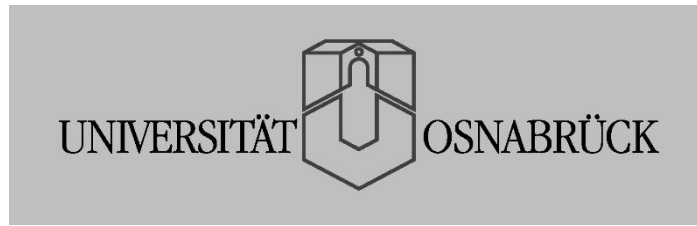


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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND ECONOMICS

REGULATIONS ON ACCESS AND ADMISSION FOR THE  
CONSECUTIVE MASTER'S PROGRAM IN  
“ECONOMICS”

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The Senate of Osnabrück University, in its 220th meeting on 22.01.2025, passed the following regulations in accordance with Section 18 subsection 8 of the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act (NHG) in the version dated 26.02.2007 (Official Government Gazette of Laws and Ordinances (GVBl.) p. 69 of 01 March 2007), last amended by Article 12 of the Act of December 14, 2023 (Nds. GVBl. p. 320), and Section 7 of the Lower Saxony University Admissions Law (NHZG) of 29 January 1998 (Lower Saxony GVBl. No. 3/1998) in the version dated 19 November 2019 (Lower Saxony GVBl. No. 19/2019).

## Section 1 Applicability

- (1) These regulations specify the terms of access and admission to the Master's program in Economics.
- (2) The admission requirements are set out in Section 4 of these regulations.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>If the degree program is subject to admission restrictions and a greater number of applicants fulfill the admission requirements than there are places on the program, then these places shall be awarded on the basis of the university's internal selection procedures (Section 6). <sup>2</sup>If there are not more applicants who fulfill the access requirements than there are available places on the program, then a selection procedure does not take place.

## Section 2 Explanatory Notes

- (1) Osnabrück University's **application portal** (hisinone.uos.de for applicants) is an online portal which handles applications and admission procedures for Osnabrück University.
- (2) The core function of the organization **uni-assist e.V.** is the assessment of international school and higher education certification in order to establish its formal equivalence for the German education system.
- (3) **Access** means the general entitlement to study at Osnabrück University.
- (4) **Admission** means that a place at the university may be offered to an applicant within the framework of an allocation process.

## Section 3 Digitalization, Data Protection, E-Files, Communications, Duty of Cooperation

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Admission procedures and other procedures set out in these regulations relating to studying and learning are automated and digitalized. <sup>2</sup>If the allocation of places at the university is coordinated through the Dialogue-Oriented Service Provider (DoSV) and the application portal "Hochschulstart", then the regulations of the Lower Saxony university admissions directive (NHZVO) take precedence. <sup>3</sup>If applicants can credibly demonstrate that their participation in automated and digital procedures is unreasonable or impossible, then they shall be permitted to submit applications and documentation in paper form to the admissions office. <sup>4</sup>Provisions governing deadlines remain unaffected.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>In the course of the procedures set out in subsection 1, personal data will be collected and processed for the purposes of completing the required tasks. <sup>2</sup>Particulars are set out in the up-to-date version of Osnabrück University's Data Processing Directive which was passed by the Senate in accordance with Section 17 Lower Saxony Higher Education Law (NHG). <sup>3</sup>In accordance with these regulations, the university deals with the collection, storage, processing and archiving of digitally submitted documentation and data in an electronic file (e-file) as set out in Section 10 subsection 1 of the Lower Saxony law on digital administration and information security (NDIG). <sup>4</sup>This is also the case for digital forms and, depending on the degree of technological implementation, digital identification.

