

## Admissions Regulations 2023-2024

*In the event of a divergence between the different linguistic versions of these regulations, the French version shall prevail.*

### **Article 1**

These regulations shall apply, in all their provisions, to applicants/students who have applied for admission onto a course of study at UMONS for registration in the 2023-2024 academic year, as stipulated by the Decree of 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

By submitting the application, the applicant/student acknowledges these regulations.

### **Article 2**

#### Definitions:

- Admission: the administrative and academic process of verifying that an applicant/student meets the criteria to undertake a particular course of study and defining any additional conditions<sup>1</sup>.
- Applicant: the person applying for admission to UMONS (whether already a student or not).
- Renewal: application for admission for year *n* following acceptance of the initial application for admission in year *n-1* for the same course and the same classification of the cycle for which the board gave its decision in year *n-1*. Renewal is possible only once.

### **Article 3**

The application for admission/renewal must be submitted exclusively using the online form available on the University's website. It must be submitted by the applicant personally. The University reserves the right to request the original documents constituting the admissions application, as well as any other documents (which may be requested at the time of registration).

Admission onto certain courses is subject to specific procedures and/or academic criteria. This information is available on the University's website.

The applicant must ensure that they meet all the general conditions and, where applicable, those specific to the course onto which they wish to be admitted. The admissions application (form and documents/attachments) must be submitted by the following deadlines, otherwise it will be inadmissible:

- Students from non-EU countries who do not have residency in Belgium and need a study visa<sup>2</sup>: 31<sup>st</sup> March, at 23:59 (Belgian time zone).
- Belgian, European, and non-EU students who do not require a study visa: 31<sup>st</sup> August, at 23:59 (Belgian time zone).

In accordance with Article 5, the University cannot be held responsible for any computer problems related to the application and the sending/receiving of e-mails.

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<sup>1</sup> Definition taken from Article 15 of the Decree of 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013 defining the higher education framework and the academic organisation of studies.

<sup>2</sup> The free movement of persons under the Schengen Agreement does not exempt you from obtaining a study visa.

#### **Article 4**

All non-EU applicants (even those who are assimilated) must also pay an application fee. This application fee is charged as an administrative fee. The amount of this fee is set at 200 euros (international transfer costs are at the applicant's expense). This fee, which must be paid by the specified deadline, is a pre-requisite for applications to be considered. The payment must be received by UMONS within 15 calendar days of the application submission date. After this period, the application will be automatically refused.

In the event of successful admission, the application fee will be deducted from the tuition fees due.

In all other cases, the application fee will not be refunded, particularly if admission is refused or if the application is submitted and/or paid after the deadline in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 regarding the application fee, or if the registration is not finalised at UMONS, or if the registration is cancelled or withdrawn, be it before or after 1<sup>st</sup> December.

#### **Article 5**

The application in its entirety must be submitted by the applicant by the deadline set out in Article 3.

Incomplete applications will automatically be refused.

A refused application cannot be completed at a later date.

#### **Article 6**

Applicants may submit only one application at a time.

If more than one application is submitted, the applicant will be asked to choose which application is to be considered. All other applications will be considered null and void.

If an application for admission has already been accepted and the applicant submits a second application, this will be refused.

If an admissions application has been refused, the applicant may submit a new application by the deadline specified in Article 3, provided that the refusal is not based on insufficient financial means. In such circumstances, non-EU applicants applying for a Bachelor's, Master's or Advanced Master's degree (see Article 10) will have to pay the application fee again. In the event of successful admission, the application fee will be deducted from the tuition fees only once.

#### **Article 7**

Documents that are not in French, Dutch or English must be translated into French by a sworn translator. Any document issued in another language must be accompanied by a translation.

Degree certificates and all other documents that include an English or French translation do not need to be translated.

#### **Article 8**

Applicants can consult their application status directly via the online application through which they have submitted their admissions application.

No information on the status of the application will be communicated in any other way (e.g. by email or telephone).

No information relating to an applicant or an application will be provided to anyone other than the applicant, unless the request for information falls within the exceptions set out in the GDPR.

### **Article 9**

After checking that the application is complete and meets any specific academic criteria, the Registration Office will, if necessary, forward the application to the relevant Faculty/School board for review of the academic elements which it is responsible for assessing.

If accepted, the applicant receives, by email, the decision of acceptance, as well as any reservations made by the Board regarding their admission. The applicant's registration can only be finalised if these reservations have been resolved by the deadline. Otherwise, the applicant will not be registered.

