

Appendix 1 – Capacity Restrictions for the 2021-2022 Bachelor Programmes

The Executive Board annually sets intake restrictions for the bachelor programmes with a limited teaching capacity (Section 7.53 of the (Dutch) Higher Education and Research Act). The Department for Education, Culture and Science (DUO) must be informed of this by 1 September at the latest. As of 1 October, students can apply for the new academic year via Studielink. Four faculties have submitted a request for the 2021-2022 academic year. This concerns the same programmes as in the 2020-2021 academic year; the capacity has remained the same.

Faculty	Programme	Capacity	Appendix
Erasmus MC	Medicine	410	3
ESL	Criminology	135	4
RSM	International Business Administration	650	5
ESSB	Psychology	600	6

Background

Since academic year 2017-2018, universities and universities of applied science have been entirely responsible for the selection and placement of students on bachelor programmes subject to an intake restriction. DUO (the Education Executive Agency) will no longer play any role in this process. At EUR, the Executive Board has granted the deans of the faculties involved the mandate to determine and implement the selection criteria and selection procedure.

Although the law does not require the Faculty Advisory Boards to be involved in the request for intake and capacity restrictions, the Deans are advised to ask their Faculty Advisory Board for input. Erasmus MC's Faculty Advisory Board made a positive recommendation regarding the continuation of the intake restriction for Medicine, and ESL's Faculty Advisory Board has been informed about the continuation of the intake restriction for Criminology. Unlike previous years, RSM's Faculty Advisory Board was not consulted, since internal discussion proved unnecessary. RSM will adopt a wait-and-see attitude towards the developments relating to the Language and Accessibility Act and the recent debate regarding the draw procedure. It will involve the Programme Committee and Faculty Advisory Board as soon as there is more clarity about this (see Current Developments). ESSB will wait for the assessment of the first round of intake restrictions (i.e. for the 2020-2021 academic year, which is still in progress) and will involve the Faculty Advisory Board when the results become available.

Current Developments

In accordance with current practice, the Executive Board adopts intake restrictions for the bachelor programmes (numerus fixus) every year. The Language and Accessibility Bill has made the capacity restrictions a subject of debate. The change in the law is pending, since the Upper House has submitted a request for further scrutiny. This means that **this bill will not yet have an effect on the 2021-2022 academic year**. The bachelor programmes with a numerus fixus have been informed about prospective changes and will be included in the debate.

This bill:

1. will provide a legal basis for issuing - if necessary - more admission certificates for a numerus fixus programme than the available capacity. → This may benefit IBA, which receives more applications than it has places available every year.

2. will provide a legal basis for listing - if necessary - non-Dutch programmes in the Central Register of Higher Education Study Programmes¹ and for imposing a separate intake restriction on these (bachelor) programmes so that they can guarantee educational quality and access for Dutch students. It may therefore be necessary to work with two different rankings. → This could benefit Psychology, which currently needs to compile a ranking for both the Dutch and the English variants.
3. will introduce a consent requirement for imposing intake restrictions on bachelor programmes. From now on, institutes must submit a substantiated request (based on the requirements) to the minister for his/her permission:
 - Why the teaching capacity cannot accommodate unlimited enrolment;
 - Why the capacity issue cannot be resolved in time;
 - What steps are being taken to increase capacity so that the quota can be adjusted upwards in the next year or will no longer be necessary.
 - Focus on sectors where there is a labour shortage.
 It is still not clear what this consent requirement will look like (e.g. with regard to duration, frequency or administrative burden).
4. Does the institutional management have a best efforts obligation: if the institutional management imposes a capacity-based restriction on a (non-Dutch) programme, it must try to find a solution for the existing or impending lack of capacity. This means that it will maintain a dialogue with the field of work and other institutes to see if the capacity issue can be resolved. This already applies to Medicine, Criminology, IBA and Psychology: the intake restrictions have been coordinated with programmes at partner universities.

