

Information for students applying for a second degree

Dear applicant!

You must submit a 'second degree application' if you

- have already successfully completed a degree at a German university

and

- would like to study another Bachelor's degree programme which has admission restrictions

and

- teaching for this second degree programme starts in the first semester.

A second degree application does not have to be submitted for

- open-admission degree programmes.

Good luck!

The Admissions Office

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Requirements

Three percent of the places on degree programmes with admission restrictions are reserved for students applying for a second degree, i.e. those who have already completed a degree at a German university.

- Applicants who have not completed their first degree at the time of submitting the application but who will have done so by the application deadline can choose whether they would like to apply as a first-time or second-time applicant. Certificates issued after 15 July (winter semester) or 15 January (summer semester) cannot be taken into consideration. A degree programme is deemed completed once you have passed the corresponding state or university final examination.
- Universities are understood to be, for example, universities, former polytechnic universities, colleges of music, sports or art, universities of the German armed forces, ecclesiastical universities, teacher training colleges, technical colleges and universities of applied sciences for public administration. The following are not classed as universities: Vocational colleges and predecessors of technical colleges, e.g. higher technical colleges and schools of engineering.

Application / Evidence

Required documents

1. A hard copy of the completed online application printed on the official application letterhead
2. The application for a second degree
3. A copy of the certificate for your first degree (grade must be specified on the degree certificate or transcript)
4. Copies of all supporting documents and evidence of academic achievements and other activities justifying your application to study a second degree.
5. A detailed, written explanation outlining the reason why you want to study a second degree. This must include the following information:
 - your previous education
 - any professional activity
 - your career objective
 - your group classification (see below)

Selection criteria

- Grade awarded for the first degree programme and
- Reasons for applying for a second degree

Points are awarded for both criteria:

Grade awarded for the first degree programme

The following points are awarded for the final grade:

- „Excellent“ and „Very good“: 4 points
- „Good“ and „Very satisfactory“: 3 points
- „Satisfactory“: 2 points
- „Sufficient“: 1 point
- Grades for which no evidence is provided: 1 point

Reasons for applying to do a second degree

Group 1: Compelling professional reasons

- Prospective career requires two completed degrees. Examples: Oral surgeons (Medicine and Dentistry), pharmacists (medical officers) employed by the German armed forces (Pharmacy and Food Chemistry) as well as religious clergy who want to train to become a teacher at a religious school following their first degree in Theology.

Group 1 applicants receive 9 points.

Group 2: Scientific reasons

- An applicant wants to obtain another academic qualification in another subject based on their previous academic and professional career.

Group 2 applicants receive

- 7 points, if the scientific reasons are considered substantial and supported by the applicant's academic background.
- 9 points, if the scientific reasons are considered to be of particular significance and supported by the applicant's previous achievements.
- 11 points, if the reasons are considered to be of paramount scientific importance, are supported by excellent previous achievements and are of particular general interest.

Criteria:

- Career to date
- Previous scientific and practical activities are taken into account.
- Seriousness of the interdisciplinary career/study aspirations
- Academic activities such as participation in research projects during the period of study will be assessed.
- Scientific significance of the desired interdisciplinary activity
- The desired activity is objectively of scientific importance.

Group 3: Special professional reasons

- Completing a second degree will significantly improve the applicant's career opportunities
- The second degree complements the first degree (this very much depends on the prospective career and the extent to which both degrees are required for that career. The applicant's own career plan is a decisive factor in this regard.)
- Actual connection between the content of the first degree programme and the prospective second degree (If the application concerns a dual-subject teacher training degree, connection to one subject is sufficient.)

It is not possible to start a second degree programme if the sole reason for doing so is a career change. The focus of later professional activities (i.e. the corresponding subject area) is irrelevant, as is the order in which the first and second degrees are pursued.

Group 3 applicants receive 7 points.

Group 4: Other professional reasons

- Completing a second degree will significantly improve the applicant's career opportunities for other reasons (evidence: detailed and personal written statement)

Group 4 applicants receive 4 points.

Group 5: Other reasons

Group 5 applicants receive 1 point.

General notes:

Applicants can receive up to 2 points if they are re-integrating or re-entering professional life after taking time off to have children. Applicants are eligible for these extra points if they had to leave their previous job due to family reasons (e.g. marriage, to raise children) or if it was not possible to take on a suitable position following the completion of the first degree due to family matters. The number of extra points awarded depends on the extent to which the applicant was affected by such situations. The level of pressure (e.g. number of children, length of time off work to raise a family) is taken into due account. It is not permitted to specify more than one reason; the most favourable group must be selected. This does not apply to additional points awarded to applicants who had to postpone their a degree due to family reasons: these points are awarded in addition to the group points.

Classification number and ranking

The points awarded for the first degree and for the justification are added together to generate a classification number. This figure is then used to establish a ranking list, which is used to allocate places for second degrees. Applicants with a higher classification number are ranked at the top. Places are awarded based on this list until all the places reserved for second-degree applicants have been awarded. Applicants receive an admission/rejection letter informing them whether their application was successful and whether they have been awarded a place.

Contact

If you have any further questions, please contact the Admissions Office of the University of Oldenburg.

Contact details and further information can be found at: <https://uol.de/en/admissions-office>