



Specific diploma requirements for science and medical programmes 2026-2027

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Explanatory notes

- This is a list of the 8 most common non-Dutch / international diplomas that meet the minimum requirements for admission.
- This list does not represent any statement of equivalency or admission; additional requirements may still be imposed.
- We will only make a decision on admission once you have submitted a complete online application for admission.
- The requirements described below are valid for admission to the academic year 2026-2027 only. Requirements can change each year. If we are already aware of any future changes, these will be mentioned in this document.
- If you meet the general minimum requirements but lack one or more required subjects, take a look under 'Replacement exams' to find out which exams you can take in the Netherlands to make up the missing subject(s). You will also receive this information after submitting your application for admission.
- Is your diploma not mentioned in this document? Take a look at this [detailed overview of general admission requirements](#) for other common diplomas and submit your application early so we can let you know in good time if you need to take additional exams.



Replacement exams

If you meet the general minimum requirements but not all specific subject requirements, you can obtain certificates for the missing subject(s) in the Netherlands. You will receive information on any missing subjects (if applicable) after you submit your application for admission.

Leiden University is able to accept the following subject certificates:

- **For admission to Biomedical Sciences or Medicine:**
 - [Vwo state exam certificates](#) (website in Dutch)
 - [CCVX vwo certificates](#)

- **For admission to other Science programmes**
 - [Boswell-Bèta exams](#) at vwo level
 - [Vwo state exam certificates](#) (website in Dutch)
 - [CCVX vwo certificates](#)
 - [OMPT Online Mathematics Placement Test](#)
 - OMPT-D with minimum score of 60% for bachelor's programme in DS&AI, Computer Science, Biology and Bio-pharmaceutical Sciences
 - OMPT-A with a minimum score of 60% for bachelor's programme in Science for Sustainable Societies



American High School

General requirements

High School Diploma with a College Preparatory programme and minimum GPA of 3.5 out of 4.0, with 3 College Board AP exams (grades 4-5) in general academic subjects or 4 College Board AP exams (grade 3-5) in general academic subjects.

Specific requirements 2026 – 2027

Please note: the specific AP exams stated below may count towards the general requirement of 3 to 4 AP exams (as stated above). Make sure your application documents clearly mention which AP exams you have taken or will be taking.

Physics:	AP Calculus AB or BC + AP Physics 2 or Physics C (with the components Mechanics and Electricity & Magnetism with one component result at least grade 3, and one at least grade 4)
Astronomy:	AP Calculus AB or BC + AP Physics 2
Computer Science:	AP Calculus AB or BC
Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (Eng):	AP Calculus AB or BC
Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences:	AP Calculus AB or BC + AP Biology + AP Chemistry + AP Physics 1
Biology:	AP Calculus AB or BC + AP Physics 1 + AP Biology + AP Chemistry
Molecular Science & Technology:	AP Calculus AB or BC + AP Physics 2 + AP Chemistry
Mathematics:	AP Calculus AB or BC
Medicine:	Score 4 or 5: AP Biology; score 3, 4 or 5: AP Calculus AB or BC + AP Physics 1 + AP Chemistry
Biomedical Sciences:	Score 4 or 5: AP Biology; score 3, 4 or 5: AP Calculus AB or BC + AP Physics 1 + AP Chemistry
Science for Sustainable Societies (Eng):	AP Calculus AB + 2 of the following exams: AP Physics 1, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Geography, AP (Micro or Macro) Economics

Language requirements

Dutch required for all Dutch-taught programmes:

- [NT2, programme II](#); or
- [Toelatingsexamen TUL Halfgevorderd](#) (via Leiden University Language Centre); or
- [CNAvT](#) Educatief Startbekwaam or Educatief Professioneel

English

- Exempted from English proficiency test if the US high school diploma was obtained after attending an accredited US high school for at least 2 years.



Abitur (Germany)

General requirements

Zeugnis der allgemeine Hochschulreife (Abitur).

Specific requirements 2026-2027

Please note: all courses must be attended up to and including the final year.

