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Technische Universität Dresden
Faculty of Computer Science

**Regulations for assess aptitude
for the consecutive Master's degree program in Distributed
Systems Engineering
(Aptitude Assessment Regulations - DSE)**

as of February 09, 2019

On the basis of § 13 para. 4 and § 17 paragraphs 6, 10 of the Act on the Autonomy of Institutions of Higher Education in the Free State of Saxony in the version of the announcement of January 15, 2013 (SächsGVBl. p. 3), last amended by Article 11 of the Act of April 29, 2015 (SächsGVBl. p. 349, 354) Technische Universität Dresden issues the following aptitude assessment regulations as statutes,

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§ 1

Scope of application

These regulations govern on the basis of the provisions of the applicable Act on the Autonomy of Institutions of Higher Education in the Free State of Saxony the determination of the special admission requirements (aptitude assessment) for the Master's degree program in Distributed Systems Engineering at Technische Universität Dresden.

§ 2

Admission requirements

(1) According to § 3 of the study regulations for the consecutive Master's degree program Distributed Systems Engineering, every applicant is admitted who has the required aptitude (qualification) for the Master's degree program Distributed Systems Engineering.

(2) Qualified and therefore entitled to admission within the meaning of para. 1 is anyone who:

1. can prove a first professional university degree in the field of computer science,
2. demonstrates a secure command of the English language at level B2+ of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, if English is not the applicant's native language, and
3. provides evidence of special suitability for study in the Master's degree program in Distributed Systems Engineering in accordance with § 5.

§ 3

Admissions Committee

The Dean of the Faculty of Computer Science appoints an Admissions Committee for the respective application period. As a rule, this committee shall consist of at least two higher education lecturers from the relevant department and one student. The Admissions Committee shall decide on whether the admission requirements pursuant to § 2 have been fulfilled, invite applicants to an assessment interview if necessary, and decide on appeals against decisions made as part of this procedure. In addition, the Admissions Committee is responsible for the development and publication of the application form in accordance with § 4 para. 2 no. 1.

§ 4

Application and deadlines

(1) The formal application for participation in the aptitude assessment procedure must be submitted in due form and time together with the application documents for enrollment and the documents required under para. 2.

1. Applicants with a university degree obtained in Germany shall send the required documents by the deadline in writing to the following address:

Technische Universität Dresden
Faculty of Computer Science
Chairperson of the Admissions Committee
of the Master's degree program Distributed Systems
Engineering 01062 Dresden
Germany

Applicants with a university degree obtained abroad must apply in due time via the service point for international student applications (uni assist e.V.).

In addition, the application shall be submitted in electronic form to the Admissions Committee.

2. Applicants with citizenship outside the EU who have obtained their university degree (entrance qualification for a Master's degree) at a non-German university must apply for the winter semester by May 31. All other German and international applicants must apply for the winter semester by July 15.

(2) The following documents are to be enclosed with the application:

1. written application for the assessment of aptitude for the Master's degree program in Distributed Systems Engineering,
2. curriculum vitae, outlining in particular the academic career to date,
3. a motivation letter in English that explains the desire to study and the individual's particular aptitude and qualifications,
4. at least two independent personalized signed letters of recommendation justifying the applicant's special suitability,
5. officially certified copy of the applicant's first university degree qualifying for a profession,
6. officially certified copies of additional certificates and evidence that prove the special suitability according to § 2 para. 2 no. 3 (e.g., course of studies and grade overviews),
7. module descriptions (or comparable content overviews) of the modules relevant for the Master's degree program in Distributed Systems Engineering (cf. § 5 para. 2),
8. officially certified copy of a proof of sufficient language proficiency in accordance with § 2 para. 2 no. 2. proof must be provided by means of the results of an internationally offered test, preferably IELTS (min. level 6.5 in all sub-aspects) or TOEFL iBT (min. 80 points overall and min. 19 points in each sub-aspect) as well as
9. proof of degree program-specific vocational training training, voluntary internships, or similar activities related to the planned degree program.

The proof must be submitted both in the original and a translation into German or English, unless it is written in one of these languages.

(3) Applications that are not received in full, in due form or on time shall be excluded from further proceedings.

(4) If, at the time of application, proof of the first university degree qualifying the applicant for a profession (degree certificate) is available in accordance with para. 2 No. 5 is not yet available, the applicant will be included in the aptitude assessment procedure according to these regulations provided that 80% of the credit points required for a university degree have already been earned. As proof of this, the applicants must submit a corresponding certificate from their university in the original or as an officially certified copy. The necessity of submitting all other evidence mentioned in para. 2 and 3 alongside the application remain unaffected by this.

