad that is in one of the Bologna-signatory countries or at any other university abroad; and
 - not have already successfully completed a Master's examination or a comparable examination in a comparable specialist subject at a German university or at a university abroad that is in one of the Bologna-signatory countries or at any other university abroad, and

The English version of these regulations is a translation of the German original for information purposes only. The English version of these regulations is not legally binding. In cases of conflict, the original (German) version shall prevail.

e) demonstrate language proficiency in accordance with subsection 2(d).

(2) ¹The degree program in accordance with subsection 1 letters a) and b) is considered relevant and comparable when students

a) seeking to take the specialization in **Life Science** can demonstrate that they have completed modules/courses to a total of at least 80 ECTS credit points (including a Bachelor's thesis) in **Biology** and at least 30 ECTS credit points in an additional subject or several additional subjects from the fields of Mathematics and/or Computer Science and/or the Natural Sciences and/or Technology.

b) seeking to take the specialization in **Chemistry** can demonstrate that they have completed modules/courses to a total of at least 80 ECTS credit points (including a Bachelor's thesis) in **Chemistry** and at least 30 ECTS credit points in an additional subject or several additional subjects from the fields of Mathematics and/or Computer Science and/or the Natural Sciences and/or Technology.

c) seeking to take the specialization in **Physics** can demonstrate that they have completed modules/courses to a total of at least 80 ECTS credit points (including a Bachelor's thesis) in **Physics** and at least 30 ECTS credit points in an additional subject or several additional subjects from the fields of Mathematics and/or Computer Science and/or the Natural Sciences and/or Technology.

and

d) can demonstrate English language proficiency at level B2 in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR); English language proficiency is considered to have been established if

- the relevant level of English proficiency was already an admission requirement for the earlier Bachelor's degree, or
- the applicant has already successfully completed an English-language undergraduate or graduate degree program, or
- English was the language of the education system of the applicant at the time they earned their higher education entrance qualification, or
- the applicant has passed a language test at level B2 (CEFR) (for possible language tests, see www.uni-osnabrueck.de/spachnachweise).

²In cases of doubt, the selection committee (Section 7) shall decide about an applicant's language proficiency.

(3) ¹The decision about whether an earlier degree program was relevant and comparable is taken by the selection committee. ²A positive decision may be issued with the proviso that the applicant must take catch-up courses to a total of 15 credit points within two semesters of commencing their Master's studies. ³The catch-up courses an applicant is required to take in accordance with sentence 2 are decided by the selection committee. ⁴The catch-up modules an applicant is required to take by the selection committee in accordance with sentence 2 shall not be accredited towards the Master's program. ⁵Any requirements of this kind do not appear on the Master's certificate, do not appear on the transcript of records, and are not included in overall grading. ⁶Upon application, the courses may be certified separately. ⁷If the requirements laid down by the admission committee are not completed within the period of time stipulated in sentence 2 and if the applicant is responsible, then their registration at the university shall be terminated upon expiry of the deadline (Section 9 subsection 1 no. 4 in conjunction with Section 4 subsection 4 sentence 2 no. 1 and sentence 3 of the Admission Regulations of Osnabrück University).

(4) ¹Notwithstanding subsection 1 applicants whose degree certification has not yet been issued at the time of their application may be awarded provisional admission if they have earned at least 150 credit points and if their progress in their degree program thus far and especially with respect to their examination results indicates that they will have completed their degree at the latest by the end of the first semester of their Master's program. ²An average grade shall be calculated from the grades of the courses which are relevant to the applicant's eligibility for entry; this grade is used in the

The English version of these regulations is a translation of the German original for information purposes only. The English version of these regulations is not legally binding. In cases of conflict, the original (German) version shall prevail.

selection procedure irrespective of whether it deviates from the final result of the Bachelor's examination. ³This means that applicants must have completed all credits for the Bachelor's degree or the comparable qualification by the end of their first semester in the Master's program, namely by March 31st for students commencing their studies in the winter semester and by September 30th for students commencing their studies in the summer semester. ⁴The certificate for the applicant's Bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification must be uploaded to Osnabrück University's application portal by April 15th for applications for commencement in the winter semester or by October 15th for applications for commencement in the summer semester. ⁵If the certificate is not uploaded by the deadline and if the provisionally admitted person is responsible, then their registration at the university shall be terminated upon expiry of the deadline (Section 19 subsection 6 sentence 3 no. 2 NHG).