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- (3) <sup>1</sup>The contact email address to be used by applicants shall be the email address provided by applicants. <sup>2</sup>Applicants are obliged to regularly check their email accounts linked to their respective email address for incoming mail. <sup>3</sup>Should applicants wish to set up an automatic forwarding mechanism for their incoming email to an additional email address which is provided by a third party, then they do so at their own risk.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>With the consent of the applicants, electronic administrative acts may be disclosed in accordance with Section 9 Online Access Act (OZG) if they are accessed by the applicant or their authorized representatives using publicly accessible networks from their mailboxes in accordance with Section 2 subsection 7 OZG which are part of a user account in accordance with Section 2 subsection 5 OZG. <sup>2</sup>The university shall ensure that access may only be granted following authentication by the authorized person and that the electronic administrative act may be saved by them. <sup>3</sup>The administrative act shall be deemed to have been announced on the third day after it is made available for retrieval. <sup>4</sup>In case of doubt, Osnabrück University is obliged to prove the issuance and the time of issuance should a legal fiction arise. <sup>5</sup>Applicants or their authorized representatives shall be informed of the possibility for retrieval no later than the day upon which administrative acts are made available for retrieval using the address they have provided for this purpose. <sup>6</sup>If retrieval takes place before the new disclosure of the administrative act, the day of the first retrieval remains decisive for the receipt. <sup>7</sup>As long as no user account is set up in accordance with Section 2 subsection 2 OZG or no declaration of consent is extant in accordance with subsection 1, then Section 1 subsection 1 Lower Saxony Administrative Procedure Act (NVwVfG) in conjunction with Section 41 Federal Administrative Procedure Act (VwVfG) prevails.
- (5) <sup>1</sup>Notifications about individual personal information relating to the application process shall be made available to applicants via the Osnabrück University application portal. <sup>2</sup>As a rule, applicants shall be notified of the existence of new messages by email via the contact email address in accordance with subsection 3. <sup>3</sup>Applicants are obliged to check regularly for the arrival of new messages in the application portal and in doing so to contribute to the functioning of the automated and digitalized operative processes used by Osnabrück University. <sup>4</sup>The use of the application portal is exclusively for the purpose of processing applications to Osnabrück University. <sup>5</sup>In the event of improper use, user access to content may be either temporarily or permanently limited or completely suspended.

## Section 4 Admission Requirements

- (1) <sup>1</sup>In order to gain access to the Master's program in Economics, the applicant must
- have completed a relevant and comparable or closely-related Bachelor's degree program of at least six-semesters to a total of at least 180 ECTS credit points at a German university or a university abroad which is in one of the Bologna-signatory countries, or
  - hold a comparable qualification in a three-year-long program of study in a comparable or closely-related field from another university abroad that is not in one of the Bologna-signatory countries; equivalence is determined in accordance with the assessment proposals of the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) at the Administrative Office of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK);
  - not have irrevocably failed a Master's examination or a comparable examination in a comparable specialist subject nor lost their right of examination entry at a German university or at a university abroad that is in one of the Bologna-signatory countries or at any other university abroad; and
  - not have already successfully completed a Master's examination or a comparable examination in a comparable specialist subject at a German university or at a university abroad that is in one of the Bologna-signatory countries or at any other university abroad, and
  - demonstrate language proficiency in accordance with subsection 2 letter c.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The degree program in accordance with subsection 1 letters a) and b) is considered relevant and comparable or closely-related when

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- a) students have completed modules/courses worth at least 60 ECTS credit points in economics, mathematics, statistics or econometrics, of which students must complete
- b) at least 25 ECTS credit points in economics, and
- c) at least 15 ECTS credit points in mathematics, statistics or econometrics;
- d) students can demonstrate that they have attained level B2 in the English language in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR); proof is considered to have been provided when
  - the relevant level of English proficiency was already an admission requirement for the earlier Bachelor's degree, or
  - the applicant has already successfully completed an English-language undergraduate or graduate degree program, or
  - English was the language of the education system of the applicant at the time they earned their higher education entrance qualification, or
  - the applicant has passed a language test at level B2 (CEFR) (for possible language tests, see: [www.uni-osnabrueck.de/sprachnachweise](http://www.uni-osnabrueck.de/sprachnachweise)).

<sup>2</sup>In cases of doubt, the selection committee (Section 7) decides about an applicant's language proficiency.

- (3) <sup>1</sup>The decision about whether an earlier degree program was relevant and comparable or closely-related is taken by the selection committee (Section 7). <sup>2</sup>If the applicant is lacking a maximum of 10 ECTS credit points from the requirements in accordance with subsection 2 sentence 1 letters a) to c), a positive decision may be made subject to certain conditions. <sup>3</sup>The type and scope of these conditions shall be decided upon in each individual case by the selection committee based on the course content completed by the applicant as part of their previous degree. <sup>4</sup>A condition may only consist of modules or courses from a Bachelor's degree program in the School of Business Administration and Economics at Osnabrück University. <sup>5</sup>Any conditions set by the selection committee must have been completed at the latest by the student's registration to take the Master's thesis. <sup>6</sup>The examination regulations for the respective Bachelor's degree program are applicable to any such conditions in relation to admissions, non-attendance, withdrawal, examination infringements, breaches of regulations, assessment and examination retakes. <sup>7</sup>The modules an applicant is required to take as conditions set by the selection committee may not be accredited towards the Master's program. <sup>8</sup>Any conditions of this kind do not appear on the final record of Master's examination, do not appear on the transcript of records and are not included in overall grading. <sup>9</sup>Upon application, any courses taken as conditions may be certified separately.