The “standard form” (for the purpose of applying for a study visa) is sent by email and by post to the applicant and/or to the contact person indicated in the application form, as chosen by the applicant at the time of their application, in order to allow the applicant to apply for a VISA with the competent authorities. The “standard form” is valid **until 30<sup>th</sup> September**. No extension of the validity date of the form will be granted.

The “standard form” to apply for a study VISA is sent by email to the applicant, so that they can apply for the VISA with the competent authorities. The “standard form” is valid **until 30<sup>th</sup> September included**. The applicant whose application has been accepted can only register if they are physically present in Belgium by 30<sup>th</sup> September at the latest. No extensions to the validity of the form will be granted.

In case of refusal, the applicant will be informed by email via the email address they provided in their application.

### **Article 10**

An applicant admitted for an academic year, but who has not been able to finalise their registration, has the opportunity to reapply for admission for the following academic year.

The applicant may submit only one new application for admission granted in the previous year. The new application is subject to the updated academic criteria.

Should the application for a visa be refused following the acceptance of the initial application and based on the notification of the visa refusal, the application fee will be carried over to the new application.

### **Article 11**

The admissions application is inadmissible if the student does not meet all the conditions for admission onto the course in question, or if it does not comply with the provisions of these regulations or of the Study Regulations. The student will be notified directly by email, via the email address given by the student in their application form, of the inadmissibility of the application, as well as the reasons for the decision and the extract from this Article detailing the appeals procedure.

The applicant may lodge an appeal against the refusal of admission with the Government Commissioner at UMONS, 15 Place du Parc, 7000 Mons.

If the University has not made a decision by 31<sup>st</sup> October, an appeal may also be lodged.

The appeals procedure is as follows: the student submits their appeal either by hand with acknowledgement of receipt signed by a member of the Commissioner's Office, or by registered post with acknowledgement of receipt to 15 Place du Parc 15, 7000 Mons, or by e-mail to the following address: [commissaire.gouv@umons.ac.be](mailto:commissaire.gouv@umons.ac.be); the appeal is inadmissible if it is not submitted within 15 working days from the first working day following notification of the disputed decision or, if on 1<sup>st</sup> November, the University has failed to make a decision.

The appeal must mention:

1° If inadmissible, the identity of the student, their address, telephone number, e-mail address and nationality

2° If inadmissible, the exact grounds and reasons for the appeal

3° the legal name of the higher education institution behind the disputed decision

4° the course for which admission or registration was requested

5° If inadmissible, a copy of the disputed decision.

The student must include an inventory of any documents attached to the appeal that they deem necessary.

The submission of this appeal is considered as provisional registration pending the decision of the appeal.

The student must provide proof that they have submitted an application to the University.

The Government Commissioner makes a decision based on the documents, and on any arguments put forward by the University, within 7 working days from the date of receipt of the complete application sent by the higher education institution. The institution is obliged to provide the complete application and any remarks within 7 working days from the date of the Government Commissioner's request for this information.

If the Commissioner's decision concludes that the appeal is inadmissible, the decision of the higher education institution is final.

If the appeal is admissible, the Government Commissioner either confirms the decision of inadmissibility of the application for admission, or invalidates it and confirms the admissibility of the student's application for admission.

The Government Commissioner's decisions are notified either by registered mail with acknowledgement of receipt, or by e-mail via the email address provided by the student in their application form. A copy of the decision is also sent to the higher education institution.

### **Article 12**

Any false declaration or falsification in the constitution of an admissions application will constitute registration fraud and will automatically lead to refusal of admission against the person concerned for a period of three academic years in any higher education institution of the French Community.

An omission may, in certain circumstances, be considered a false declaration.

The Registration Office will notify the person concerned of any suspected fraud. The student may contest the allegations in writing to the Rector within fifteen days of this notification. Based on the

information provided by the Registration Office and the student applicant, the Rector decides whether or not to confirm the refusal of admission.

If they deem it necessary, the Rector may request a meeting with the student applicant.

If admission is refused, a copy of this decision is sent to the Government Commissioner of UMONS. After verifying compliance with the procedure and whether the fraud was committed, the Government Commissioner will communicate the name of the student to ARES, which has a database listing the names of the students who have committed fraud, and which is managed in accordance with the Law of 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018 on the protection of individuals regarding the processing of personal data. These students who have committed fraud will have their names automatically deleted from the list after a period of three academic years. UMONS notifies the person concerned that they have been registered in the database and informs them of how to exercise their rights of appeal.

A student's admissions application will be denied if the student has, within the previous three academic years, been excluded from a higher education institution for reasons of registration fraud or cheating on assessments, or if ARES has refused to let the student take an admissions test or examination.

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For registration applications for the 2024-2025 academic year, the Admissions Regulations will be updated and implemented during the 2023-2024 academic year.