In anticipation of a possible debate regarding the re-introduction of the draw procedure, the members of the Association of Universities in the Netherlands are weighing the pros and cons of selection versus the draw procedure. This debate was eventually held in the Lower House in February 2020 during the committee meetings on the Strategic Agenda following D66's proposal to re-introduce the option of selecting by drawing lots. It is still not clear whether the option of drawing lots will actually be re-introduced, what restrictions would apply and what administrative burden (centralised, decentralised, involvement of DUO) this would involve. As a member of the Association of Universities in the Netherlands, EUR is involved in possible developments.

Intake restriction considerations

1. Medicine

Nationally, the government finances a student influx of 3,000 students. Consequently, the national education capacity available for the Bachelor in Medicine is a given. The Deans of the faculties concerned have made agreements regarding the quotas per institute. This means that EUR will obtain funding for 410 students for its bachelor programmes.

	2018	2019	2020
Pre-registrations	1,042	1,057	1,107
Intake restriction	410	410	410

¹ It is very likely that DUO (the Education Executive Agency) will make it possible to register the language(s) in which a programme is given for all (bachelor) programmes. This is to prevent non-Dutch programmes, with or without intake restrictions, from being registered differently.

Pre-registrations in Studielink EUR, on 15 January

Given the funding for 410 places and the large number of applications, the Executive Board has decided to restrict the intake for the bachelor programme in Medicine to 410.

2. Criminology

Criminology has had a numerus fixus since the programme first started. The capacity of ESL's criminology section is equipped to have an intake of approximately 130 first-year students. Based on experiences in recent years, it appears that an intake restriction of 135 produces approximately 120 to 130 first-years. Agreement has been reached with sister faculties at the VU and Leiden that this intake restriction be retained. ESL wishes to abide by this agreement. Rotterdam has consistently accommodated 135 places during the past few years. The three programmes determine this number by agreement.

	2018	2019	2020
Pre-registrations	292	343	569
Intake restriction	135	135	135

Pre-registrations in Studielink EUR, on 15 January

ESL asks for the intake to be kept at 135, allowing for the possibility that the placement procedure via *Studielink* will not succeed in filling all the available places. 120-130 first-year students would still be expected to start in the 2021-2022 academic year.

Given the limited capacity of ESL's criminology section and the agreements with its sister faculties, the Executive Board has decided to determine an intake restriction of 135 for the Bachelor in Criminology.

3. International Business Administration

The teaching capacity of the IBA programme, which started in 2000, has gradually increased to 650 in the 2020-2021 academic year. Until academic year 2016-2017, the intake was not regulated by an intake restriction, but by the decentralised admission of the whole student influx on the basis of the so-called Experiments Act [Experimentenwet]. This made it possible to control the intake (number and composition) for the international classroom. DUO played no part in the placement of these students. This Experiments Act is no longer applicable in 2017-2018; consequently, RSM can only regulate the number of new students by means of an intake restriction.

	2018	2019	2020
Pre-registrations	2,299	2,424	3,439
Intake restriction	600	600	650

Pre-registrations in Studielink EUR, on 15 January

RSM has asked for the intake restriction to be set at 650, whereby it is anticipated that the placement process via *Studielink* is unlikely to fill all the available places.

Given the available capacity and the relatively high number of applications, the Executive Board has decided to determine an intake restriction of 650 for International Business Administration.

4. Psychology

Each year an increasing number of students apply for both the Dutch and English tracks in Psychology. This upward trend is expected to continue. ESSB wants to use the numerus fixus to guarantee educational quality and the educational concept of small-scale education. Moreover, it was agreed with the other Psychology programmes in the Netherlands that they would all impose an intake restriction in order to share the burden. Since Psychology did not impose an intake restriction until the 2020-2021 academic year, it is still too early to make an assessment of the first round; the selection procedure is in progress.

	2019	2020
Pre-registrations	978	901
Intake restriction	600	600

Pre-registrations in Studielink EUR, on 15 January

Given the annual increase in the number of applications and the agreements with sister faculties in the Netherlands, the Executive Board has decided to restrict the intake for the bachelor programme in Psychology to 600.

