

APPROVED

by Resolution No. S-2017-2-1 of 21 February  
2017

of the Senate of Vilnius University (version of  
Resolution No. SPN-22 of 19 March 2019 of the  
Senate of Vilnius University)

**RULES  
FOR  
ADMISSION TO VILNIUS  
UNIVERSITY STUDY  
PROGRAMMES**



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## I PART GENERAL PROVISIONS

### 1. APPLICATION OF THE RULES

1.1. The Rules for Admission to Vilnius University Study Programmes (hereinafter the 'Rules') lay down the general conditions for admission to the first-cycle, integrated, as well second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) study programmes (hereinafter the 'admission to studies') of Vilnius University (hereinafter the 'University') and the specificities of admission to these study cycles.

1.2. The Rules regulate admission to full-time and part-time study programmes (hereinafter the 'study programmes').

1.3. Entrants may apply to state-funded and non-state-funded student places. All entrants shall have the same rights and obligations (except for tuition fees).

### 2. GENERAL CONCEPTS

2.1. **Competition queue** means a descending list of entrants according to the set of selection criteria set out in the Rules.

2.2. **Competitive score** means the numerical expression of the components of a competitive score, calculated for each entrant to each study programme.

2.3. **Unit Admissions Commission** means the admissions commission of a core academic unit (hereinafter the 'Unit') set up by an order of the head of the Unit.

2.4. **Entrance Examination and Motivation Assessment Commission** means an entrance examination and motivation assessment commission established by an order of the head of the Unit organising the entrance examination and motivation assessment.

2.5. **Entrant** means a person who applies for a student place at the University and participates in a competition intended for it.

2.6. **Study Agreement** means a document that establishes the legal relationship between the person admitted to study and the University.

2.7. **Weighting Factor** means a figure set out in the Rules, indicating the impact of specific selection criteria on the competitive score.

2.8. **University Admissions Commission** means a permanent admissions commission established by an order of the Rector of the University (hereinafter the 'Rector').

### 3. TYPES OF STUDY PROGRAMMES

3.1. The University carries out admission to degree-awarding and professional (pedagogy) study programmes.

3.2. Degree-awarding studies at the University are carried out either under study programmes of three cycles or under integrated study programmes combining the first and the second cycles:

3.2.1. first-cycle – bachelor degree studies: major studies, as well major and minor studies (hereinafter the 'first-cycle studies');

3.2.2. second-cycle – master degree studies (hereinafter the 'second-cycle studies');

3.2.3. third-cycle – doctoral studies (admission to doctoral studies is carried out in accordance with the Regulations of Doctoral Studies at Vilnius University).

3.3. Admission to professional (pedagogy) studies shall be governed by these Rules.

## **4. ORGANISATION OF ADMISSION TO STUDIES**

4.1. Admission to studies shall take place in accordance with the procedure and terms set out in Part II (Admission to First–Cycle and Integrated Studies), Part III (Admission to Second-Cycle and Professional (Pedagogy) Studies), Part IV (Admission of Foreign Nationals and Persons Who Have Completed Their Education at Foreign Institutions), and Part V (Additional Admission of the University) of the Rules, and in accordance with the procedure and terms laid down in the legal acts implementing these Rules.

4.2. Admission to studies shall be carried out on the basis of competition, with all the necessary processes being followed consecutively:

- 4.2.1. payment of the entrance fee, if applicable;
- 4.2.2. submission of an application for participation in the competition;
- 4.2.3. registration of the documents;
- 4.2.4. passing the entrance examinations and/or a motivation assessment, if applicable;
- 4.2.5. payment of the registration fee, if applicable;
- 4.2.6. conclusion of a study agreement (hereinafter the 'Agreement').

## **5. APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION**

5.1. Participation in the competition for a student place may be undertaken by submitting an application in the prescribed form and the documents with all the necessary processes being followed consecutively and required for admission to the first-cycle, integrated, second-cycle or professional (pedagogy) studies.

5.2. An application shall be deemed accepted (registered) when the questions on the application form about the entrant, their educational background been answered and other relevant data have been provided, and at least one preference has been indicated in the list of preferred study programmes.

5.3. In the application form, the entrant's preferences shall be listed in descending order of priority. A preference shall mean an indication of the name of the study programme or its variant (e.g. specialisation), the form of study (full-time or part-time), and the type of funding.

5.4. When revising the application, the entrant shall be allowed to change, add, or delete study programmes in their preference list, change their order, form of study, schedule (full-time or sessional), and type of funding. If an application is revised and the stated preferences are changed several times, the last revision of the application shall be valid.