§ 5

Proof and assessment of special aptitude

(1) On the basis of the documents submitted, the Admissions Committee examines the applicant's particular suitability for the Master's degree program in Distributed Systems Engineering. According to § 2 para. 2 no. 3 this is given if proof of very good specialist knowledge in the subject areas

directly relevant to the Master's degree program Distributed Systems Engineering, operating systems, computer networks and distributed systems, database systems as well as software engineering has been provided; good specialist knowledge in the fundamentals of computer science as well as in the areas of mathematics and theoretical computer science has been demonstrated; it has been proven that sequential computer programs can be independently implemented, tested and applied in a high-level language and the applicant has demonstrated his special aptitude accordingly.

(2) Proof of specialist and programming knowledge will have been provided if

1. academic achievements in the fields of operating systems, computer networks and distributed systems, database systems and software engineering have been completed with at least the grade "very good",
2. academic achievements in the fields of algorithms, data structures, fundamentals of programming and computer architecture have been completed with at least the grade "good",
3. academic achievements in the fields of mathematics and theoretical computer science have been completed with at least the grade "good",
4. and practical programming experience of at least 20 credit points can be documented.

This shall not be a schematic comparison, but an overall consideration and an overall assessment, in particular using the documents according to § 4 para. 2 nos. 6 and 7.

(3) Practical programming experience according to para. 2 no. 4 can also be provided by work experience or comparable activities, which are documented by suitable evidence, corresponding to § 4 para. 2 no.9.

(4) The Admissions Committee will first examine whether proof of aptitude has been provided on the basis of the documents enclosed with the application, in particular, the documents pursuant to § 4 paras. 2 no. 6 and 7 but only if the admission requirements pursuant to § 2 para. 2 no. 1 and 2 have been fulfilled. If the aptitude has not already been established from the applicant's documents, the Admissions Committee may conduct an aptitude interview in accordance with § 6.

§ 6

Assessment interview

(1) The aim of the assessment interview is to determine whether the applicant possesses the knowledge, skills or abilities required in accordance with § 5 para. 1, which provide information about the particular suitability for this degree program.

(2) The assessment interview shall take place in a uniformly structured form and shall not last longer than 30 minutes.

(3) The invitation to the interview shall be issued in good time in written form by the Admissions Committee in accordance with § 3, but at least two weeks before the date of the assessment interview.

(4) A member of the Admissions Committee shall prepare minutes of the essential content of the assessment interview, which shall also include the participants and the duration of the interview. The applicant's identity shall be verified at the assessment interview by official photo identification.

(5) If the applicant does not attend the assessment interview on the agreed date, they are not entitled to an alternative date. If the applicant has taken part in the assessment interview but has in accordance with § 2 para. 2 no. 3 not been able to provide proof of aptitude, the assessment interview can be repeated the following year upon request by the applicant. The application must

be submitted within the period specified in § 4 para. 1. § 4 para. 2 shall not apply in such cases.

(6) If the applicants can credibly demonstrate that they are not in a position to participate in the assessment interview in the intended form due to a long-term or permanent physical disability or chronic illness, the Admissions Committee shall offer them an alternative form for determining aptitude. For this purpose, the student may be required to submit a medical certificate and, in cases of doubt, an official medical certificate by a public health officer (*Amtsarzt*).

(7) If it is not possible for an international applicant to pass the assessment interview in the intended form due to reasons for which they are not personally responsible, the Admissions Committee shall offer them an alternative form for determining aptitude.

§ 7

Notification of aptitude

(1) If the applicants demonstrate the required aptitude according to § 2, they will receive a notification of aptitude from the Admissions Committee. Applicants shall receive this notification of aptitude in an electronic format. At the applicant's request, written notification will be issued at the same time. In both cases, the eligibility certificate is the required form of proof of eligibility for admission to the Master's degree program. It is a prerequisite for enrollment in the Distributed Systems Engineering Master's degree program.

(2) If the applicant cannot prove the required aptitude according to § 2, the Admissions Committee will also issue a written decision on this, which must be accompanied by instructions on how to appeal. The notification shall be issued to all applicants in electronic format. At the applicant's request, written notification will be issued simultaneously.

(3) If the applicant is unable to present the successful completion of the university degree required in accordance with § 2 para. 2 no. 1 to the Admissions Office / International Office by the end of the enrollment period, only temporary enrollment will be granted. The duration of this temporary enrollment will be determined by the Admissions Office. It is usually one semester.

§ 8

Entry into force and publication

These Aptitude Assessment Regulations shall enter into force one day after their publication in the Official Announcements of Technische Universität Dresden.

Issued on the basis of the resolution of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Computer Science of Technische Universität Dresden as of December 19, 2018, and the approval of the University Executive Board as of January 22, 2019.

Dresden, February 9, 2019

The Rector
of Technische Universität Dresden

Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. DEng/Auckland Hans Müller-Steinhagen