

I. REGULATIONS ON SELECTION AND PLACEMENT 2027-2028

These Regulations were adopted by the Executive Board on July 7, 2026.

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PREAMBULE

In accordance with Article 7.53, paragraph 3, of the Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek, WHW), Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU Amsterdam) has drawn up these regulations on the design and implementation of the selection process for degree programmes with restrictions on capacity. These regulations constitute a further elaboration of Chapter 7 of the WHW and the Regulations on application and admission to higher education (RATHO), the provisions of which apply in full.

VU Amsterdam values a fair, transparent and careful selection procedure and aims to implement the selection process as such. In the event that selection is used as a selection method, the VU employs at least two qualitative selection criteria aimed at predicting as best as possible study success in the program in question and the profession(s) to which the program trains. If a test is used in the selection procedure, the examination board of the program in question is responsible for the quality of the test. If a draw is used as a selection method, the draw shall be conducted in the presence of a notary public designated by the VU.

In the context of its selection process, VU Amsterdam takes account of the interests of prospective students from the public bodies of Bonaire, Sint Eustatius, Saba, Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten. VU Amsterdam also works to ensure that all candidates are treated equally.

In all cases for which no provision is made in these regulations, decisions shall be taken as follows:

- If it concerns the design of the selection process, the Rector Magnificus;
- If it concerns the practical aspects of the selection process, either a member of the Faculty Board with a teaching portfolio or the Dean.

In the event of employees being unable to agree about who is authorised, the Executive Board will designate the body that is authorised for the matter in question

PSYCHOLOGY

NUMBER OF APPLICATION ATTEMPTS

A candidate may attempt a maximum of three times in total in the selection for the Bachelor of Psychology program. A candidate may utilize all of these three attempts at VU.

AVAILABLE PLACES

The bachelor's program in Psychology at VU University has 600 available seats. The programme has two tracks: a Dutch-language track and an English-language track. Both tracks are open to all students, provided they meet the admission criteria for the program.

LANGUAGE

Communication regarding the selection process is in Dutch and English, depending on the candidate's communication language. The study materials for the test will be provided in English. Candidates will take the test in Dutch or English, depending on the track they have chosen.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

The available places (600) will be distributed according to a combination of selection and drawing of lots. Candidates will be scored on the following qualitative selection criteria:

- Score, based on average grade from admissions programme. In order to compare the grades of Dutch and international students, the grades are normalized according to standard methodology (www.nuffic.nl/onderwerpen/waarde-van-buitenlandse-cijfers).
- Results obtained on a written test on psychology, covering material that students can prepare for in advance.

The procedure thereafter is as follows:

1. Candidates with a grade point average (GPA) of 7.5 or higher for the average grade of the admissions programme and a passing grade on the test are selected immediately and offered a place.
2. Candidates with a GPA of 7.5 or higher and a failing grade on the test, and candidates with a GPA lower than 7.5 and a passing grade on the test will follow group 1 on the ranking list.
3. Candidates with a GPA lower than 7.5 and a failing grade on the test will follow group 2 on the ranking list.

The exact ranking number within the category will be determined by lottery. The lottery will take place in the presence of a notary public.

CRIMINOLOGIE (DUTCH-TAUGHT)**NUMBER OF APPLICATION ATTEMPTS**

Maximum number of application attempts: a candidate may participate in the selection for the bachelor's programme Criminology a total of a maximum of three times.

AVAILABLE PLACES

There are 200 available places annually at VU. The numerus fixus for the program is a national numerus fixus. This means that the other universities (Erasmus University Rotterdam and Leiden University) that offer the bachelor's program in Criminology also adhere to a set number of available places.

LANGUAGE

The working language for the selection procedure is Dutch. This means that the study material to be offered, the matching activity and all communication regarding the selection will be in Dutch.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

The available places (200) will be distributed according to a combination of selection and drawing of lots. The following qualitative selection criteria apply as a condition of participation in the selection:

- Score, based on average grade from admissions programme,
- Score for effort commitment consisting of a matching activity.