5.5. The acceptance of applications and their revision shall be carried out in accordance with the procedures and terms set out in Item 14(1) of the Rules and by the Rector.

## **6. REGISTRATION OF DOCUMENTS**

6.1. Entrants applying for participation in the competition shall submit the necessary documents within the terms set out in Items 14(5), 15(5), 20(4), 21(1), 26(1)(1), 26(2)(1), and 26(3) of the Rules.

6.2. The procedure for the registration of documents during the general admission to first-cycle and integrated studies shall be determined by the Association of Lithuanian Higher Education Institutions for Centralised Admissions (hereinafter the 'LAMA BPO').

6.3. The application shall not be considered if not all of the required documents are submitted.

## **7. COMPETITION FOR THE ADMISSION TO STUDIES**

7.1. Entrants to each study programme are admitted through a competition based on a competitive score.

7.2. Entrants shall be placed in the competition queue for each study programme in descending order of the competitive score.

7.3. The data used to determine the competitive score shall be taken from the documents certifying the completion of the requisite education. If the documents certifying education were issued by foreign institutions, they must be recognised in the Republic of Lithuania in accordance with the procedure laid down by the legislation.

7.4. The entrant's invitation to study shall depend on the priorities set out in the application form, the competitive score, and the competition queue for the study programme. The entrant shall be invited to study in the study programme that is given a higher priority (is put higher in the application's preference list). Upon receipt of an invitation to study in a particular study programme that was specified in the application of the entrant, the order of preferences in the application may no longer be changed, regardless of which other study programme the entrant may be invited to.

7.5. Entrants with the highest competitive score in the competition queue and falling within the University's quota of student places shall be considered invited entrants.

7.6. Admitted students shall be those persons who enter into an Agreement with the University and are admitted to study by order of the Rector.

## **8. ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS AND MOTIVATION ASSESSMENT**

8.1. For admission to certain study programmes, only those persons who have passed an entrance examination and/or a motivation assessment shall be allowed to apply.

8.2. For the assessment of entrance examinations and motivation, the head of the Unit organising the entrance examination and/or motivation assessment shall, by order of the head of such Unit, set up a commission for the assessment of the relevant entrance examination and motivation.

8.3. Failure to pass or attend the entrance examination and/or the motivation assessment shall preclude further participation in the competition for that study programme.

## **9. FUNDING OF STUDIES**

9.1. State-funded student places for first-cycle and integrated studies, second-cycle, and professional (pedagogy) studies shall be allocated in accordance with the procedure established by the Republic of Lithuania Law on Higher Education and Research (hereinafter the 'Law on Higher Education and Research').

9.2. State-funded student places shall be awarded to entrants seeking and entitled to study in state-funded student places, subject to the highest possible preference stated in the application form and taking into account the entrant's competitive score and the competition queue for the study programme.

9.3. Non-state-funded student places shall be awarded to entrants applying for non-state-funded student places on the basis of the highest possible preference stated in the application form, taking into account the entrant's competitive score and the competition queue for the study programme.

9.4. Persons who seek to re-enter the same or a lower-cycle study programme and who have completed more than half of the credits of the previous study programme at the expense of the state budget shall not be entitled to apply for a state-funded place and shall only be eligible for a non-state-funded place.

9.5. Entrants applying for non-state-funded student places may be eligible for study scholarships where available.

## **10. ENTRANCE FEE AND REGISTRATION FEE**

10.1. The amounts of the entrance fee and the registration fee shall be determined by a resolution of the Council, while the procedure for payment shall be established by an order of the Rector.

## **11. CONCLUSION OF STUDY AGREEMENTS**

11.1. The entrants invited to study at the University must conclude an Agreement with the University. Agreements shall be concluded in accordance with the procedure and terms established by the Rector. Failure to conclude the Agreement within the established term shall render the invitation to study at the University null and void.

## **12. DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

12.1. Appeals by entrants concerning procedural irregularities in admission to study programmes and technical errors in the calculation of the competitive score may be submitted to the University

Admissions Commission and shall be examined within the terms set by the Rector. Appeals shall be examined by the University Admissions Commission. Appeals of entrants participating in the general admission to first-cycle and integrated studies shall be submitted and examined in accordance with the procedures and terms established by LAMA BPO.

## **PART II**

### **The First-Cycle (Bachelor) and Integrated Studies**

#### **13. STAGES OF ADMISSION**

13.1. Admission to first-cycle and integrated studies at the University shall be carried out by general admission (Section 14 of the Rules), direct admission (Section 15 of the Rules), and the additional admission of the University (Part V of the Rules).

