



Admissions statutes of Ulm University for the consecutive, English-taught master's programme in Physics of 13 January 2023

On the basis of § 60 (2) no. 2, § 63 (2) and § 59 (1) and (2) of the Federal State Higher Education Act (*Landeshochschulgesetz - LHG*) in the version of 1 January 2005, repeatedly and most recently amended by Article 7 of the Ordinance of 21 December 2021 (law gazette 2022 p. 1, 2), the Senate of Ulm University on 14 December 2022 adopted the following statutes for entrance to the admission-free consecutive English-taught master's degree programme in Physics at Ulm University.

§ 1 Scope of application

In the master's degree programme in Physics, no admission numbers have been set according to the applicable admission numbers ordinance (*Zulassungszahlenverordnung - ZZVO*, higher education); an entrance procedure takes place in accordance with the following provisions.

§ 2 Deadlines

Admissions take place in the winter and summer semester. The application for admission to the winter semester must be received by Ulm University by 15 May of the respective year; the application for admission to the summer semester must be received by Ulm University by 15 November of the respective year, including all required documents. These deadlines are legal deadlines; they are announced on the website of Ulm University for this degree programme.

§ 3 Form of the application

- (1) The form of the application follows the provisions on admission procedures in the applicable version of Ulm University's statutes on admission and enrolment. The documents to be submitted for the master's degree programme in Physics are announced on the respective web pages of Ulm University.
- (2) The following documents must be submitted together with the application:
 1. Proof of the requirements specified in § (4) 1 no. 1 to no. 5, in particular in the case of § (4) 1 no. 1 a) and b) the bachelor's examination certificate or comparable proof and the bachelor's degree certificate,
 2. declaration by the applicant stating whether he/she has failed at last attempt an examination required by the examination regulations at a German university in the same master's degree programme or in a related degree programme with essentially the same content or whether the right to examination no longer exists,

3. the additional documents mentioned in the current version of the statutes of Ulm University on admission and enrolment for studies, if applicable.

(3) As a rule, the application must be accompanied by

- the diploma supplement (if available),
- the transcript of records (ToR) or an excerpt of grades indicating the final grade or average grade,
- in the case of foreign certificates, a grading scale with the best grade to be awarded and the minimum passing grade for obtaining the higher education degree,
- an indication of the total number of credit points for the degree programme, and
- the module description of the bachelor's programme.

(4) The time for demonstrating the required language skills is regulated in § 6 of the Statutes on language skills required for studying at Ulm University.

(5) If these certificates and other documents to be submitted are not in German or English, an official translation into German or English must also be submitted.

§ 4 Entrance requirements

(1) Prerequisites for entrance to the master's degree programme in Physics are:

1. a bachelor's degree in physics or at least an equivalent degree from a university, a university of applied sciences, a cooperative university or a recognised foreign higher education institution in the field of physics or in a related or subject-specific course of study at the level of at least three years of study, evidenced either by

- a) an academic final examination with a bachelor's degree with an overall grade of 2.4 or better, or
- b) a bachelor's thesis graded 2.0 or better, or
- c) being in the top 20% of the applicant's year group, or, if no degree has yet been awarded,
- d) previous study and examination achievements in the amount of at least 140 ECTS credits up to the time of submission of the application with an average grade of 2.7 or better,

as well as

2. basic knowledge and competences, proven by at least 20 ECTS credits in mathematics (analysis, linear algebra, differential equations), at least 30 ECTS credits in experimental physics, at least 24 ECTS credits in theoretical physics and 17 ECTS credits in physical practical courses,

3. the ability to conduct independent scientific work, demonstrated in particular by a thesis or comparable achievement corresponding to 10 ECTS credits,
 4. in the case of applicants who have a higher education degree from a country that is not a member of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), a selection interview within the meaning of § 5 with the assessment "suitable", and
 5. adequate English language skills according to § 3 (2) of the applicable Statutes on the required language skills for studying at Ulm University.
- (2) Subject-specific degree programmes within the meaning of paragraph 1 no. 1 are degree programmes fulfilling the requirements according to paragraph 1 no. 2.
 - (3) The admissions committee shall decide on the equivalence of the bachelor's degree and the equivalence of other degree programmes not expressly mentioned in paragraph 1 no. 1. When recognising foreign degrees, the assessment proposals of the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) at the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK) as well as the agreements within the framework of higher education partnerships must be observed. For degree programmes that are not subject to the ECTS regulations (ECTS grades and credit points), the admissions committee decides whether the requirements stated in paragraph 1 are met.
 - (4) Deviations from §§ 2, 3 as well as § 4 (1) may arise for students who are in joint degree, double degree or structured exchange programmes. As a rule, the evidence is deemed to have been provided upon admission to the respective degree programme at the home university or selection by the respective cooperation programme. Insofar as contractual agreements exist in these programmes, they shall take precedence over the provisions of these statutes.
 - (5) Admission to the master's degree programme can also be applied for if the bachelor's degree cannot yet be submitted by the expiry of the application deadline according to § 2 and if it can be expected that the applicant will complete the bachelor's degree programme in good time before the start of the master's degree programme on the basis of previous studies, in particular the previous study and examination achievements. In this case, the preliminary average grade according to § 4 (1) no. 1 d) can be considered for the admission decision.
 - (6) Admission to the master's degree programme can also be applied for if the proof under § 4 (1) no. 2 cannot be submitted by the expiry of the application deadline as defined in § 2.