- (5) Applicants who do not fulfill the language proficiency requirements in accordance Section 4 subsection 2 letter d) may be admitted to the program with the proviso that they submit certification of having acquired the necessary language proficiency upon commencement of their studies to the application portal of Osnabrück University by September 30th for commencement in the winter semester and by March 31st for commencement in the summer semester.

Section 5 Program Commencement, Deadlines and Format of Applications for Admission

- (1) The Master's program in "Nanosciences – Materials, Molecules and Cells" commences in the winter semester and in the summer semester.
- (2) ¹Applications for admission shall be submitted online using the application portal of Osnabrück University notwithstanding Section 3 subsection 1 sentence 2 for intended commencement in the winter semester by July 15th, and for intended commencement in the summer semester by January 15th of any given year. ²Overseas applicants in possession of non-German certification shall apply online by June 15th or December 15th respectively of any given year using the application portal of the service agency "uni-assist e.V.". ³Documents in accordance with subsections 3 and 4 shall be uploaded to the application portal of "uni-assist e.V.". ⁴An application is only relevant for the places on a program for the single admission date in question.
- (3) ¹An application shall include
1. Surname, all given names listed on the applicant's identity document, the applicant's current correspondence address, date of birth, place of birth and nationality/nationalities, details of the applicant's desired program of study and desired semester of study, as well as details
 2. of the applicant's first degrees which are recognized professional qualifications,
 3. and information on the degree programs, joint degree programs or courses and the periods of study the applicant has already engaged in at Osnabrück University and/or at other institutes of higher education,
 4. and information pertaining to whether the applicant has irrevocably failed an examination in their chosen program of study or a comparable program of study which is mandatory according to the applicable examination regulations for that program or the final examination, and
 5. the applicant's favored specialization in accordance with Section 1 subsection 1.
- (4) ¹To complete the application for admission, applicants shall upload the required documentation in accordance with sentence 3 letters a) to f) in PDF format to the application portal of Osnabrück University. ²Osnabrück University reserves the right to check documentation at random and to require applicants to submit originals or verified documents.
- ³Applicants shall submit:
- a) their degree certificate for their completed degree course in accordance with Section 4 subsection 1 letter a) or letter b), or

The English version of these regulations is a translation of the German original for information purposes only. The English version of these regulations is not legally binding. In cases of conflict, the original (German) version shall prevail.

insofar as their degree certificate is not yet in their possession, certification of the examination credits they have already acquired over the course of their Bachelor's degree or a comparable program of study (transcript of records) and their average grade; if the certification does not indicate an average grade, then additional certification is required; if overseas certification only lists individual grades, then an average grade is calculated in accordance with the resolution of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (Kultusministerkonferenz) entitled "Agreement on the Setting of the Overall Grade for Overseas Higher Education Entry Certificates" [Vereinbarung über die Festsetzung der Gesamtnote bei ausländischen Hochschulzugangszugnissen] in its up-to-date version.

- c) a transcript of records for their Bachelor's degree program or for the comparable program of study – insofar as the applicant has not completed their studies at Osnabrück University – in order to demonstrate their suitability to study their chosen course of study in accordance with Section 4 subsection 2 letters a) to c); if possible, this should include the permanent Internet address containing the module descriptions for all of the course credits (module catalogue) listed in the applicant's certificates and other certification;
- d) supporting documents in accordance with Section 4 subsection 2 letter d);
- e) upon application for admission to a higher semester of study, a course file ["Studienbuch"] and/or transcript of records, enrollment certificates, documents of withdrawal (where applicable) from all previously attended institutes of higher education, and documentation certifying any preliminary, intermediate, module, module component or final examinations taken,
- f) a statement of preference relating to their favored area of specialization in accordance with Section 1 subsection 1.