13.2. The list of first-cycle and integrated study programmes for which admission is carried out shall be approved by the Senate of the University (hereinafter the 'Senate'), and the cost of studies and the admission plan shall be approved by the Council of the University (hereinafter the 'Council').

#### **14. GENERAL ADMISSION**

14.1. General admission shall be carried out in accordance with the general admission procedure approved by the President of LAMA BPO, an institution authorised by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Lithuania. The description of the general admission procedure and detailed information on the general admission processes and terms shall be available on the LAMA BPO website [www.lamabpo.lt](http://www.lamabpo.lt).

14.2. General admission shall be open for state-funded and non-state-funded student places. Entrants applying for non-state-funded student places may be eligible for study scholarships where available.

14.3. The competitive score shall be determined in accordance with the principles set out in Section 17 of these Rules.

14.4. The list of documents required for general admission shall be approved by the Rector.

14.5. The general admission shall be carried out in accordance with the terms set out in the Description of the General Admission Procedures approved by LAMA BPO.

#### **15. DIRECT ADMISSION**

15.1. Direct admission shall be limited to non-state-funded student places.

15.2. The direct admission shall be open to entrants who have and those who have not participated in the general admission.

15.3. The competitive score shall be determined in accordance with the principles set out in Section 17 of these Rules.

15.4. The list of documents required for direct admission shall be approved by the Rector.

15.5. Direct admission shall be carried out within the terms set by the Rector.

#### **16. APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE COMPETITION**

16.1. During the general admission, entrants shall submit their applications to the competition for admission to first-cycle and integrated studies online in accordance with the general admission procedure established by LAMA BPO.

16.2. Entrants shall submit and revise their applications for the University's competitions for direct and additional admission to first-cycle and integrated studies online at the University's website [www.vu.lt](http://www.vu.lt).

#### **17. PRINCIPLES FOR DETERMINING THE COMPETITIVE SCORE**

17.1. The competitive score for admission to first-cycle and integrated studies shall be calculated taking into account the competitive matriculation exam results and annual grades. The structure of the competitive score shall be approved by the Rector.

17.2. The Rector shall approve the methodology for calculating the competitive score. In the cases provided for in the methodology, additional points may be added to the competitive score

17.3. The information for the competitive score shall be taken from the documents submitted by the entrant (Item 14(4) of the Rules): documents certifying completion of the secondary education programme (e.g. certificate of maturity) and other additional documents.

17.4. If the entrant's education documents have been issued by institutions in foreign countries, the entrant's education must be recognised and the grades obtained abroad must be transferred to the Lithuanian grading system before the documents may be registered. For entrants for general admission, these processes shall be carried out in accordance with the terms and procedures established by LAMA BPO. For entrants for direct admission, these procedures shall be carried out in accordance with the terms and procedures established by the Rector. The list of documents to be submitted to the University Admissions Commission shall be approved by the Rector. The grade transfer request shall not be examined if not all the documents on this list are submitted.

17.5. For general admission, the following procedure shall apply:

17.5.1. in accordance with the Law on Higher Education and Research, state-funded student places shall be awarded to entrants who, during the general admission, are ranked in the final queue of the best candidates, which shall be drawn up in accordance with the procedure established by the Minister of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Lithuania (hereafter the 'Minister of Education, Science and Sport'). Admission to a study programme shall be based on the highest possible preference stated in the application form, taking into account the entrant's competitive score and the competition queue for the study programme;

17.5.2. non-state-funded student places during the general admission shall be awarded to entrants applying for non-state-funded student places, subject to the highest possible preference stated in the application form and taking into account the entrant's competitive score and the competition queue for the study programme.

17.6. Entrants applying for non-state-funded student places during the direct and the additional admission of the University shall be admitted according to separate competition queues.

17.7. Priority in the event of a tie due to an equal competitive score shall be given in accordance with the procedure established by LAMA BPO.

## **18. ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS AND MOTIVATION ASSESSMENT**

18.1. The schedules for the entrance examinations to the first-cycle and integrated study programmes of the arts study field group and art pedagogy study programmes shall be approved and published by LAMA BPO. The timetables for other entrance examinations for first-cycle and integrated programmes for which entrance examinations are compulsory shall be approved and published by the Units.

18.2. Upon selecting a study programme during the direct admission process or the additional admission process of the University, the entrant shall be automatically registered for the entrance examination. During the general admission, the entrant must select the date of the entrance examination and/or motivation assessment in the LAMA BPO information system.

18.3. The procedure for motivation assessment and entrance examinations for arts study field groups and art pedagogy study programmes shall be determined by the Minister of Education, Science and Sport.