Physics:	Mathematik (Leistungskurs) und Physik
Astronomy:	Mathematik (Leistungskurs) und Physik
Computer Science:	Mathematik (Leistungskurs)
Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (Eng):	Mathematik (Leistungskurs)
Bio-Pharmaceutical Science:	Mathematik (Leistungskurs) + Biologie, Chemie und Physik
Biology:	Biologie (Leistungskurs) + Mathematik, Chemie und Physik
Molecular Science & Technology:	Chemie (Leistungskurs) + Mathematik und Physik
Mathematics:	Mathematik (Leistungskurs)
Medicine:	Biologie (Leistungskurs) + Mathematik, Chemie und Physik
Biomedical Sciences	Biologie (Leistungskurs) + Mathematik, Chemie und Physik
Science for Sustainable Societies (Eng):	Mathematik + at least 2 of the following subjects: Physik, Chemie, Biologie. Geographie, Wirtschaft

Language requirements

Dutch required for all Dutch-taught programmes:

- [NT2, programme II](#); or
- [Toelatingsexamen TUL Halfgevorderd](#) (via Leiden University Language Centre); or
- [CNAVT](#) Educatief Startbekwaam or Educatief Professioneel

English:

- Recommended for Dutch-taught programmes: CEFR level B2 or higher
- Required for English-taught programmes: English in final year of Abitur



ASO (Belgium)

General requirements

Belgian Algemeen Secundair Onderwijs (ASO) diploma.

Specific requirements 2026-2027

Please note: the numbers in brackets correspond with the required minimum hours per subject.

Physics:	Wiskunde (4) + Fysica (2)
Astronomy:	Wiskunde (4) + Fysica (2)
Computer Science:	Wiskunde (4)
Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (Eng):	Wiskunde (4)
Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences:	Wiskunde (4) + Fysica (2) + Chemie (2) + Biologie (2)
Biology:	Wiskunde (4) + Fysica (2) + Chemie (2) + Biologie (2)
Molecular Science & Technology:	Wiskunde (4) + Fysica (2) + Chemie (2)
Mathematics:	Wiskunde (4)
Medicine:	Wiskunde (4) + Fysica (2) + Chemie (2) + Biologie (2)
Biomedical Sciences:	Wiskunde (4) + Fysica (2) + Chemie (2) + Biologie (2)
Science for Sustainable Societies (Eng):	Wiskunde (4) + 2 of the following subjects: Fysica (2), Chemie (2), Biologie (2), Economie (2), Aardrijkskunde (2)

Language requirements

No Dutch language test required

English:

- Recommended for Dutch-taught programmes: CEFR level B2 / IELTS 6.0
- Required for English-taught programmes: IELTS 6.0 overall score and 6.0 for each component score (or equivalent TOEFL ibt or Cambridge test)– for equivalent scores see the [language requirements document](#).



Baccalaureat (France)

General requirements

Until 2020: Baccalaureat Serie Scientifique diploma

From 2021: Baccalaureat including Mathematics in the final year

Specific requirements 2026-2027

Physics:	Mathematique Spécialité + Physique-Chimie Spécialité
Astronomy:	Mathematique Spécialité + Physique-Chimie Spécialité
Computer Science:	Mathematique Spécialité
Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (Eng):	Mathematique Spécialité
Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences:	Mathematique (spécialité) + Physique-Chimie Spécialité + Sciences Vie & Terre Spécialité (*)
Biology:	Mathematique (complémentaires or spécialité) + Physique-Chimie Spécialité + Sciences Vie & Terre Spécialité
Molecular Science & Technology:	Mathematique Spécialité + Physique-Chimie Spécialité
Mathematics:	Mathematique Spécialité
Medicine:	Mathematique (complémentaires or spécialité) + Physique-Chimie Spécialité + Sciences Vie & Terre Spécialité
Biomedical Sciences :	Mathematique (complémentaires or spécialité) + Physique-Chimie Spécialité + Sciences Vie & Terre Spécialité
Science for Sustainable Societies (Eng):	Mathematique (complémentaires or spécialité) + option 1: Physique-Chimie Spécialité) or Sciences Vie & Terre Spécialité Or option 2: Sciences Economiques & Sociales Spécialité, and Histoire-géographie, géopolitique et sciences politiques Spécialité

(*) in effect, this will mean 2 subjects as spécialité and the other required subject(s) via replacement exams.

