HOCHSCHULE RHEIN-WAAL
Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Admission Regulations for Mechanical Engineering, M.Sc. and Bionics, M.Sc. of the Faculty of Technology and Bionics at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

From 14 November 2018
(Official Notice 27/2019)

As amended by the second amending statutes
From 8 January 2025
(Official Notice 13/2025)

Section 1 Scope

(1) These admission regulations govern admission to the degree programmes Mechanical Engineering, M.Sc. and Bionics, M.Sc. of the Faculty of Technology and Bionics of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(2) Admission requirements are set forth in Section 2.

Section 2 Admission requirements

(1) Admission requirements are:

1. a professionally-qualifying undergraduate degree in a related field (listed explicitly in the annex of these regulations) that had at least 210 total credits (ECTS) or a standard period of study (full-time) of at least seven semesters,

2. a final cumulative grade for said undergraduate degree of at least 2.5 or better on the German grading scale, equivalent to an “A” or a “B” on the ECTS grading scale,

3. at least B2 level proficiency in English according to the Common European Framework (CEFR), verified by an internationally recognised language certificate.

(2) International applicants whose qualifications are not considered equivalent to those of German applicants by international treaty must demonstrate their academic aptitude in a special examination in addition to fulfilling the minimum requirements defined in subsection 1. Only the following aptitude tests and scores are accepted:

- TestAS (minimum score of 100, averaged from the core test and the engineering test);
- Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) in the areas defined in the annex with a score of 80% (or the corresponding percentile rank for the year); or
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) with a score of at least 60% (or the corresponding percentile rank for the year).

(3) Deviating from subsection 1 number 1, applicants applying on the basis of a professionally-qualifying undergraduate degree that had between 180 and 210 credits (ECTS) or a full-time study duration of at least six semesters may be admitted on a provisional basis, generally on the condition that they complete the missing undergraduate requirements during their postgraduate studies. In addition to completing additional modules, applicants may also request credit recognition for prior learning that is equivalent to undergraduate-level courses. Prior learning that has been recognised for credit will be recorded in the final grade certificate, but not included in the student's grade point average.

(4) The Examination Board is responsible for decisions on the relevancy of an applicant's bachelor's degree per subsection (1) number 1 based on submitted documentation and, if necessary, a technical discussion with the applicant. The relevancy requirement is considered fulfilled if an applicant's bachelor's degree was in the same field or discipline as the master's degree. For other types of qualifications, applicants must demonstrate a level of technical expertise comparable both in scope and content to an bachelor's degree programme as defined by sentence 2.

(5) Applicants may request an exemption from the language certificate requirement defined in subsection (1) number 3. Exemption requests are justified, for example, for persons applying on the basis of a professionally-qualifying bachelor's degree that was taught in English and obtained in one of the countries recognised as majority English-speaking in the annex. The Examination Board will decide on these requests. The English language requirement is also considered fulfilled for applicants who completed their professionally-qualifying undergraduate degree in English at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

(6) Applicants are ineligible for admission if they have previously failed the final attempt at a mandatory examination in the same degree programme at a university that is subject to German Basic Law. This also applies to degree programmes that share a significant overlap in content with the degree programme at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

Section 3
Intake and application deadlines

(1) Mechanical Engineering, M.Sc. and Bionics, M.Sc. accept new applicants in both the winter and summer semesters.

(2) Applications must be received by Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences by no later than 15 July for intake in the winter semester, or 15 January for intake in the summer semester.

(3) For more information, please refer to the Enrolment Regulations of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

Section 4
Entry into force

These admission regulations will enter into force on the day of publication in the Official Notices of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. The previously valid admission regulations for Mechanical Engineering, M.Sc. shall expire simultaneously.

Note: These admission regulations entered into force on 16 April 2025.

Degree programmes considered to be relevant for admission to Mechanical Engineering, M.Sc. in accordance with Section 2 (1) no. 1

A degree in this field is considered relevant:

- Mechanical Engineering

Additionally, the following degree programmes with similar focus areas as mechanical engineering are considered relevant:

- Mechatronics / Systems Engineering
- Industrial Engineering
- Materials Science / Materials Engineering
- Vehicle Technology / Automotive Engineering
- Aerospace Engineering
- Manufacturing/Production Technology/Engineering
- Automation Technology/Engineering
- Process Engineering

The relevancy of a bachelor's degree programme not listed above can also be determined separately if it has an engineering emphasis.

Accordingly, during the application phase the Examination Board can judge on a case-by-case basis the relevancy of a degree in one of the following fields based on its module descriptions:

- Electrical Engineering / Electronics
- Environmental Technology/Engineering
- Logistics
- Computer Science/Engineering
- Energy Technology
- Bionics
- Physics

Degrees programmes considered to be relevant for admission to Bionics, M.Sc. in accordance with Section 2 (1) number 1

A degree in this field is considered relevant:

- Mechatronics / Robotics
- Bionics / Biomimetics
- Informatics / Computer Science and derivatives
- Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering and derivatives like Aerospace, Marine, Automotive, Naval
- Automation Engineering
- Materials Science/Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Kinesiology / Movement Science

The relevancy of a bachelor's degree programme not listed above can also be determined separately if it has a bionics emphasis.

Accordingly, during the application phase the Examination Board can judge on a case-by-case basis the relevancy of a degree in one of the following fields based on its module descriptions:

- Biology / Zoology / Botany / Ecology / Oceanography
- Chemistry / Physics / Mathematics
- Bioengineering / Microbiology
- Architecture / Civil Engineering
- Environmental Science (chemistry focus)
- Energy & Environment
- Environmental Science (biology focus)
- Biomechanics
- Sports Sciences
- Other Engineering

Annex 3: Accepted GATE tests:

For Mechanical Engineering:

- AE: Aerospace Engineering
- ME: Mechanical Engineering
- PI: Production and Industrial Engineering
- XE-ABx: Maths, Fluids and one other engineering
- XE-ACx: Maths, Materials and one other engineering
- XE-ADx: Maths, Solid Mechanics and one other engineering
- XE-AEx: Maths, Thermodynamics and one other engineering

For Bionics:

- AE: Aerospace Engineering
- BM: Biomedical
- CH: Chemical Engineering
- CS: Computer Science & IT
- CY: Chemistry
- EC: Electronics & Communication Engineering
- ES: Environmental Science & Engineering
- EY: Ecology & Evolution
- IN: Instrumentation Engineering
- MA: Mathematics
- ME: Mechanical Engineering
- MT: Metallurgical Engineering
- PH: Physics
- XE-ABx: Maths, Fluids and one other engineering
- XE-ACx: Maths, Materials Science and one other engineering
- XE-ADx: Maths, Solid Mechanics and one other engineering
- XE-AEx: Maths, Thermodynamics and one other engineering
- XE-AEx: Maths, Polymer Sci and one other engineering
- XL-PRx: Chemistry, Botany and one other life science
- XL-PTx: Chemistry, Zoology and one other life science
- XL-PUx: Chemistry, Food Tech and one other life science

Annex 4: The following countries are recognised as majority English-speaking:

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Australia
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Ireland
- Jamaica
- Canada
- New Zealand
- St. Kitts and Nevis
- St. Lucia
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Trinidad and Tobago
- The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- United States of America