## **PART III ADMISSION TO SECOND-CYCLE AND PROFESSIONAL (PEDAGOGY) STUDIES**

### **19. STAGES OF ADMISSION**

19.1. Admission to the second cycle and professional (pedagogy) studies shall be carried out during the first stage of the general admission (Section 20 of the Rules), the second stage of the general admission (Section 21 of the Rules), and the additional admission of the University (Part V of the Rules).

19.2. The Senate shall approve the list of second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) study programmes for which admission is carried out, and the Council shall approve the cost of studies and the admission plan.

### **20. THE FIRST STAGE OF GENERAL ADMISSION**

20.1. Persons who meet the requirements set by orders of the Minister of Education, Science and Sport and the Rector may apply for the second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) study programmes at the University.

20.2. The competitive score shall be determined in accordance with the principles set out in Section 23 of these Rules.

20.3. The list of documents to be submitted during the first stage of the general admission shall be approved by the Rector.

20.4. The first stage of the general admission shall be carried out within the terms set by the Rector.

### **21. THE SECOND STAGE OF GENERAL ADMISSION**

21.1. If there are state-funded or non-state-funded student places remaining available after the first stage of general admission, a second stage of the general admissions shall be organised. The remaining available places and the terms for the second stage of the general admission shall be published on the website of the University [www.vu.lt](http://www.vu.lt) and on the websites of the Units in accordance with the terms set by the Rector.

21.2. The second stage of general admission shall be conducted in accordance with the principles of the first stage of general admission as set out in these Rules.

21.3. The second stage of general admission shall be open to persons who have and who have not participated in the first stage of general admission. At the second stage, entrants may indicate in their application the study programmes for which there are state-funded and/or non-state-funded places remaining available after the first stage. Entrants who have concluded an agreement for a state-funded student place in the first stage may only apply for non-state-funded study programme places in the second stage.

21.4. Only those entrants who have passed the entrance examinations and/or motivation assessment for these study programmes during the first stage of the general admission may apply to study programmes for which entrance examinations and/or motivation assessment are foreseen.

### **22. APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION**

22.1. Entrants shall submit and revise their applications for admission to second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) studies online at the address indicated on the University's website [www.vu.lt](http://www.vu.lt).

### **23. PRINCIPLES FOR DETERMINING THE COMPETITIVE SCORE**

23.1. The Rector shall approve the structure of the competitive score for admission to second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) studies. The competitive score shall be calculated according to the formulae set out in the competitive score structure table. Additional points may be added to the

competitive score on the presentation of a certificate of additional points in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Rector. The amount of additional points and the criteria for awarding them shall be determined by the Units.

23.2. The data used to calculate the competitive score shall be taken from the documents submitted by the entrant (Item 20(3) of the Rules): first-cycle or integrated studies graduation documents, certificates of professional studies, as well as any other documents that may be used to award the entrant additional points.

23.3. General principles for the determination of the competitive score:

23.3.1. for entrants who completed their first-cycle or integrated studies in 2011 or earlier, the scope of subjects shall be converted into ECTS credits by multiplying the number of national credits by a factor of 1.5;

23.3.2. the grades of five-point system in the diploma supplement (annex) shall be doubled. Grades of systems other than the ten-point grading system shall first be converted to the ten-point grading system, and only then the competitive score shall be calculated;

23.3.3. if the supplement to the first-cycle or integrated studies diploma (annex) does not specify the number of credits, the arithmetical average of the grades in the supplement to the diploma shall be taken to determine the competitive score;

23.3.4. if the study programme's course unit required by the competitive score structure has been passed obtaining a course credit (without a grade of numerical value), the grade shall be considered to be 5;

23.3.5. if an entrant does not have a grade in a course unit required by the competitive score structure, other course units taken may be credited. A list of course credits is available on the website of the University [www.vu.lt](http://www.vu.lt);

23.3.6. persons without a course unit required by the competitive score structure and a possible creditable course unit may not apply for the chosen study programme, with the exceptions provided for by an order of the Rector. The missing course unit may be taken at the University by concluding an Agreement as an unclassified student;

23.3.7. if the grade obtained during studying abroad and included in the diploma supplement, is required for the calculation of the competitive score, it may be transferred to the Lithuanian grading system by the Unit's study exchange coordinator at the request of the University student.

23.4. In the case of equal competitive scores, priority for admission to second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) studies shall be given (in descending order of priority) to entrants with:

23.4.1. a higher grade (or grade point average) obtained for the final thesis and/or final examination(s);

23.4.2. a higher weighted average of the grades in the diploma supplement (annex), excluding the grades obtained for the final thesis and/or final examination(s).

