



UNIVERSITÄT  
HOHENHEIM

# **Admission Regulations for the Master's program in FOOD SYSTEMS**

*This translation is not legally binding.*

# University of Hohenheim Admission Regulations for the Master's Program in Food Systems at the Faculty of Natural Sciences

**From 27 February 2025**

On 5 February 2025, the University of Hohenheim Senate passed the following regulations on the basis of § 63(2), § 60(2), § 59, as well as § 19(1) sentence 2 no. 10 of the State Higher Education Act (LHG) of 1 January 2005 (GBl. p. 1), in the version of Art. 1 of the Third Higher Education Amendment Act (3rd HRÄG) from 1 April 2014 (GBl. p. 99), most recently amended by Art. 24 of the Budget Accompanying Act 2025/2026 from 17 December 2024 (GBl. no. 114), § 6(4), § 6a, § 9(2) and (3) as well as § 11 of the Higher Education Admissions Act (HZG) from 15 September 2005 (GBl. p. 629), most recently amended by Art. 9 of the Fourth Higher Education Amendment Act (4th HRÄG) from 17 December 2020 (GBl. p. 1204, 1229), and §§ 19 ff. as well as § 33 of the Higher Education Admissions Ordinance (Hochschulzulassungsverordnung, HZVO) from 2 December 2019 (GBl. p. 489), most recently amended by Art. 2 of the University Admission Ordinance for Professionals (BerufstätigenhochschulzugangsVO) and the HZVO from 2 July 2024 (GBl. no. 52).

## **§ 1 Scope of application**

- (1) These Regulations set down provisions for admission to the Food Systems Master's program.
- (2) In addition, the provisions of the University of Hohenheim's Admission and Enrollment Regulations from 8 May 2024 (published in the Official Communications on 15 May 2024, no. 1505) apply to the admission procedure.

## **§ 2 Deadline and form**

- (1) Admission to the first subject-related semester is only to be granted for the winter semester.
- (2) The application for admission must have been received by the University of Hohenheim by the following date (cut-off date) according to the applicant's citizenship
  - a. for applicants who are not citizens of an EU Member State or a Member State of the European Economic Area: by 30 March for the following winter semester.
  - b. for German applicants or applicants with citizenship from another EU Member State or citizenship of another Member State of the European Economic Area or Swiss citizenship or foreign or stateless applicants who have a German university entrance qualification: by 25 June for the following winter semester.
- (3) The application must be submitted electronically to the University of Hohenheim using the application portal provided by EIT Food (registered office in Belgium) in accordance with the requirements stated therein. In this context, applicants indicate their preferred mobility path (mandatory information) and a maximum of two alternatives.
- (4) Proof of the admission requirements specified in § 5 is required for admission and must be submitted in paper form upon enrollment.
- (5) If the proof according to § 3(2) is not in German or English, a translation into German or English is required by a person or institution who is authorized to issue such translations by a court or by oath.

(6) The University may require that the proof referred to in § 3(2) be submitted in the original or in officially certified form. Admission shall be refused if the documents do not meet the requirements, including the form, stipulated by the University.

### **§ 3 Responsibilities**

(1) The President's Office of the University of Hohenheim decides on admission on the recommendation of the responsible admission committee.

(2) An admission committee is appointed for the Master's degree program in Food Systems. The admission committee consists of at least five representatives of the academic staff, four of whom must belong to the University of Hohenheim and at least one other person from one of the participating partner universities. At least three of them belong to the status group of professors. In addition, the admission committee includes a representative of the degree program coordinator and a member of the student body in an advisory capacity. Deputies may be appointed. The term of office for the elected primarily employed members is two years, for the student member one year. A professorial member of the admission committee chairs the committee. The chairperson, deputy chairperson, and the other members of the admission committee and their deputies are elected by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Natural Sciences. Reappointment is permitted.

(3) The admission committee has a quorum if at least two voting members including one member from the group of professors are present in addition to the chairperson or the deputy of such. The admission committee decides by a simple majority vote of the members present; if there is a tie, the chairperson casts the deciding vote. The meetings of the admission committee are not open to the public.

(4) An interview committee shall be formed for the aptitude interview in accordance with § 7. The committee comprises at least one member of the Faculty of Natural Sciences or the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, as well as the degree program coordinator. One person can be a member of the admission committee and the interview committee at the same time.

(5) The aptitude interviews may take place as a video conference with the consent of the applicant.

(6) The Procedural Order for Committees and Commissions at the University of Hohenheim applies as amended.

### **§ 5 Admission requirements**

(1) Admission requirements are:

1. a first degree in a degree program in accordance with Annex 1 at a German or foreign university with a period of study of at least 180 ECTS or a standard period of study of at least three years or an equivalent academic qualification;
2. English language skills at level B2. Further details of the proof of language proficiency are set out in Annex 2 to these regulations, and the selection committee may permit exceptions;
3. proof of entrepreneurship skills by means of a written test (this includes four categories with 5 points each: Creativity, Resilience, Tolerance of Ambiguity, and Critical Thinking; a minimum of 5 points must be achieved across all categories).
4. successful participation in the aptitude interview to demonstrate professional knowledge in accordance with § 6; at least 5 out of 10 points must be achieved in the communication skills category, at least 5 out of 20 points in the entrepreneurial

potential category and at least 8 out of 20 points in the professional knowledge category.