- (4) <sup>1</sup>Notwithstanding subsection 1, applicants whose degree certification has not yet been issued at the time of their application may be awarded provisional access if they have earned at least 150 credit points and if their progress in their degree program thus far and especially with respect to their examination results indicates that they will have completed their degree at the latest by the end of the first semester of their Master's program. <sup>2</sup>An average grade shall be calculated from the grades of the courses which are relevant to the applicant's eligibility for entry; this grade is used in the selection procedure irrespective of whether it deviates from the final result of the Bachelor's examination. <sup>3</sup>This means that applicants must have completed all credits for the Bachelor's degree or the comparable qualification by the end of their first semester in the Master's program, namely by March 31st for students commencing their studies in the winter semester and by September 30th for students commencing their studies in the summer semester. <sup>4</sup>The certificate for the applicant's Bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification must be uploaded to Osnabrück University's application portal by April 15th for applications for commencement in the winter semester or by October 15th for applications for commencement in the summer semester. <sup>5</sup>If the certificate is not uploaded by the deadline and if the provisionally admitted person is responsible, then their registration at the university shall be terminated upon expiry of the deadline (Section 19 subsection 6 sentence 3 no. 2 NHG).

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- (5) <sup>1</sup>The requirements set out in subsection 2, letters a) to c) must also be met in cases set out in subsection 4, taking into account subsection 3 where applicable. <sup>2</sup>Only examination results that have been completed by the end of the application deadline and uploaded to the application portal with supporting documentation by the deadline will be taken into account for the assessment of the relevance and comparability [of the Bachelor's degree] and the setting of conditions.
- (6) Applicants who do not fulfill the language proficiency requirements in accordance with subsection 2 letter d) may be admitted conditionally providing that they submit certification of having acquired the necessary language proficiency upon commencement of their studies to the application portal of Osnabrück University by September 30th at the latest for commencement in the winter semester and by March 31st at the latest for commencement in the summer semester.

## **Section 5 Program Commencement, Deadlines and Format of Applications for Admission**

- (1) The Master's program in "Economics" commences in the winter semester and in the summer semester.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Applications for admission shall be submitted online using the application portal of Osnabrück University notwithstanding Section 3 subsection 1 sentence 2 for intended commencement in the winter semester by July 15th and for intended commencement in the summer semester by January 15th of any given year. International applicants in possession of non-German certification shall apply online by June 15th or December 15th respectively of any given year using the application portal of the service agency "uni-assist e.V.". <sup>3</sup>Documents in accordance with subsections 3 and 4 shall be uploaded to the application portal of "uni-assist e.V.". <sup>4</sup>An application is only relevant for the allocation of places for the single admission date in question.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>An application shall include
1. Surname, all given names listed on the applicant's identity document, the applicant's current correspondence address, date of birth, place of birth and nationality/nationalities, details of the applicant's desired program of study and desired semester of study, as well as details
  2. of the applicant's first degrees which are recognized professional qualifications,
  3. and information on the degree programs, dual major programs or courses and the periods of study the applicant has already engaged in at Osnabrück University and/or at other institutes of higher education,
  4. and information pertaining to whether the applicant has irrevocably failed an examination in their chosen program of study or a comparable program of study which is mandatory according to the applicable examination regulations for that program or the final examination, and that they have not lost their right of examination entry.
- (4) <sup>1</sup>To complete the application for admission, applicants shall upload the required documentation in accordance with sentence 3 letters a) to e) in PDF format to the application portal of Osnabrück University. <sup>2</sup>Osnabrück University reserves the right to check uploaded documentation at random and to require applicants to submit originals or verified documents.
- <sup>3</sup>Applicants shall submit:
- a) their degree certificate for their completed degree course in accordance with Section 4 subsection 1 letter a) or letter b), or
  - b) insofar as their degree certificate is not yet in their possession, certification of the examination credits they have already acquired over the course of their Bachelor's degree or a comparable program of study (transcript of records) and their average grade; if the certification does not indicate an average grade, then additional certification is required; if overseas certification only lists individual grades, then an average grade is calculated in accordance with the resolution of

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the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (Kultusministerkonferenz) entitled “Agreement on the Setting of the Overall Grade for Overseas Higher Education Entry Certificates” [Vereinbarung über die Festsetzung der Gesamtnote bei ausländischen Hochschulzugangszugnissen] in its up-to-date version.