23.5. If the entrant's education documents were issued by institutions in foreign countries, the entrant's education must be recognised prior to the registration of the documents, and the grades obtained abroad must be transferred to the Lithuanian grading system. These procedures shall be carried out within the terms and in accordance with the procedures laid down by the Rector. The list of documents to be submitted to the University Admissions Commission shall be approved by the Rector. The grade transfer request shall not be examined if not all the documents on this list are submitted.

## 24. ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS AND MOTIVATION ASSESSMENT

24.1. The schedules for entrance examinations and motivation assessments for second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) study programmes for which entrance examinations or motivation assessments are foreseen shall be approved and published by the Units at least one month before the entrance examination or motivation assessment.

24.2. Upon selecting a study programme, the entrant shall be automatically registered for an entrance examination and/or a motivation assessment.

## **PART IV**

### **ADMISSION OF FOREIGN NATIONALS AND PERSONS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THEIR EDUCATION AT FOREIGN INSTITUTIONS**

25.1. Persons who have completed their education at foreign institutions may be admitted to state-funded student places (or apply for study scholarships) through a competition process in cases determined by the Minister of Education, Science and Sport.

25.2. Persons referred to in Item 25(1) of these Rules shall be admitted in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Rules (admission to first-cycle and integrated studies shall be in accordance with the procedure laid down in Part II, while admission to second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) studies shall be in accordance with the procedure laid down in Part III).

25.3. Foreign nationals who do not meet the criteria set out in Item 25(1) of these Rules shall be admitted to non-state-funded student places by means of a competitive examination in accordance with the Description of the Procedure for the Admission of Foreign Nationals to Full-Time First-Cycle, Second-Cycle, and Integrated Study Programmes of Vilnius University.

**PART V  
ADDITIONAL ADMISSION OF THE  
UNIVERSITY**

- 26.1. The additional admission of the University to the first cycle and integrated study programmes shall be performed in the following order:
- 26.1.1. additional admission shall be announced if there are non-state-funded student places remaining available after the general and direct admissions. Additional admission of the University shall be announced on the website [www.vu.lt](http://www.vu.lt) and shall take place within the terms set by the Rector;
  - 26.1.2. The additional admission of the University shall be open to persons who have and who have not participated in the general and/or direct admissions to first-cycle and integrated studies;
  - 26.1.3. the competitive score shall be determined in accordance with the principles set out in Section 17 of these Rules;
  - 26.1.4. during the additional admission of the University, entrants shall be required to submit the documents specified in the list approved by the Rector;
  - 26.1.5. entrants who have passed the entrance examination and/or motivation assessment during the general and/or direct admission to the study programmes in which they are foreseen, shall not be required to take the entrance examination or motivation assessment during the additional admission of the University;
  - 26.1.6. during the additional admission of the University, entrants to study programmes which foresee entrance examinations and/or motivation assessments must take them if they did not participate in the general and/or direct admission(s) to first-cycle and integrated studies and did not take the entrance examinations or motivation assessments foreseen.
- 26.2. Additional admission to second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) study programmes at the University shall be performed in accordance with the following procedure:
- 26.2.1. additional admission of the University shall be announced if there are state-funded and/or non-state-funded student places remaining available after the first and second stages of the general admissions. Additional admission of the University shall be announced on the website [www.vu.lt](http://www.vu.lt) and shall take place within the terms set by the Rector;
  - 26.2.2. the additional admissions of the University shall be open to persons who have and have not participated in the first and second stages of the general admission;
  - 26.2.3. the competitive score shall be determined in accordance with the principles set out in Section 23 of these Rules;
  - 26.2.4. during the additional admission of the University, entrants shall be required to submit the documents specified in the list approved by the Rector;
  - 26.2.5. entrants who have concluded an Agreement for a state-funded student place during the general admission may only apply for non-state-funded study programme places during the additional admissions of the University;
  - 26.2.6. entrants who have passed the entrance examination and/or motivation assessment for the study programmes in which they are foreseen at the first stage of the general admission shall not be required to take the entrance examination or motivation assessment during the additional admissions to the University;
  - 26.2.7. during the additional admission of the University, entrants to study programmes that foresee entrance examinations and/or motivation assessments must take them if they did not participate in the general admissions to second-cycle and professional (pedagogy) studies and did not take the entrance examinations or motivation assessments foreseen.
- 26.3. Early admission or admission to the spring semester may be organised if necessary. The Rector shall approve the terms for such admissions, and the competitive score shall be determined in accordance with the principles set out in Sections 17 and 23 of these Rules.

**PART VI  
FINAL  
PROVISIONS**

27.1. In all cases not provided for in the Rules, the University Admissions Commission shall decide on admission-related matters.