(2) Applicants who have already been enrolled in the same Master's programs must provide proof that they have the right to be examined in this degree program and that they are not currently undergoing an examination procedure. The same applies to a related degree program. Related degree programs are the degree programs mentioned in 1 a). In addition, the selection committee may recognize further degree programs as related and amend the list accordingly. Proof must be provided by a certificate from the university or college at which the enrollment took place.

(3) The admission committee decides on the equivalence of the previous education and the comparability of the degrees. In recognizing grades and proof which were given outside of the Federal Republic of Germany, the equivalence agreements from the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and the German Rectors' Conference as well as agreements in the context of the university partnerships will be taken into consideration.

(4) If the final degree certificate for the first degree is not yet available by the application deadline acc. to section 1(1), an overview of the examination results available up to that point must be uploaded. In this case, the applicant is admitted with the proviso that the final degree certificate is submitted no later than 15 December of the year for which admission is requested. If the proof is not submitted by the deadline, admission is revoked.

## **§ 6 Suitability interview**

(1) The aptitude interview is intended to show whether the applicant has sufficient subject-specific skills in the subject areas relevant to the Master's degree program, such as business administration, chemistry, and nutritional sciences. Furthermore, the candidate's communicative potential, which is of particular importance with regard to entrepreneurship, as well as previous practical or theoretical experience in the field of entrepreneurship will be assessed.

(2) The exact dates for the aptitude interviews are usually announced on the University of Hohenheim's website at the start of the application process. The applicants will be invited by the University of Hohenheim to a selection interview in good time.

(3) The members of the interview committee will conduct a joint interview with the applicant on the basis of structured questionnaires lasting approximately 30 minutes. Group interviews with up to five applicants at the same time are permitted. The answers of the individual persons remain recognizable and are evaluated separately.

(4) Minutes shall be kept of the main questions and answers of the interview committee by a member of the interview committee. In addition, the minutes show the date and place of the interview, the names of the committee members, the names of the applicants, and the assessments.

(5) The assessment is divided into three parts: communication skills (10 points), entrepreneurial potential (20 points), and technical knowledge based on a list of questions jointly agreed with the partner universities (20 points).

(6) If an applicant is unable to attend the agreed interview, such person is entitled to attend the next interview of the corresponding application procedure if there is a valid reason. For this purpose, the applicant must immediately provide the University of Hohenheim with written proof that there was a valid reason for the non-attendance; in the event of illness, a doctor's certificate must be submitted. Otherwise, the selection procedure is deemed to have ended unsuccessfully.

(7) If an applicant terminates the aptitude interview for good cause, it is deemed not to have been conducted. If there is no good cause for terminating the interview, the selection procedure is deemed to have ended unsuccessfully.

## **§ 8 Video conferences**

(1) A video conference is preferably held using the video conferencing systems provided by the University of Hohenheim.

(2) Before the aptitude interview is carried out, the applicant's identity must be verified in an appropriate manner. For this purpose, the applicant may be required to show their official photo identity card (ID) using the camera. A screenshot of the ID card will not be made for the examination file.

(3) The streaming of the aptitude interview is not recorded. The applicant or a participant in the interview must not record the aptitude interview. At the beginning, all participants must be informed that recording the video conference is prohibited.

(4) The video conference starts when the connection to the system is established. If the video conference does not start at the agreed time and the connection cannot be established at short notice for technical reasons, the attempt to hold the video conference must be terminated; a new date should be scheduled as soon as possible.

(5) If technical problems occur, such as a complete or partial breakdown of the connection, which mean that the aptitude interview conducted as a video conference cannot be held in accordance with the principle of fairness and equal opportunities, the video conference must be terminated; a new date should be scheduled as soon as possible.

(6) Decisions on the new date are made by the admission committee.

## **§ 9 Entry into force**

(1) These Regulations shall enter into force on the day after they have been published in the University of Hohenheim's Official Communications. At the same time, the University of Hohenheim's admission regulations for the Master's degree program in Food Systems adopted by the Senate of the University of Hohenheim on 1 February 2023 (No. 1440) expire.

(2) These Regulations shall apply for the first time to the admission procedure for the winter semester 2025/2026.

Stuttgart, dated 27 February 2025

signed,

Dr. Katrin Scheffer

Chancellor of the University of Hohenheim (deputizing for the President)

**Annex 1**

(1) Degree programs that fall under § 5 are:

- Agricultural Sciences
- Agricultural Biology
- Biology
- Food Science
- Chemistry
- Food Chemistry
- Food Safety
- Nutritional Sciences

(2) The admission committee may extend the list of degree programs that fall under § 5(1).

## Annex 2

Proof of English language proficiency at level B2 may be given by providing one of the following documents:

1. Final degree certificate from a Bachelor's or Master's program provided that the course was completed in English throughout at a recognized university within the EU, Switzerland, or in one of the following countries: Australia, Great Britain, Canada, New Zealand, USA, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize, and Guyana;
2. one of the language tests in the list below:

Language test	Minimum grade / score
1. TOEFL (internet based)	90
2. IELTS	6.5 In addition, a score of at least 5.5 must be achieved in all tested categories (writing, speaking, listening comprehension, and reading comprehension).
3. Language exam UNlcert level	II (at least "good")

The admission committee may classify other degrees as suitable.