- c) a transcript of records for their Bachelor’s degree program or for the comparable program of study – insofar as the applicant has not completed their studies at Osnabrück University – in order to demonstrate their suitability to study their chosen course of study in accordance with Section 4 subsection 2 letters a) to c); if possible, this should include the permanent internet address containing the module descriptions for all of the course credits (module catalog) listed in the applicant’s certificates and other certification; if no permanent internet address can be provided, a corresponding document (module catalog or a summary of all relevant module descriptions in accordance with Section 4 subsection 2 sentence 1 letters a) to c)) may be uploaded instead;
- d) supporting documents in accordance with Section 4 subsection 2 letter d);
- e) upon application for admission to a higher semester of study, a course file [“Studienbuch”] and/or transcript of records, enrollment certificates, documents of withdrawal (where applicable) from all previously attended institutes of higher education, and documentation certifying any preliminary, intermediate, module, module component or final examinations taken.

<sup>4</sup>Applicants shall upload to the application portal

- a) a declaration stating that they have not irrevocably failed a Master’s examination or a comparable examination in a comparable subject area and that they have not lost their right of examination entry,
- b) a declaration stating that they have not already passed a Master’s examination or a comparable examination in a comparable subject area,
- c) a declaration stating that they have taken note of and accepted the data protection guidelines,
- d) a declaration regarding Section 3 subsection 4 sentence 1,
- e) a declaration on their participation in any succession procedures, and
- f) a statement of assurance confirming the correctness and completeness of all information uploaded to the application portal including a statement to the effect that any false declarations or information may lead to the rescission of their admission to the university.

(5) If certificates and records are not available in either the German or English languages, then these shall be translated by a sworn translator and uploaded in either German or English.

(6) <sup>1</sup>Any applications which are incomplete, in an incorrect format or uploaded to the application portal of Osnabrück University’s service agency “uni-assist e.V.” after the deadline has passed, and if the required documentation is not uploaded completely, in the correct format and by the set deadline or if the above are not submitted by the deadline in the cases outlined in Section 3 subsection 1 sentence 2, then these applications are given no further consideration in the selection procedure.

## Section 6 Selection Procedure

<sup>1</sup>If the degree program is subject to admission restrictions and the number of applicants who meet the admission requirements is larger than the number of places available, then the selection committee convened in accordance with Section 7 shall decide upon the admission of the applicants taking into consideration the final grade of their previous degree program and/or their average grade in accordance with Section 4 subsection 4 sentence 2. <sup>2</sup>With respect to the average grade, the first two places after the decimal point are taken into account and additional decimal places are disregarded without rounding. <sup>3</sup>If there is no average grade on the final certificate or the other certification in accordance with Section 5 subsection 4 sentence 3 letter b), and if at the same time the single grades are not listed from which an average grade may be calculated, then the average grade of 4.0 shall be used for the selection procedure.

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<sup>4</sup>The overall grades determined in this procedure serve as the basis for ranking the applicants. <sup>5</sup>If grades are the same, positions on the list are decided by the drawing of lots.

## Section 7 Selection Committee

- (1) In order to prepare for the selection process, the School of Business Administration and Economics shall convene a selection committee.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>The selection committee shall include three voting members of which two members shall belong to the status group of university professors and one member shall belong to the status group of staff members with an entitlement to teach; in addition, there shall also be a member of the student body who shall sit in an advisory capacity. <sup>2</sup>The members are appointed by the executive board of the School of Business Administration and Economics. <sup>3</sup>Voting members are appointed for two years, the student representative for one year; Reappointment is admissible. <sup>4</sup>The selection committee is quorate when at least two voting members are in attendance.
- (3) <sup>1</sup>Minutes shall be kept to record the meetings of the selection committee. <sup>2</sup>These minutes shall document the key points of discussion and the resolutions of the selection committee. <sup>3</sup>The minutes shall be signed by the chair and the keeper of the minutes. <sup>4</sup>In addition, the provisions of the General Rules of Procedure of Osnabrück University shall be complied with where applicable.
- (4) The duties of the selection committee are
  - a) checking the formal correctness and completeness of incoming admission applications,
  - b) checking admission requirements,
  - c) deciding whether an applicant's previous course of study in accordance with Section 4 subsections 1 and 2 is relevant and comparable or closely-related, for applications to commence a course in the first semester as well as in a higher semester.
  - d) determining the make-up tasks (modules) to be required as conditions in accordance with Section 4 subsection 3 sentences 2 to 9,
  - e) in cases of doubt, deciding whether an applicant is in possession of the required level of language proficiency in accordance with Section 4 subsection 2 letter d),
  - f) deciding about the admission or the refusal of the applicant based on their ranking in the list of applicants.

