

Subject-Specific Admissions Regulations for the Master's Program in Software Systems Engineering at the University of Potsdam¹

Dated January, 26, 2022

The Faculty Council of the Digital Engineering Faculty of the University of Potsdam pursuant to § 9 para. 5 sent. 2 in conjunction with § 72 para. 2 No. 1 of the Law Governing the Universities in Brandenburg (BbgHG) of 28 April 2014 (GVBl.I/14, [No. 18]), as last amended by the law of 23 September 2020 (GVBl.I/20, [No. 26]), in conjunction with § 5 para. 4, § 7 para. 2, § 8 para. 2 and § 16 para. 2 of the General Rules and Regulations of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of 1 July 2015 (GVBl. I/15, [No. 18]), last amended by Art. 3 of the law of 19 June 2019 (GVBl.I/19, [No.35], p.10) in conjunction with § 2 para. 1-3, 5, § 19 para. 1 and § 20 of the University Admissions Act (HZV) of 23 February 2016 (GVBl. II/16, [No. 6]), last amended by the ordinance of 21 May 2021 (GVBl.II/21, [No. 55]), und by Art. 21 para. 2 No. 1 of the General Rules and Regulations of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of 17 December 2009 (Bulletin UP No. 4/2010 p. 60) in the version of the fifth statute for amendment of the General Rules and Regulations of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of 21 February 2018 (Bulletin UP No.11/2018 p. 634) as well as the General Entrance and Admissions Regulation for the non-teaching related Master's degree programs at the University of Potsdam (Admissions Regulations – ZulO) of 24 February 2016 (Bulletin UP No. 3/2016 p. 76), last amended by the ordinance of 12 May 2021 (Bulletin No. 12/2021, p. 441), on January 26, 2022, has enacted the following regulations:²

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§ 1 Scope

This Admissions Regulation, combined with the General Admission Regulations for the non-teaching-oriented Master's degree programs at the University of Potsdam (Admissions Regulations, ZulO), govern the admission requirements and the

university selection process for the non-teaching Master's program in *Software Systems Engineering* at the University of Potsdam.

§ 2 Transfer of Tasks in the Procedure

In assigning the tasks within the procedure, in accordance with § 2 para. 2 ZulO, the Examining Board can assign those tasks that have a purely administrative character to qualified employees of the degree program who are not members of the Examining Board.

§ 3 Admission Requirements

The following special admissions requirements apply to the Master's program in *Software Systems Engineering*:

1. A Bachelor's degree or an equivalent first university degree that qualifies for entry in a profession within the field of informatics, IT systems engineering, computer science, data science, or a related subject, with at least 180 credit points, which must include:
 - a) Proof of knowledge of algorithms and data structures or theoretical computer science, with a total of at least 18 CP.
 - b) Proof of knowledge of software development and programming languages, with a total of at least 18 CP.
 - c) Proof of mathematical knowledge in discrete structures and logic, analysis and linear algebra, or stochastics, with a total of at least 18 CP. This must be comparable to the corresponding compulsory modules of the Bachelor's degree program *IT Systems Engineering*.

The Examining Board decides on a case-by-case basis the validity of proof of equivalency as it relates to a) -c).

2. Language knowledge in English that is equivalent to at least Level C1 of the European Framework of Reference for Languages. In accordance with § 4 para. 2 ZulO, this knowledge must be proven. Prospective students can apply for the recognition of further language proficiency certificates as part of their application. The Examining Board can recognize these if they correspond to at least level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Proof is required of comprehensive and situation-oriented communication skills that meet the language standard of an academic stay

¹ This translation is for informational purposes only. In the event of inconsistency or discrepancy between the German and English versions of these regulations, the German-language version shall prevail.

² Approved by the President of the University of Potsdam, on March 1, 2022.

and study abroad in a foreign country where English is the target language.

§ 4 Application Periods and Documents

(1) Application for the first semester is only possible in the winter semester. Application for a higher semester is possible in both the winter and summer semesters.

(2) The application deadlines are established in the ZuLO.

(3) In addition to the application documents mentioned in § 5 para. 3 ZuLO, the following documents must also be submitted:

(a) Proof of knowledge, in accordance with § 3 No. 1 a) - c).

(b) Proof of English language skills in accordance with § 3 para. 2.

(4) If the degree program has restricted admission, the following documentation must also be submitted in addition to those named in § 5 para. 4 ZuLO:

(a) Proof of additionally earned qualifications acquired outside of the university, such as completed internships in Germany and abroad, vocational training or professional experience.

(b) Evidence of special professional achievements, such as prizes and awards;

(c) Letter of motivation including a CV.

(d) In the case of foreign nationals or stateless persons, proof of scholarships or proof of specific, institutionally-connected research activities.

§ 5 Quota of International and Stateless Applicants

(1) Deviating from the quota specified under §19 para. 1 No. 1 HZV, a quota of 30% is reserved for international and stateless applicants, insofar as their status is not equal to that of German applicants.

(2) Within the quota limits stated in paragraph 1, the following special conditions, in accordance with § 19 para. 1 No. 1 HZV, must be taken into account for foreign and stateless applicants, in addition to those conditions named in § 8 para. 3 ZuLO.

1. The applicant receives a scholarship to fund her/his studies from a supporting German institution.

2. The applicant can provide evidence of a special research activity or activity as a research assistant at a German university, or at a research institute with close ties to a German university or to one of its partner institutes with a connection to the planned degree program.

(3) If these special circumstances are proven, the final grade or the current average grade can be improved by up to 0.9 for each category of special conditions according to § 5 para. 2; the improved final grade or the improved current average grade shall be taken into account in the selection process with respect to qualifications.

§ 6 University Selection Process

(1) In the event of an admission restriction for the degree program, a university selection process is carried out as part of the allocation procedure according to § 8 ZuLO. This process, according to § 9 ZuLO, follows the specifications below with the aim of determining an applicant ranking.

(2) To create the ranking, a total point value is determined according to § 9 ZuLO. To determine the total point value, based on § 9 ZuLO, the criteria below are included with the following weighting:

(a) Average grade or current average grade of the degree according to § 3 No. 1 with 51%,

(b) Proof of additionally earned qualifications acquired outside of the university and special professional achievements with 24%.

(c) Letter of motivation with 25%.

(3) Based on the qualifications and professional achievements documented in the application according to paragraph 2 (b) and (c), the Examining Board evaluates the professional connection to the *Software Systems Engineering* degree program and determines a grade. The following criteria are the basis for evaluation:

(a) Strength of the technical background in relation to software systems engineering,

(b) Recognizable interest in scientific work in the area of software systems engineering,

(c) Recognizable career goal.

Each criterion is rated with 0-3 points, resulting in the following overview:

Overall score achieved	Grade
8-9	1.0
6-7	2.0
4-5	3.0
2-3	4.0
0-1	5.0

§ 7 Entry into Effect

These regulations take effect on the day of their publication in the Official Bulletin of the University of Potsdam.