⁴Applicants shall upload to the portal

- a) a declaration stating that they have not irrevocably failed a Master's examination or a comparable examination in a comparable subject area and that they have not lost their right of examination entry,
- b) a declaration stating that they have not already passed a Master's examination or a comparable examination in a comparable subject area,
- c) a declaration stating that they have taken note of and accepted the data protection guidelines,
- d) a declaration regarding Section 3 subsection 4 sentence 1,
- e) a declaration on their participation in any succession procedures, and
- f) a statement of assurance confirming the correctness and completeness of all information uploaded to the application portal including a statement to the effect that any false declarations or information may lead to the rescission of their admission to the university.

- (5) ¹If the degree program is subject to admission restrictions, applicants may additionally upload a statement of purpose in PDF format of between 3,000 to 5,000 characters to the application portal of Osnabrück University in support of their application. ²The same applies to certification relating to internships or stays abroad, a particularly high quality of research in the Bachelor's thesis, or other achievements (publications, prizes, awards, courses passed with distinction). ³These documents may be considered in the selection procedure in accordance with Section 6
- (6) If certificates and records are not available in either the German or English languages, then these shall be translated by a sworn translator and uploaded in either German or English.
- (7) ¹Any applications which are incomplete, in an incorrect format or uploaded to the application portal of Osnabrück University's service agency "uni-assist e.V." after the deadline has passed, and if the required documentation is not uploaded completely, in the correct format and by the set deadline or if the above are not submitted by the deadline in the cases outlined in Section 3 subsection 1 sentence 2, then these applications are given no further consideration in the selection procedure.

Section 6 Selection Procedure

¹If the degree program is subject to admission restrictions and the number of applicants who meet the admission requirements is larger than the number of places available, then the selection committee convened in accordance with Section 7 decides about the admission of the applicants taking into consideration the final grade of their previous degree program and/or their average grade in accordance with Section 4 subsection 4 sentence 2 and the criteria in accordance with Section 5 subsection 5. ²For each criterion met in accordance with Section 5 subsection 5, the selection committee may increase the applicant's final grade or average grade by an increment of 0.1 grade points to a maximum of 0.6 grading points. ³With respect to the average grade, the first two places after the decimal point are taken into account and additional decimal places are disregarded without rounding. ⁴If there is no average grade on the final certificate or the other certification in accordance with Section 5 subsection 4 sentence 3 letter b), then the average grade of 4.0 shall be used for the selection procedure in accordance with Section 4. ⁵The overall grades determined in this procedure serve as the basis for ranking the applicants. ⁶If grades are the same, positions on the list are decided by the drawing of lots.

Section 7 Selection Committee

- (1) In preparation for the selection procedure, the Schools of Biology/Chemistry and School of Mathematics/Computer Science/Physics shall convene a selection committee.
- (2) ¹The "Nanosciences – Materials, Molecules and Cells" examination committee of the School of Biology/Chemistry also convenes the selection committee. ²The person who is the chairperson of the examination committee is also the chairperson of the selection committee. ³The student member sits in an advisory capacity; all other committee members are entitled to vote. ⁴The selection committee is quorate when at least one voting member from each of the participating fields of Biology, Chemistry and Physics are in attendance.
- (3) ¹Minutes shall be kept to record the meetings of the selection committee. ²These minutes shall document the key points of discussion and the resolutions of the selection committee. ³The minutes shall be signed by the chairperson and the keeper of the minutes. ⁴In addition, the provisions of the General Rules of Procedure of Osnabrück University shall be complied with where applicable.
- (4) The duties of the selection committee are:
 - a) checking the formal correctness and completeness of incoming admission applications,
 - b) checking admission requirements,
 - c) deciding whether an applicant's previous course of study in accordance with Section 4 subsections 1 and 2 is relevant and comparable,
 - d) determining the catch-up tasks to be required in accordance with Section 4 subsection 3 sentence 2
 - d) in cases of doubt, deciding whether an applicant is in possession of the required level of language proficiency in accordance with Section 4 subsection 2 letter d),
 - e) deciding about the admission or the rejection of the applicant with respect to their chosen specialization,
 - f) deciding about the admission or the rejection of the applicant based on their rank in the list of applicants.and
 - g) deciding about the admission of applicants to a higher semester (Section 9).