## Section 8 Notification of Acceptance, Succession Procedures, Completion of Procedures

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Applicants who may be admitted as a result of the selection process receive a notification of acceptance in accordance with Section 3 subsection 4 through the application portal of Osnabrück University. <sup>2</sup>Insofar as the applicant's acceptance is subject to the fulfillment of additional requirements in accordance with Section 4 subsection 3 sentences 2 to 9, these shall be included on the notification of acceptance. <sup>3</sup>The applicant is required, by the deadline set in the notification of acceptance, to declare through the application portal of Osnabrück University whether they wish to accept the place offered to them. <sup>4</sup>If the applicant does not make this declaration by the deadline or in the correct format, then the notification of acceptance shall become null and void. <sup>5</sup>Reference shall be made to this legal consequence and to the legal consequences arising from Section 5 subsection 6, where relevant, in the notification of acceptance. <sup>6</sup>The same applies accordingly for cases in Section 3 subsection 1 sentence 2.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Applicants who do not fulfill the admission requirements in accordance with Section 4 receive a rejection notification in accordance with Section 3 subsection 4 listing the reason for their rejection. <sup>2</sup>The rejection notification shall include details of the applicant's legal right of appeal.



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- (3) <sup>1</sup>Applicants who cannot be offered a place in consequence of the selection procedure in accordance with Section 6 shall receive a rejection notification in accordance with Section 3 subsection 4 which states the position they were ranked at on the list and the position of the last applicant to be admitted to the program. <sup>2</sup>The rejection notification shall include details of the applicant's legal right of appeal.
- (4) Any subsequent succession procedures shall be carried out, should not all places be allocated in the selection procedure in accordance with Section 6 subsection 1, on the basis of the ranking list in accordance with Section 6 sentence 4 for those applicants who have declared their participation in the succession procedure in accordance with Section 5 subsection 4 sentence 4 letter e).
- (5) The allocation process is complete when
  - a) all available places have been allocated
  - or
  - b) all succession lists have been cleared.
- (6) <sup>1</sup>If there are still places available after the conclusion of the allocation process, then these are filled upon application by the drawing of lots. <sup>2</sup>The application deadline shall be publicized in an appropriate manner. <sup>3</sup>Applications for participation in the randomized selection process are to be submitted via Osnabrück University's online application portal; upon admission to the randomized selection process, applicants shall upload the required documentation in accordance with Section 5 subsection 4 sentence 3 and shall submit the declarations in accordance with Section 5 subsection 4 sentence 4. <sup>4</sup>Sections 3, 4, 5 and 7 apply accordingly.
- (7) In all other respects, the general provisions for admission in the admission regulations of Osnabrück University in their up-to-date version remain unaffected.

## **Section 9 Admission to Higher Semesters**

- (1) <sup>1</sup>Available places in a higher semester of study with restricted admission are awarded to applicants in the following order:
  - a) applicants for whom a refusal of admission for reasons associated with their person would mean particular hardship;
  - b) applicants who in the same or a comparable program of study
    - aa) have been awarded a full place through the central allocation process and who are or were already enrolled at this university on a dual major program;
    - bb) are or were already enrolled at this university on a dual major degree program;
    - cc) are or were already enrolled at a German university, a university in another member state of the European Union or in a signatory state to the Agreement on the European Economic Area;
    - dd) are or were enrolled at a university abroad not included in cc) and are in possession of German citizenship or its equivalent for the purposes of enrollment.
    - ee) have been enrolled to the first semester of study and who may be placed in a higher semester
  - or
  - c) can assert other reasons.<sup>2</sup>Applicants must demonstrate that they have achieved the required level of proficiency to be placed in a higher semester.
- (2) <sup>1</sup>Within each of the categories listed under subsection 1 sentence 1, decisions shall be made based on the social, family and economic situation underlying the choice of location, thereafter the grade of the applicant's university entrance qualification, thereafter by the drawing of lots. <sup>2</sup>If two applicants are ranked the same, then the average grade is decisive.

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(3) Section 8 subsection 7 applies accordingly.

## **Section 10 Entry into Force**

<sup>1</sup>These regulations enter into force on the day following their publication in the official gazette of Osnabrück University. <sup>2</sup>They shall be used for the first time in the allocation process for the winter semester 2025/2026. <sup>3</sup>The previous version shall cease to be in force as of that time.