The procedure thereafter is as follows:

1. Candidates are selected directly and will be given a place within the programme if they have achieved a satisfactory score for the effort requirement and also meet one of the criteria below:
 - a) Have a grade point average of 7.5 or higher in their vwo or wo education; or
 - b) Have a score of 8 or higher for the average grade of the admissions program, other than vwo or wo.
2. The remaining spots will be awarded by unweighted lottery to candidates, who have scored on both selection criteria.

The draw will take place in March and in the presence of a notary public.

In the event that the number of candidates eligible for direct selection exceeds the number of available places within the programme, a ranking within this group will take place based on the scores on both qualitative selection criteria.

GENEESKUNDE (DUTCH-TAUGHT)**NUMBER OF APPLICATION ATTEMPTS**

A candidate at Faculty of Medicine VU can participate in the selection a maximum of two times.

AVAILABLE PLACES

The Bachelor program in Medicine at VU has 342 available seats.

LANGUAGE

The language for the selection is Dutch. This means that all communication around the selection will be in Dutch.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Selection is based on the following criteria:

1. general knowledge and skills (school grade list, including school results obtained at secondary, higher education, and/or university level);
2. social commitment (evidence of distinctive activities undertaken in the two calendar years preceding the year in which participation in the selection procedure takes place). These are the categories of distinctive activities
 - social contribution
 - health care;
 - managerial/organizational;
 - scientific research/technology;
 - special achievements
3. Dutch language skills (Dutch language test)
4. social understanding (social understanding test)

Candidates submit a portfolio (items 1 and 2). This portfolio consists of an application form including supporting documents, such as a certified grade list and evidence for activities.

Candidates who have submitted a portfolio in the manner indicated on the program website and have done so by the deadline described there participate in the selection test (items 3 and 4).

For the portfolio (items 1 and 2; weighting 70%) and the selection test (items 3 and 4; weighting 30%), scores are assigned to candidates. The final score determines the rank number. The portfolio accounts for 70% of the final score and the test for 30%. The final score determines the ranking. Candidates are ranked according to their final score, with the candidate with the highest final score at the top.

TANDHEELKUNDE (DUTCH-TAUGHT)

NUMBER OF APPLICATION ATTEMPTS

Candidates to study dentistry at ACTA can only apply to one institution for the same academic year, either at the Vrije Universiteit (VU) or the University of Amsterdam (UvA). Application for selection for the bachelor's programme Dentistry at ACTA is possible a maximum of two, once through enrollment at the VU and once through enrollment at the UvA.

AVAILABLE PLACES

The numerus fixus for ACTA is set at 138 places. Of these, 75 are filled through the UvA (about 55%) and 63 through the VU (about 45%).

LANGUAGE

The language for the selection is Dutch. This means that all communication around the selection will be in Dutch.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

All students timely registered with Studielink will receive a rank number based on unweighted draw.

II. SELECTION AND PLACEMENT IMPLEMENTATION REGULATIONS

ARTICLE 1 ESTABLISHING THE SELECTION CRITERIA

1. On the recommendation of the Faculty Board (or in the case of VUmc, the Governing Board), and having obtained the advice of the University Student Council, the Executive Board establishes regulations detailing the criteria and procedures for degree programmes with restrictions on capacity.
2. The Regulations on Selection Method, Selection Criteria and Selection Procedure for bachelor's programmes with capacity restrictions and the implementation regulations on selection and placement together constitute the Selection and Placement Regulations of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.
3. The Executive Board, on the recommendation of the Faculty Board, shall determine the number of times a candidate may participate in the selection process of a program, with a maximum number of three times.

ARTICLE 2 MANDATE FOR SELECTION AND PLACEMENT

The Director of Student & Educational Affairs (SOZ) is responsible, on behalf of the Executive Board, for the selection and placement of students.