Selection

The Executive Board has granted the deans of the faculties involved the mandate to determine and implement the selection criteria and procedure, and the implementation of the selection and ranking. The law prescribes that the institution selects according to at least two qualitative criteria. One of these qualitative criteria can be met by the assessment of grades in secondary education. Grades in secondary education give a good impression of the knowledge of the prospective student. Other criteria can, for example, relate to personal characteristics, to cognitive/non-cognitive skills (such as analytical skills) or to motivation.

1. Medicine

Selection criteria

Admission to **Route A** of the Bachelor in Medicine Selection is restricted to candidates in year 6 of pre-university education who in May 2021 are taking the entire national written examination for pre-university education in the Nature and Health subject cluster plus Physics or the Nature and Technology subject cluster plus Biology and who have not previously taken part in the selection procedure in Rotterdam.

Candidates following route A will be assessed according to three criteria in 2021:

1. Their entry form, stating their prior education (including any other academic achievements), distinct competencies and motivation.
2. Their school-leaving report for year 5 of pre-university education; their marks in year 5 of pre-university education for the subjects Dutch, English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology are used in the assessment of the decentralised selection procedure*.
3. Study skills tests.

* Candidates who obtained an average score of 8.00 or more for the above-mentioned subjects (i.e. not for each individual subject) and an adequate score for the motivation section of the entry form are automatically selected for the medicine programme.

Admission to **Route B** of the Bachelor in Medicine Selection is restricted to candidates who have not previously taken part in the selection procedure in Rotterdam and who: already have a pre-university education diploma in the proper subject cluster; are taking part of the national written examination for pre-university education in May 2021 in order to obtain the pre-university education diploma in the proper subject cluster for this programme; who satisfied the educational entry requirements (can be admitted to the university and the subjects Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology at pre-university education level) before 15 July 2021.

Candidates following route B are assessed according to two criteria:

1. Their entry form, stating their prior education (including any other academic achievements), distinct competencies and motivation;
2. Study skills tests.

Admission to **Route C** is restricted to participants of the Junior Med School who successfully completed the Junior Med School programme. They are automatically selected.

Ranking

The rankings are compiled as follows:

1. The participants of the Junior Med School
2. The participants of route A who obtained an average final mark of 8.00 or above in year 5 of pre-university education

3. The other participants of routes A and B based on their average z-score.

The average z-score is a measure based on the participant's individual scores for each assessment criterion.

2. Criminology

Selection criteria

1. Transfer marks from years 5 to 6 of the university preparatory education, or, for another prior education, the most recent available list of marks of the final exams or transition (50%);
2. A personal statement in which the candidate presents his or her reasons for wishing to follow the Criminology programme in Rotterdam (50%).

Ranking

To realise the ranking, candidates are assessed according to a combination of two criteria. So-called z scores are used to formulate the ranking. The ranking for the selection is determined by the z scores that the candidate obtains on the two criteria. The average of the two z scores thus determines the place on the ranking.

3. International Business Administration

Selection criteria

Selection takes place in accordance with three criteria. All students are selected on their grades, and then choose whether they wish to be assessed on their CV or their personal statement.

1. Grades (average marks secondary education, mathematics mark and English mark): 75%
2. Either CV (including relevant international background and experience): 25%
3. Or personal statement (the reason for participating in an international classroom): 25%

Ranking

Average scores on the two (chosen) selection criteria determine the place on the ranking. IBA uses tiers for this: students are placed in a certain category depending on their scores in a certain component.

4. Psychology

Selection criteria
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. School marks (25%);2. Scores on an online test (multiple-choice, 25%);3. Motivation (online questionnaire with open questions, 25%);4. Study attitude (online questionnaire with closed and open questions, 25%).
Ranking
<p>Standard scores (z-scores) are calculated for each component of the assessment so that a candidate's score on any component can be compared with those of the other candidates. All the z-scores are added together to compile a total score. All components are weighed equally. This total score is used to determine the ranking of each candidate. If the candidates have identical total scores, their rankings will be based on their scores on the motivation-related questions.</p> <p>When registering, candidates can opt for the international or Dutch programme in <i>Studielink</i>. However, instead of compiling separate rankings per track, as required by the (Dutch) Higher Education and Research Act, only one ranking is compiled for the programme.</p>