Dresden University of Technology
Faculty of Informatics

Rules on the determination of suitability in the consecutive Master's Degree in Computer Science (Master Computer Science Identification Regulation)

Of [date]

Pursuant to Sections 14(4) and 18(11) of the Saxony Higher Education Act of 31 May 2023 (SächsGVBl. P. 329), most recently amended by Article 2 of the Act of 31 January 2024 (SächsGVBl. P. 83), the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Informatics of the Technical University of Dresden adopted the following aptitude assessment regulations as statutes, which were approved by the Rector's Office.

Content overview

PARAGRAPH 1 Scope
PARAGRAPH 2 Entry requirements
PARAGRAPH 3 Access Committee
PARAGRAPH 4 Application and time limits
PARAGRAPH 5 Proof and assessment of specific professional competence
PARAGRAPH 6 Aptitude test and aptitude interview
PARAGRAPH 7 Notification of suitability
PARAGRAPH 8 Transitional
PARAGRAPH 9 Date of expiry
PARAGRAPH 10 Entry into force

PARAGRAPH 1
Scope

On the basis of the provisions of the Saxon Higher Education Act (Sächsisches Hochschulgesetz), as amended, these rules govern the determination of special professional competence (qualification) for the consecutive Master's Degree in Computer Science at the Technical University of Dresden.

PARAGRAPH 2
Entry requirements

(1) According to § 3 of the Rules of Studies for the consecutive Master's Degree in Computer Science, access requires proof of special professional ability to study in the Master's Degree in Computer Science.

(2) Qualified and thus entitled to access pursuant to paragraph 1 shall be any person who:

1. a first university degree recognised in Germany or a degree from a state or state-recognised vocational academy in informatics;
2. Demonstrate proficiency in English at level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages; and
3. provides proof of particular suitability for the consecutive Master's Degree in Computer Science in accordance with § 5.

PARAGRAPH 3
Access Committee

(1) An Access Committee shall be set up for the implementation, organisation and decisions of the procedure laid down in this Regulation. The Access Committee is usually composed of three independent teachers from the Faculty of Informatics and one student member. At least two of the teachers in their own right are university teachers. With the exception of the student member, the term of office shall be three years. The term of office of the student member shall be one year.

(2) The members and their alternates shall be appointed by the Faculty of Informatics, the student member and their alternate on a proposal from the Specialist Council. The Chair and the Vice-Chair shall be elected by the Access Committee from among its members and shall each be a university teacher.

(3) The Access Committee shall decide on the existence of the particular professional competence referred to in Paragraph 2, shall, where appropriate, invite the candidate to the aptitude test or to the aptitude interview, and shall decide on appeals against decisions taken in the course of that procedure. In addition, the Access Committee is responsible for designing and providing the electronic application procedure pursuant to Section 4(1) and the information pursuant to Section 6(9).

PARAGRAPH 4
Application and time limits

(1) The formal application to take part in the suitability assessment procedure must be submitted exclusively electronically, in the form and by the deadline, via the portal provided for this purpose by the Faculty of Informatics. The Faculty of Informatics publishes the portal and the detailed procedural instructions in the usual way before the start of each application period. In exceptional and duly justified cases, the Access Committee may allow for another form. If you are a citizen of a country outside the European Union and have obtained your university degree (master's entrance qualification) from a foreign university, you must submit your application by 31 May for the winter semester and by 30 November for the summer semester of the previous year. All other applicants must submit their applications by 15 July for the winter semester and by 15 January for the summer semester.

(2) The request shall be accompanied by the following documents:

1. A curriculum vitae showing, in particular, the academic background to date;
2. A copy of the first university degree certificate in informatics in accordance with Section 3 of the Rules on Studies,
3. a complete Transcript of Records, issued by the university of origin, of the university's previous studies in informatics, indicating the modules followed, the results obtained and the credits obtained;
4. Copies of additional certificates and evidence proving specific professional competence pursuant to § 5;
5. module or course descriptions of modules relevant to the computer science master's course issued by the university of origin in accordance with Section 5(2);
6. where applicable, proof of a standardised technical test recognised by the Access Committee as equivalent to the aptitude test in accordance with § 6(9), if it is intended on that basis not to take the aptitude test, and
7. Proof of knowledge of English at level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, as required by Section 3 of the Rules on Studies. Evidence may include, in particular, a full degree certificate in English or a language certificate such as TOEFL IBT (5.0) or IELTS (7.0).

The supporting documents must be provided in German or English, unless they are written in one of these languages. The documents to be submitted electronically, with the exception of point 2, must be in PDF format, the text of which can be read and searched by machine.

(3) Any application which is not complete, submitted in due form or submitted by the deadline will be excluded from the rest of the procedure.

(4) If, at the time of the application, the proof of the first higher education qualification (diploma) referred to in paragraph 2(2) is not yet available, the applicant shall be involved in the aptitude assessment procedure under this Regulation even if 80 % of the credits to be achieved by the higher education qualification are already attested by a certificate from the higher education institution of origin. This is without prejudice to the need to submit any other evidence referred to in paragraph 2 together with the application and paragraph 3.

PARAGRAPH 5
Proof and assessment of specific professional competence

(1) Special professional competence for the consecutive Master's Degree in Computer Science pursuant to Section 2 shall be deemed to exist if sufficient specialist knowledge of a total of 80 non-overlapping credit points in the subject areas pursuant to paragraph 2 and a further 10 credit points with any distribution between the areas is demonstrated.