ARTICLE 3 DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

1. Candidates wishing to participate in a selection procedure must submit a request for enrollment via Studielink no later than January 15 prior to the academic year in which they wish to start the programme.
2. Candidates who have not submitted a request for enrollment via Studielink by January 15 and who still wish to participate in a selection procedure of a program at VU must submit a request to this effect to the Director of SOZ. This request is made by e-mail at studentenbalie@vu.nl.
3. The Director of SOZ decides whether the candidate who has made such a request will be admitted to the selection procedure after 15 January. For a candidate to be allowed to participate in a selection procedure after 15 January, all of the following conditions must be met:
 - a. the candidate was demonstrably unable to submit their application request in time;
 - b. the candidate submitted their request as soon as possible after 15 January, but no later than 31 January;
 - c. the selection procedure for the programme the candidate wishes to take has not yet started;
 - d. refusing to allow the candidate to participate in the selection would be manifestly unfair.
4. Requests as described in paragraph 2 and 3 must be accompanied by one or more supporting documents showing that the candidate in question was unable to submit an application request via Studielink before the deadline.

ARTICLE 4 PARTICIPATION IN THE SELECTION PROCEDURE

1. By submitting an active application request for registration for a degree programme as part of a selection procedure by 16 January or by being admitted to the selection procedure after a request as referred to in Article 3 (2), candidates use up one of their application opportunities.
2. The international candidate required to submit a dossier to assess his admissibility, will be admitted to the selection process only if the file is complete by January 31.
3. Candidates who do not or do not fully participate in the selection procedure will not be given a ranking. The Director of SOZ will reject any such candidate's enrollment. Candidates in such cases will have used up an application opportunity.
4. Candidates do not use up a national application opportunity if:
 - a. their application request for registration for a degree programme with a selection procedure via Studielink is withdrawn no later than 15 January;

- b. they fail to meet the prior education requirements and promptly submit a request to withdraw their application, as referred to in Article 11 of these Regulations.

ARTICLE 5 VERIFICATION OF PERSONAL DATA

Candidates who participate in a selection procedure must ensure that their correct personal data have been submitted no later than 31 January, to allow verification of their identity by the Department of Student & Educational Affairs. Candidates who do not fulfil this obligation in time will not be permitted to continue in the selection procedure. The Director of SOZ will reject any such candidate's application and enrollment. Candidates in such circumstances will be deemed to have used up an application opportunity.

ARTICLE 6 SELECTION PROCEDURE

1. If the number of applications on January 16 exceeds the number of places available, selection will take place. The selection procedure will be completed by 14 April at the latest.
2. If the number of applications received by 16 January is lower or equal to the number of available places, there is no need for a selection procedure to take place and the next stage in the process will be the VU Matching Programme, described in the current Application and Registration Regulations.

ARTICLE 7 SELECTION PROCEDURE: RESULTS AND PROOF OF PLACEMENT

1. On April 15, the Executive Board will notify via Studielink the rank number to each candidate who participated in the full selection process. If candidates are selected on the basis of qualitative selection criteria, candidates will receive an explanation of their rank number/result the next working day after April 15. To those candidates who qualify based on their rank number, the Executive Board will issue proof of placement.
2. These candidates are required to accept their proof of placement via Studielink within two weeks after the day of receipt. Any proof of placement that is not accepted within two weeks after the day of receipt will officially lapse.
3. If a proof of placement lapses, the Executive Board will then issue proof of placement to the next candidate who qualifies on the basis of their ranking and who has not yet received proof of placement.
4. If a candidate has not accepted their proof of placement in time and still wishes to take the relevant degree programme, they must immediately submit a request to this effect to the Director of SOZ. The request should be sent by email to studentenbalie@vu.nl.
5. The Director of SOZ, acting on behalf of the Executive Board, will decide on a request of the kind detailed in paragraph 4. Such requests may be granted if all of the following conditions are met:
 - a. the candidate was demonstrably unable to accept their proof of placement in time;
 - b. the candidate made the request as soon as possible but no longer than one week after the expiry of the acceptance period;
 - c. refusing the request would be manifestly unfair.
6. If a request as referred to in paragraph 4 is granted, the candidate will receive proof of placement for the academic year following the academic year to which the application request related. The Director of SOZ may deviate from this and decide to issue the candidate with proof of placement for the academic year to which the original application related.

