

studying in the...

# Netherlands



THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG  
Ministry of Research and Higher Education



# HIGHER EDUCATION

Higher education in the Netherlands is known for its high quality and its international study environment.

With more than 2,100 international study programmes and courses, it has the largest offer of English-taught programmes in continental Europe.

## TYPES OF HIGHER EDUCATION

- ▶ Research universities  
= research-oriented education
- ▶ Universities of applied sciences  
= higher professional education

## The Dutch way of teaching

- ▶ student-centred
- ▶ teamwork
- ▶ interaction in class
- ▶ respect for all opinions

## Dutch grading system

In Holland a ten-point system is used in both secondary and higher education. A grade of 10 is the highest and 6 is the minimum pass grade.

[www.internationalstudy.nl](http://www.internationalstudy.nl)

[www.studyinnl.org/](http://www.studyinnl.org/)





# DEGREES

## RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

- ▶ Bachelor of Science (BSc): 3 years
- ▶ Bachelor of Arts (BA): 3 years
- ▶ Master of Science (MSc): 1-2 years
- ▶ Master of Arts (MA): 1-2 years
- ▶ PhD: 4 years

## UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED SCIENCES

- ▶ Associate degree (Ad): 2 years
- ▶ Bachelor of Science (BSc): 4 years
- ▶ Bachelor of Arts: (BA): 4 years
- ▶ Master of Arts : 1-2 years

## HBO or WO?

There are **2 types of higher education** in the Netherlands:

**1. HBO (hoger beroepsonderwijs): higher professional education**

HBO Bachelor's programmes take four years (240 ECTS). Universities of applied science (hogeschoolen) offer higher professional education.

**2. WO (wetenschappelijk onderwijs): research-oriented higher education**

WO Bachelor's programmes take three years (180 ECTS). Universities (universiteiten) offer research-oriented higher education.

For more information:

[www.nuffic.nl/en/education-systems/the-netherlands/higher-education](http://www.nuffic.nl/en/education-systems/the-netherlands/higher-education)

### Attention!

HBO Bachelor's degrees do not give automatic access to a related Master's programme at a Dutch academic university.

It is sometimes possible to follow a bridging programme at an academic university to help make up for shortcomings in knowledge and skills.



# APPLICATION

## MAIN REQUIREMENT

The main requirement for admission to a Bachelor's programme is a secondary school leaving diploma (*diplôme de fin d'études secondaires classiques/générales*) at the appropriate level. This level is set by the institution.

## HOW TO APPLY

There are several ways of applying for a programme:

Check the institution's website pages for the programme of your choice to find information on the application process.

<https://www.studyinnl.org/dutch-education/studies>

## Studielink

For most programmes you first need to register via [www.studielink.nl](http://www.studielink.nl) from January to 1<sup>st</sup> May.

## Acceptance

Your institution will send you a notification of acceptance.

If you have questions about your acceptance, please contact the institution directly.

## LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

It is essential that you speak, read and write English well. You must have passed an English language test.

IELTS and TOEFL are commonly accepted, but institutions may accept other tests as well, like Cambridge English.

Don't wait until the last minute to take a test!

## More information

<https://www.ets.org/toefl.html>

<https://www.inll.lu/en/>

## NUMERUS FIXUS PROGRAMMES

For some study programmes the education institution has set a certain capacity. This means that a limited number of places is available. This is called *numerus fixus*.

If the number of students who apply exceeds the number of available places, a selection procedure will take place.

The application process therefore differs from that of regular study programmes.

### First check with your institution

You need to check with your institution whether the programme of your choice has a *numerus fixus*.

They can also tell you whether you can submit an application through Studielink.

Some institutions may want to do their own review first.

### 15<sup>th</sup> January application deadline

If you have to apply via Studielink, make sure you do so before 15<sup>th</sup> January 23:59 hours (CET).

Please check the Studielink application webpage for more information: [www.studielink.nl](https://www.studielink.nl)

### Max. two applications

For each academic year you can submit an application for a maximum of two *numerus fixus* programmes.

The institution decides how many times you can participate in the selection of a specific programme.

Medicine, Dentistry, Dental hygiene and Physiotherapy programmes are an exception. For these programmes you can only submit **one** application per programme per academic year. For example, you can't apply for Medicine at two different universities, but you are allowed to apply for Medicine and Dentistry.





# TUITION FEES

- Standard tuition fees for students from EU countries start at 2.530 € for one academic year (2024-2025).







# SEARCH ENGINE

## ENGLISH TAUGHT STUDY PROGRAMMES

- ▶ [www.studyinnl.org/](http://www.studyinnl.org/)

# USEFUL LINKS

- ▶ [www.studielink.nl](http://www.studielink.nl)
- ▶ [www.inll.lu](http://www.inll.lu) (IELTS)
- ▶ [www.ets.org/toefl.html](http://www.ets.org/toefl.html) (TOEFL)





# STUDENT LIFE

The following websites provide information on:

- ▶ housing
- ▶ social security
- ▶ student jobs
- ▶ internships

<https://mengstudien.public.lu/en/etudier-etranger/pays-bas.html>

[www.acel.lu](http://www.acel.lu)





# FINANCIAL AID

## STATE FINANCIAL AID FOR HIGHER EDUCATION – AideFi

- ▶ The Ministry of Research and Higher Education offers grants and loans to students enrolled in higher education and meeting certain conditions.
- ▶ Financial aid is awarded only for recognised degree courses!
- ▶ Check the eligibility of your courses in the section “**eligible study courses**” on our website [www.mengstudien.lu](http://www.mengstudien.lu) and contact the Financial Aid Department of the Ministry of Research and Higher Education in case of doubt.  
[aide-fi@mesr.etat.lu](mailto:aide-fi@mesr.etat.lu)

### Application deadlines

- ▶ from 1<sup>st</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> November (winter semester)
- ▶ from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> April (summer semester)

**More information on the financial aid application procedure, the amounts and the eligibility criteria at [www.mengstudien.lu](http://www.mengstudien.lu)**



Apply online via [www.guichet.lu](http://www.guichet.lu)!

**MyGuichet.lu**

[www.mengstudien.lu](http://www.mengstudien.lu)



- ▶ Studies
- ▶ Financial aid
- ▶ Student life



*meng***studien.lu**



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Contact the Higher Education Information Service of the Ministry of Research and Higher Education to ensure that the higher education qualification you are aiming for is recognised!  
[etudes@mesr.etat.lu](mailto:etudes@mesr.etat.lu)

[www.mengstudien.lu](http://www.mengstudien.lu)



**Ministry of Research and Higher Education**

18-20, montée de la Pétrusse • L-2327 Luxembourg • Tel.: 247-88650

E-mail: [etudes@mesr.etat.lu](mailto:etudes@mesr.etat.lu) • [aide-fi@mesr.etat.lu](mailto:aide-fi@mesr.etat.lu)

[www.mengstudien.lu](http://www.mengstudien.lu)

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