Section 8 Notification of Acceptance, Succession Procedures, Completion of Procedures

- (1) ¹Applicants who may be admitted as a result of the selection process receive a notification of acceptance together with their allocated specialization in accordance with Section 3 subsection 4 through the application portal of Osnabrück University. ²Insofar as the applicant's acceptance is subject to the fulfillment of additional requirements in accordance with Section 4 subsection 3 sentence 2, these shall be included on the notification of acceptance. ³The applicant is required, by the deadline set in the notification of acceptance, to declare through the application portal of Osnabrück University whether they wish to accept the place offered to them. ⁴If the applicant does not make this declaration by the deadline or in the correct format, then the notification of acceptance shall become null and void. ⁵Reference shall be made to this legal consequence and to the legal consequences arising from Section 5 subsection 7, where relevant, in the notification of acceptance. ⁶The same applies accordingly in cases in Section 3 subsection 1 sentence 2.
- (2) ¹Applicants who do not fulfill the admission requirements in accordance with Section 4 receive a rejection notification in accordance with Section 3 subsection 4 listing the reasons for their rejection. ²The rejection notification shall include details of the applicant's legal right of appeal.
- (3) ¹Applicants who cannot be offered a place in consequence of the selection procedure in accordance with Section 6 shall receive a rejection notification in accordance with Section 3 subsection 4 which states the position they were ranked at on the list and the position of the last applicant to be admitted to the program. ²The rejection notification shall include details of the applicant's legal right of appeal.
- (4) Any subsequent succession procedures shall be carried out, should not all places be allocated in the selection procedure in accordance with subsection 1, on the basis of the ranking list in accordance with Section 6 sentence 5 for those applicants who have declared their participation in the succession procedure in accordance with Section 5 subsection 4 sentence 4 letter e).
- (5) The allocation process is complete when
 - a) all available places have been allocated
 - or
 - b) all succession lists have been cleared.
- (6) ¹If there are still places available after the conclusion of the allocation process, then these are allocated by the drawing of lots. ²The application deadline shall be publicized in an appropriate manner. ³Applications for participation in the random selection process are to be submitted via Osnabrück University's online application portal; upon receiving a place through the random selection process, applicants shall upload the required documentation in accordance with Section 5 subsection 4 sentence 3 and shall submit the declarations in accordance with Section 5 subsection 4 sentence 4. ⁴Sections 3, 4, 5 and 7 apply accordingly.
- (7) In all other respects, the general provisions for admission in the admission regulations of Osnabrück University in their up-to-date version remain unaffected.

Section 9 Admission to Higher Semesters

- (1) ¹Available places in a higher semester of study with restricted admission are awarded to applicants in the following order:
 - a) applicants for whom a refusal of admission for reasons associated with their person would mean particular hardship;
 - b) applicants who in the same or a comparable program of study

- aa) have been awarded a full place through the central allocation process and who are or were already enrolled at this university on a joint degree program;
 - bb) are or were already enrolled at this university on a joint degree program;
 - cc) are or were already enrolled at a German university, a university in another member state of the European Union or in a signatory state to the Agreement on the European Economic Area;
 - dd) are or were enrolled at an overseas university not included in cc) and are in possession of German citizenship or its equivalent for the purposes of enrollment.
 - ee) have been enrolled to the first semester of study and who may be placed in a higher semester
- or
- c) can assert other reasons.

²Applicants must demonstrate that they have achieved the required level of proficiency to be placed in a higher semester.

- (2) ¹Within each of the categories listed under subsection 1 sentence 1, decisions shall be made based on the social, family and economic situation underlying the choice of location, thereafter the grade of the applicant's university entrance qualification, thereafter by the drawing of lots. ²If two applicants are ranked the same, then the average grade is decisive.
- (3) Section 8 subsection 7 applies accordingly.

Section 10 Entry into Force

¹These regulations enter into force on the day after their publication by the university. ²They first apply to the application semester subsequent to their publication. ³The previous version shall cease to be in force as of that time.