ARTICLE 8 ISSUING PROOFS OF PLACEMENT

1. The Executive Board will not issue more proofs of placement than there are places available on degree programmes with restrictions on capacity.

2. The Executive Board will continue to issue proofs of placement until all available proofs of placement have been accepted and every candidate has shown that they meet all the prior education requirements referred to in Article 9, or until 15 August at the latest.
3. On 15 April, the Executive Board will issue ninety-five percent of the available proofs of placement for degree programmes with restrictions on capacity. The remaining five percent of available proofs of placement will be issued at intervals to be determined by the Director of Student & Educational Affairs, between 16 April and 15 August.

ARTICLE 9 DATE FOR PROVIDING PROOF OF MEETING PRIOR EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

1. The prior education requirements and further prior education requirements are included in the Teaching and Examination Regulations of the relevant program. Candidates holding a proof of placement must demonstrate by July 15 that they meet the prior education requirements and further prior education requirements. For the international candidate who holds a proof of placement for the Biomedical Sciences, Psychology or Computer Science program, he or she must demonstrate by August 1 at the latest that he or she meets the prior education requirements and further prior education requirements. If the candidate fails to meet this requirement, the proof of placement will be forfeited.
2. In derogation of the provisions of paragraph 1, the Executive Board may, on the advice of the Faculty Board, decide that candidates who have been issued proof of placement for a degree programme with restrictions on capacity do not have to prove that they meet all the prior education requirements until a later date. However, this date may not be any later than 31 August.
3. Candidates who receive their proof of placement after 15 July must demonstrate within two weeks of the date of receipt that they meet all the prior education requirements. If the candidate fails to meet this requirement, the proof of placement will be forfeited.
4. Candidates who are unable to demonstrate before 15 July that they meet all the prior education requirements may apply to the Director of SOZ for an extension, stating their reasons. This request must be made no later than 15 July and be sent by email to studentenbalie@vu.nl. The Director of SOZ can grant a candidate a postponement until 31 August at the latest. If within the specified period the candidate does not demonstrate compliance with the prior education requirements and further prior education requirements, the proof of placement will be forfeited.

ARTICLE 10 PAYMENT OBLIGATION

1. Candidates issued with proof of placement should fulfil their payment obligations no later than 15 July. If the candidate fails to fulfil this obligation, the proof of placement will be forfeited.
2. If a candidate receives a proof of placement after July 15 as referred to in Article 9.3, the student will be given the opportunity until two weeks after receiving the proof to fulfil the payment obligation. If the candidate fails to fulfil this obligation, the proof of placement will be forfeited.

ARTICLE 11 CANDIDATES WHO FAIL TO OBTAIN DIPLOMA

1. Candidates who fail to meet the prior education requirements may ask the Director of SOZ to reinstate their selection procedure application opportunity. Any such request should be sent by email to studentenbalie@vu.nl.
2. Candidates should submit any request, as meant in paragraph 1, by 1 September. The request will be dealt with by 1 October.
3. Requests of the kind referred to in paragraph 1 should be accompanied by documentation showing that the candidate in question failed to meet the prior education requirements.

ARTICLE 12 RENEWED ENTRY WITHOUT SELECTION

A candidate who, after accepting their proof of placement and completing enrollment in a program, terminates enrollment in that program after September 1, may, with the permission of the relevant Faculty Board, enroll in that program in a subsequent academic year without participating in selection again.

ARTICLE 13 LEGAL PROTECTION

1. The candidate may object to decisions regarding selection to the Executive Board. The objection period is six weeks.
2. If the objection is upheld and it is decided that proof of placement will be issued to the candidate, this proof of placement will apply to the academic year for which the request for enrollment was made.
3. Candidates to whom proof of placement is issued after their objection has been upheld may, notwithstanding paragraph 2, be issued with proof of placement for the subsequent academic year if:
 - a. no more proofs of admission are available or will be made available for the academic year to which the request related;
 - b. the ruling on the objection is issued after the start of the academic year, or after 1 September;
 - c. the candidate in question themselves requests proof of placement for the following academic year.