

**Subject-Specific Admission Regulations
for the Master’s Degree Program
Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability
at the University of Potsdam**

Dated February 10, 2021

**Statutes to the Amended Version of the
first Subject-Specific Admission
Regulations for the
Master’s Degree Program
Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability
at the University of Potsdam**

- Reading Version -

Dated February 18, 2026¹

The Faculty Council of the Faculty of Science at the University of Potsdam has approved on February 10, 2021, the following regulations on the basis of § 9 (5) sentence 2 in conjunction with § 12 (2) sentence 2 in conjunction with § 72 (2) no. 1 of the Brandenburg Higher Education Act (BbgHG) of April 28, 2014 (Law and Ordinance Gazette [GVBl.] I/14, [no. 18]), last amended by the Act of September 23, 2020 (GVBl. I/20, [no. 26]) in conjunction with the Brandenburg University Admissions Act (BbgHZG) of July 1, 2015 (GVBl. I/15, [no. 18]), last amended by § 3 of the Act of June 19, 2019 (GVBl. I/19, [no. 35], p. 10) in conjunction with the University Admissions Ordinance (HZV) (GVBl. II/16, [no. 6]), last amended by the ordinance of August 12, 2020 (GVBl. II/20, [no. 69]), and according to § 21 (2) no. 1 of the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of December 17, 2009 (Bulletin UP no. 4/2010, p. 60) in the Fifth Amended Version of the Basic Constitution of the University of Potsdam (GrundO) of February 21, 2018 (Bulletin UP no. 11/2018 p. 634) as well as the General Rules and Regulations on Access and Admission to Non-Teaching-Oriented Master’s Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam (ZuO) of February 24, 2016 (Bulletin UP no. 3/2016, p. 76), last amended on May 13, 2020 (Bulletin UP no. 8/2020, p. 306):²

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§ 1 Applicability

These admission regulations, combined with the General Admission Regulations for Master’s Degree Programs at the University of Potsdam Not Related to Teacher Education (Zulassungsordnung – ZuO), govern the admission requirements and the university selection process for the non-teaching-oriented master’s degree program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability at the University of Potsdam. In all other respects, the ZuO shall apply.

§ 2 Assignment of Tasks in the Procedure

While conducting the admission and selection procedure, the Examining Board can assign specific tasks of a purely administrative nature to qualified employees of the degree program who are not members of the Examining Board.

§ 3 Admission Requirements

(1) The following special admission requirements apply to the master’s degree program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability:

- a) a first undergraduate degree qualifying for a profession from an institution of higher education in Geoecology or Physics with a scope of at least 180 CP,
- b) a first undergraduate degree qualifying for a profession from an institution of higher education in the natural sciences with evidence of successfully completed modules amounting to at least 12 credit points each in physics, earth and environmental sciences, and mathematics, and at least another 12 credit points in the natural sciences. The Examining Board in charge will decide on the recognition, and on the equivalence of academic achievements completed for the subject if the documentation provided comes from a system that does not use credit points.

(2) English language skills that correspond at least to level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The required English-language proficiency is to be proven by one of the certificates listed in § 4 (1) of the ZuO.

(3) In deviation from § 4 (5) of the ZuO, German language skills are not required.

¹Approved by the President of the University of Potsdam on March 27, 2026.

²Approved by the President of the University of Potsdam on March 23, 2021.

§ 4 Application Deadlines and Documents

(1) Applications for the first semester of study in the master's degree program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability are only possible for admission in the winter semester. Applications for a more advanced semester of study in the master's degree program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability are possible for admission in the winter and summer semester.

(2) § 6 of the ZulO governs application deadlines.

(3) If the degree program has restricted admissions, the following documents must be submitted in addition to the documents listed in § 5 (3) and (4) of the ZulO:

- Documentation of further qualifications in accordance with § 6 (2) (b) and (c).

§ 5 Quota and Selection Procedure for International Applicants

(1) In deviation from the quota specified under § 19 (1) no. 1 of the HZV, there is a preliminary quota of 25% for foreign and stateless applicants insofar as they are not considered equivalent to German nationals under BbgHG § 9.

(2) For the selection of candidates within the quota for foreign and stateless applicants pursuant to § 19 (1) no. 1 of the HZV, a university selection procedure shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of § 6.

§ 6 University Selection Procedure

(1) If the degree program is subject to admission restrictions, a university selection procedure is implemented in accordance with § 9 of the ZulO as part of the allocation procedure detailed in § 8 of the ZulO with the objective to rank the applicants in accordance with the following guidelines.

(2) To establish the ranking, a total point value is calculated in accordance with § 9 of the ZulO. To calculate the total point value in accordance with § 9 of the ZulO, the following criteria are weighted as described:

- a) Average grade or current average grade for the degree pursuant to § 3 (1): 51%,
- b) outstanding academic achievements that demonstrate subject-specific aptitude (e.g., focus of previous studies, participation in research projects, publications, academic prizes and awards): 34%,
- c) qualifications obtained outside the higher education system that demonstrate subject-specific aptitude: 15%.

(3) The criteria in (2) b) and c) receive each a grade (between 1.0 and 5.0) that is included when calculating the total point value.

The grades is determined as follows:

- highly persuasive: 1.0
- good: 2.0
- average: 3.0
- poor: 4.0
- unpersuasive or missing: 5.0

The degree of persuasiveness of the academic achievements is based on their academic relevance to the content of the master's degree program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability, as well as their scope or duration. If no documentary evidence of the selection criterion is submitted within the application deadline, the criterion will be included in the calculation of the total point value with a grade of 5.0.

§ 7 Entry into Force

(1) These regulations take effect on the day after their publication in the Official Announcements of the University of Potsdam.

(2) These regulations first apply to all admission procedures for the master's degree program Climate, Earth, Water, Sustainability carried out for the winter semester 2021/2022.