§ 5 Selection interview

- (1) The selection interview is open to applicants who have a higher education degree from a country that is not a member of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and who have applied for a place in due time and form.
- (2) The admissions committee or a selection committee appointed by it conducts the selection interview in English. The selection committee consists of at least two professors in higher education who are experts in the field.

Ulm University will informally notify the applicants at least one week in advance about the dates and the place of the interviews as well as the form of examination. The selection interview can also be conducted as a video conference. The basis of the interview is a question guide set by the admissions committee or the selection committee.

- (3) The selection interview is conducted as an individual interview. A selection interview lasts a minimum of 10 minutes and a maximum of 20 minutes per applicant.
- (4) The selection interview is to show whether the applicant is academically qualified for (subject-specific aptitude) and interested in (motivation) the master's degree programme. For this purpose, the knowledge and competences according to § 4 (1) no. 2, the content of the bachelor's thesis, the personal motivation to study for the master's degree, and the study objectives are discussed and evaluated in the interview. Applicants should also demonstrate to which extent they can use existing previous experience, in particular relevant stays abroad, additional qualification features, internships and further training as well as their interests in relation to the master's degree programme.
- (5) After the interview, each member of the admissions committee or the selection committee evaluates the applicant according to subject-specific aptitude and motivation for the master's degree programme. For this purpose, the three assessment parts "subject-specific aptitude", "content of the bachelor's thesis" and "motivation" are formed. Each individual assessment part is to be graded by each member on a grading scale of 1.0 to 5.0. Based on the individual grades of the members, the arithmetic mean is calculated forming the overall grade according to this scale:

from 1.0 up to and including 3.0 = average ("suitable")

below 3.0 = below average ("not suitable")

If the members of the selection committee award the selection interview a minimum grade of 3.0, the applicant is deemed to be "suitable". If the applicant is awarded a overall grade of below 3.0, the applicant is deemed to be "unsuitable".

- (6) A member of the admissions committee or the selection committee must prepare a record of the selection interview, which must contain information on the name of the applicant, the time, place and duration of the selection interview, the topics addressed and the assessment. The members of the admissions committee or the selection committee must sign the record.
- (7) Each applicant can only have the selection interview once for each application phase in the master's degree programme. If the applicant does not appear for the selection interview without a valid reason, the selection interview will be assessed with an overall grade of 5.0 ("unsuitable"). If Ulm University is immediately informed of a valid reason for the failure to appear, Ulm University may admit the applicant to the next selection interview.

§ 6 Admission and selection decision

- (1) The President decides on admission at the proposal of the admissions committee. The decision on the academic suitability of the applicant as well as the evaluation of the documents is the responsibility of the admissions committee.
- (2) Admission shall be denied if
 1. the application documents have not been submitted in due time within the meaning of § 2 or in due form and completely within the meaning of § 3,
 2. the requirements according to § 4 have not been met, or
 3. a previous admission in the same degree programme or a related degree programme with essentially the same content has lapsed because an examination was failed at last attempt or the right to examination no longer exists.
- (3) The admission may be granted subject to reservations, in particular subject to a resolutive condition or certain requirements. In the case of an application according to § 4 (5), sentence 1, admission is to be granted under the resolutive condition that the bachelor's degree and the requirements associated with it are proven within the deadline set by Ulm University. If the proof is not provided in due time, the admission expires. In justified cases, in particular if individual achievements cannot be proven within the framework of § 4 (1) no. 2 and 3, the admission may be subject to certain requirements. The requirements must be fulfilled by the end of the examination period of the first semester in the programme; if the student is not responsible for not fulfilling the requirements, they must be fulfilled by the end of the examination period of the second semester at the latest. The admissions committee determines the requirements.
- (4) If it is not possible for an applicant to provide proof of the bachelor's degree on time and if he or she is not responsible for this, provisional enrolment may be granted on the basis of a corresponding declaration by the applicant, subject to the requirement that the certificate of the first professional qualification or proof of all achievements required for the degree must be submitted by the end of the first semester at the latest. The same applies to the language certificate pursuant to § 4 (1) no. 5. If the proof is not provided by the deadline, enrolment will not take place and the re-registration application for the following semester will be denied.
- (5) Applicants who fail to prove that they meet the requirements of § 4 in due form and time shall be excluded from the procedure and shall receive a notice of exclusion. This notice must state the reasons for rejection and provide information on their right of appeal.
- (6) In any other respect, the applicable provisions on admission stated in Ulm University's statutes on admission and enrolment remain unaffected.

§ 7 Admissions committee

- (1) The faculty board shall appoint an admissions committee. The admissions committee consists of at least two persons who belong to the full-time academic staff and their deputies.

At least one person must be a higher education teacher as defined in § 44 (1) no. 1 LHG. Furthermore, an experienced professional practitioner may be appointed to the admissions committee by the faculty board on the basis of § 2c sentence 2 no. 6 of the Higher Education Admissions Act (HZG). The members' term of office is three years. Reappointment is possible.

- (2) The admissions committee shall elect a chairperson from among the voting members.
- (3) At the request of the student members of the faculty council, a student may join the committee in an advisory capacity. The term of office is one year.

§ 8 Effective date

These statutes come into effect on the day after their publication in the Official Bulletin (*Amtliche Bekanntmachungen*) of Ulm University. They first apply to summer semester 2023 admissions. At the same time, Ulm University's admissions statutes for the consecutive, English-taught master's programme in Physics of 4 March 2014, published in the Official Bulletin of Ulm University no. 7 of 6 March 2014, pages 74-76, cease to have effect.

Ulm, 13 January 2023

signed

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Michael Weber
President of Ulm University