(2) Proof of sufficient technical knowledge shall be deemed to be furnished if:

1. at least 20 credit points on operating systems, computer networks, distributed systems, databases, data security;
2. at least 10 credit points on Theoretical Informatics, Algorithms and Data Structures;
3. a minimum of 20 credits on subjects relating to the basics of mathematics for informatics;
4. at least 5 credit points on computing architecture, engineering and supercomputing topics; and
5. have at least 25 credit points on programming, software engineering, human-computer interaction, computer graphics, UX design and web design topics.

(3) The mapping is based on the competences and learning outcomes provided by the modules. The curricular examination is carried out on the basis of proven competences and learning outcomes. The skills and learning outcomes of the relevant modules of the Bachelor's Informatics course at the Technical University of Dresden serve as a technical benchmark. Full compliance is not required; However, credit points are taken into account only to the extent that there are no significant differences in terms of content, qualification objectives and the level of specialised competences expected in the field. Overlapping credits will be taken into account only once. Multi-disciplinary modules may be allocated on a pro rata basis, provided that the respective shares are clearly indicated in the module descriptions. Studies (including final studies) and work placements will not be taken into account. In the case of project, traineeship and laboratory modules, only the proportions which, on the basis of the module description, clearly correspond to the areas referred to in paragraph 2 shall be taken into account. Services in the fields referred to in points 1 to 4 of paragraph 2 shall be taken into account only in so far as the description of the module shows that the basics, concepts or methods of the field in question form an integral part of the module.

(4) The Access Committee shall check whether proof of specific professional competence has been provided on the basis of the documents attached to the application, in particular the documents referred to in § 4(2)(2) to (5), but only if the conditions for access laid down in § 2(2)(1) and (2) are met. If the access committee is unable to take a clear decision on the basis of the documents, an aptitude test pursuant to § 6 shall be carried out. Where only individual details or technical knowledge need to be clarified, an aptitude interview pursuant to § 6 may be held instead.

PARAGRAPH 6
Aptitude test and aptitude interview

(1) The aim of the aptitude test and the suitability interview is to determine whether the knowledge, skills or abilities required under Section 5(1), which provide information about the candidate's particular professional aptitude, are present.

(2) The aptitude test is organised in a thematically uniform manner as a written or electronic test in English under supervision in presence at the Technical University of Dresden. It shall cover the areas referred to in Section 5(2). The aptitude test is passed if at least 60 per cent of the marks are obtained.

(3) The aptitude test will be offered once at each semester of the application.

(4) The interview shall be structured in a thematically uniform manner and shall not exceed 30 minutes. It may be carried out in person or by means of an appropriate system for the transmission of images and sound. The Access Committee may delegate the conduct of the suitability interview to qualified persons appointed by it for that purpose. The Access Committee shall have sole responsibility for deciding whether or not the applicant has particular professional competence.

(5) The invitation to the aptitude test or interview shall be made in writing in good time by the Access Committee pursuant to Section 3, but at least two weeks before the relevant appointment.

(6) A record of the conduct and outcome of the aptitude test shall be drawn up. A record of the main content of the suitability interview shall be drawn up by a person involved in the conduct of the interview, including the participants and the duration of the interview. The candidate's identity will be checked at the aptitude test and at the aptitude interview by presenting an official photographic ID.

(7) If the candidate fails to attend the aptitude test or the interview by the deadline set, he or she shall not be entitled to be given a fall-back date.

(8) If the candidate demonstrates that, owing to a long-term or permanent physical disability or chronic illness, he or she is unable to take the aptitude test or interview in the prescribed form, he or she shall be offered an alternative form of assessment of specific professional competence by the Access Committee. To this end, a medical certificate and, in case of doubt, an official medical certificate may be required.

(9) The aptitude test may be waived if the candidate submits with the application a valid result of a standardised field-specific test recognised as equivalent by the Access Committee. Before the start of each application period, the Access Committee will make public, in the usual way, which tests will be accepted, the period for which test results will be valid and the minimum thresholds to be met.

PARAGRAPH 7
Notification of suitability

(1) If the applicant proves that he or she possesses the particular professional qualifications referred to in Section 2, he or she shall receive a suitability decision from the Access Committee. The suitability decision shall be submitted to the enrolment office or to the International Office of the Technical University of Dresden in the application procedure and shall constitute the necessary form of proof of special professional competence for the consecutive master's course. It is a prerequisite for enrolment in the consecutive Master's Degree in Computer Science.

(2) If the candidate is unable to prove that he or she possesses the particular professional qualifications referred to in Paragraph 2, the Access Committee shall issue a written decision to that effect, which shall be accompanied by information on the legal remedies available. The Access Committee, as the appeal authority, shall decide on appeals within a reasonable period of time and issue the decisions on the appeals.

(3) The established special professional competence shall apply until the entry into force of a subsequent fitness check.

PARAGRAPH 8
Transitional

Aptitude assessment procedures in respect of which the application was submitted before the entry into force of these Rules shall be completed in accordance with the Rules on the Assessment of Adequacy currently in force. Suitability decisions issued on the basis of the previous eligibility rules may still be used for the first study start possible after the entry into force of these rules.

PARAGRAPH 9
Date of expiry

The Regulations on the Determination of Suitability for the Consecutive Master's Degree in Computer Science of 13 February 2025 (Official Notices of the Technical University of Dresden No 2/2025 of 24 March 2025, p. 10) shall cease to apply upon the entry into force of these Regulations.

PARAGRAPH 10
Entry into force

These rules shall enter into force one day after their publication in the official announcements of Dresden University of Technology.

The above Regulation is hereby issued. It must be published in the official announcements of Dresden University of Technology.

Dresden, [date]

The Rector
of the Technical University of Dresden

Prof. Dr. Ursula M. Staudinger