

Rapid decision from the president of the University of Bremen in accordance with § 81 para. 6 BremHG on March 30, 2020 regarding

Changes to the practices employed to date regarding applications, admissions, enrollment, and student administration for the duration of the government measures to limit the spread of coronavirus.

Please note that only the original German version of this text is legally binding.

I. Enrollment of New Students for Summer Semester 2020

The admission processes for beginners of bachelor's and master's degrees and also advanced students in higher semesters of all degree courses had been completed in their entirety by the time that the protective measures against coronavirus came into effect and respective notifications had been issued. The letters of admission / enrollment contain requirements that must be fulfilled by the applicants in order for them to be enrolled. These requirements have deadlines. Due to the protective measures against coronavirus, some requirements were not able to be fulfilled in their entirety, in the right form, or by the deadline.

A. Requirements for Enrollment onto a Subject-Specific Degree Course (First Semester and Advanced Students)

The deadlines for all requirements stated in letters of admissions / enrollment have been generally extended to April 20, 2020.

1. Certified copies of documents to be submitted are no longer required - regardless of whether the document is the requested certificate of qualification for university entrance, a bachelor's degree certificate, a language certificate, confirmation from your health insurance company, etc. Simple copies are sufficient.
2. The knowledge and skills that are to be proven by means of internships and face-to-face tests are still required in order for you to successfully complete your degree. As it is not possible to obtain the proof of such activities at all or by the deadline, enrollment will still take place if proof has not been provided by April 30, 2020.
3. Knowledge of the German language or foreign languages required for a degree according to § 36 para. 4 BremHG remains necessary. The submission of language certificates as a requirement for enrollment by April 30, 2020, is waived.
4. The submission of the following documents (in some cases, simple copies) will not be waived under any circumstances:
 - ➔ Certificate of qualification for university entrance for a bachelor's degree, or
 - ➔ Bachelor's degree certificate (or a letter of confirmation stating the qualification) for a master's degree, or
 - ➔ A de-enrollment certificate for students changing their university and
 - ➔ Confirmation of health insurance from your health insurance company.
 - ➔ If the stated documents are not available in German, a translation must be provided.

These documents must be sent to the Student Office via post.

- ⇒ Those who are not able to complete the enrollment process for the summer semester by April 30, 2020, have the opportunity to make use of preferential admission for the winter semester 2020/21 (as long as the application deadline for the relevant degree course has not expired). This means that such students can defer their admission to the next semester. The submission of a new application is required for this and in the frame of said application, the letter of admission for the summer semester must be uploaded.
- ⇒ Degree courses with no restricted admission are asked to investigate whether parts of their online teaching services can be made available to interested parties outside of the university during the summer semester. This would make the degree start in the winter semester easier for those who were unable to begin in the summer semester.

B. Enrollment of Other Students

The following applies to other cases of enrollment for the summer semester 2020:

1. Erasmus and other exchange students
The semester abroad should be postponed if the closure of borders stops you from beginning your studies by April 20, 2020. You can re-apply for the winter semester. There are no disadvantages or special regulations for exchange students, for whom the summer semester will be the second semester at the University of Bremen.
2. Students of preparatory studies
Application and enrollment for preparatory studies are not connected to any deadlines. Thus, exceptions regarding requirements (preliminary exam certificate from uni-assist) are not required; admission and enrollment take place continually.
3. Doctoral students
Enrollment as a doctoral student is not connected to any deadlines. Thus, exceptions regarding enrollment requirements (supervision confirmation) are not required.

II. Semester Ticket in the Summer Semester 2020 and Re-Enrollment for Summer Semester 2020

It is obligatory that you pay for and accept the semester ticket. This is based on a contract between the participating transport companies and the student bodies of the participating universities. The obligatory fee for the VBN semester ticket and also the statewide semester ticket for Lower Saxony / Bremen is publicly stated in the Fee Regulation Order of the student body of the University of Bremen. A payment suspension and / or reimbursement of the amount (entirely or in part) is not possible, even in light of the circumstance that face-to-face classes will initially not take place until the end of April. The reasons for release from the semester ticket stated in the fee regulations remain valid.

Submission of certificates of proof that may be required for re-enrollment for the summer semester is waived, as long as it is the case that students are unable to provide said proof

due to the protective measures against coronavirus. This especially applies to German language certificates for students of preparatory study courses and the letters of acceptance as a doctoral student for PhD students.

The 4-semester restriction for preparatory studies will be lifted and extended to 5 semesters for all students of such a study course.

All students who receive a BAföG loan should refer to this website:

<https://www.bafög.de/keine-nachteile-beim-bafög-wegen-corona-756.php>.

III. Application Process for the Winter Semester 2020/21

During the admission process at the university, a distinction is made between requirements that must be fulfilled upon submission of the application (= relevant to application) and those requirements that must be fulfilled for enrollment (= relevant to enrollment). This is stated in the Admission and Enrollment Regulations for each master's degree course. The following regulations generally only apply to required documents that are relevant to application. This rapid decision document does generally not initiate any changes to the necessity of documents required that are relevant to enrollment, unless explicitly stated.

A. Required Language Skills

All applicants are obliged to obtain a language certificate by means of an online test and / or online courses, should they not yet have such a certificate.

The Languages Centre for the Universities in the Land of Bremen will be asked for relevant recommendations. As such certificates cannot be obtained at short notice, the submission of language certificates as being relevant to application, which is stated in some Admission Regulations, is waived.

B. Internships

Should internships not be able to be carried out due to the preventive measures against coronavirus, they will no longer be required, even if they are relevant for enrollment, and you will be pointed in the direction of the internship officer of the relevant faculty.

C. Aptitude Exams and Tests

Aptitude or admission tests are requirements relevant to application for the Music Education degree and several master's degree courses. As it is probable that such tests / exams cannot be carried out as usual due to the preventive measures against coronavirus, the responsible disciplines / faculties are asked to create and offer suitable alternatives at an early point in time or to suspend these tests / exams for the application process for the winter semester 2020/21 based on the coronavirus related measures. The decision made by said areas will be published from May 1, 2020, onwards.

D. Number of Credit Points (CP) which Are Relevant to Applications for Master's Degrees

The following applies to student who are not able to prove the number of acquired bachelor's CPs by the application deadline for master's degrees due to examinations being cancelled: The provision of the total number of CPs required for the application (e.g. 150 CPs) can be waived if the minimum number of CPs specified for each subject is attained.

E. Time of Awarding of High School Qualification Certificates

Should the awarding of high school qualification certificates be postponed until after the application deadline for foundation study courses (July 15), the University of Bremen will support trans-state solutions.

The application portals for all degrees with an application deadline of July 15, 2020, (including the relevant master's degree courses) will open on June 1, 2020.