Language requirements

Dutch required for all Dutch-taught programmes:

- [NT2, programme II](#); or
- [Toelatingsexamen TUL Halfgevorderd](#) (via Leiden University Language Centre); or
- [CNAVT](#) Educatief Startbekwaam or Educatief Professioneel
- Exemptions can be granted on the basis of BFI langue section Néerlandais

English:

- Recommended for Dutch-taught programmes: CEFR level B2 / IELTS 6.0
- Required for English-taught programmes: IELTS 6.0 overall score and 6.0 for each component score (or equivalent TOEFL iBT or Cambridge test) – for equivalent scores see the [language requirements document](#).

Exemption can be granted on the basis of BFI langue section Anglais Britannique/Américain



European Baccalaureate

General requirements

European Baccalaureate (EB) diploma

Specific requirements 2026-2027

All subjects mentioned must be completed with a sufficient grade (at least 5.0) and have a written examination. If you have not yet graduated, please make sure your transcript clearly states your final written exam subjects.

Physics:	Mathematics (5) + Physics
Astronomy:	Mathematics (5) + Physics
Computer Science:	Mathematics (5)
Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (Eng):	Mathematics (5)
Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences:	Mathematics (5) + Physics + Biology + Chemistry
Biology:	Mathematics (5) + Physics + Biology + Chemistry
Molecular Science & Technology:	Mathematics (5) + Physics + Chemistry
Mathematics:	Mathematics (5)
Medicine:	Mathematics (5) + Physics + Biology + Chemistry
Biomedical Sciences:	Mathematics (5) + Physics + Biology + Chemistry
Science for Sustainable Societies (Eng):	Mathematics (5) + 2 of the following: Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Economics

Language requirements

Dutch required for all Dutch-taught programmes:

- [NT2, programme II](#); or
- [Toelatingsexamen TUL Halfgevorderd](#) (via Leiden University Language Centre), or
- [CNAVT](#) Educatief Startbekwaam or Educatief Professioneel
- Exemptions can be granted on the basis of Dutch Language 1 or Language 2

English:

- Recommended for Dutch-taught programmes: CEFR level B2 / IELTS 6.0
- Required for English-taught programmes: IELTS 6.0 overall score and 6.0 for each component score (or equivalent TOEFL iBT or Cambridge test) – for equivalent scores see the [language requirements document](#).
- Exemption from the English language test can be granted in the following cases: when Dutch has been studied as Language 1, when English has been studied as Language 1, or when English has been studied as Language 2 *and* at least 4 other general subjects have been taught in English.



GCE (United Kingdom)

General requirements

At least 3 GCE A-levels (not AS levels) in general academic subjects* with a grade of A, B or C

*see [diploma requirements – United Kingdom](#) for explanation of accepted general subjects

Specific requirements 2026-2027

Please note: the specific A-levels stated below may count towards the general requirement for 3 A-levels as stated above.

Physics:	Mathematics A + Physics A
Astronomy:	Mathematics A + Physics A
Computer Science:	Mathematics A
Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (Eng):	Mathematics A
Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences:	Mathematics A + Physics AS or A + Chemistry A + Biology A
Biology:	Mathematics AS or A + Physics AS or A + Chemistry A + Biology A
Molecular Science & Technology:	Mathematics A + Physics A + Chemistry A
Mathematics:	Mathematics A
Medicine:	Mathematics AS or A + Physics AS or A + Chemistry A + Biology A
Biomedical Sciences:	Mathematics AS or A + Physics AS or A + Chemistry A + Biology A
Science for Sustainable Societies (Eng):	2 of the following A-levels: Mathematics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Economics. If Mathematics is not one of your three A-levels, Mathematics AS or an additional mathematics exam is required

Language requirements

Dutch required for all Dutch-taught programmes:

- [NT2, programme II](#); or
- [Toelatingsexamen TUL Halfgevorderd](#) (via Leiden University Language Centre); or
- [CNAvT](#) Educatief Startbekwaam or Educatief Professioneel
- Exemptions can be granted on the basis of A-level Dutch or IGCSE Dutch 1st language.

English

- Exempted from English proficiency test **except:**
 - o if your A-levels are all in science subjects or were obtained after only 1 year of study (fast track course) and you do not have GCSE English as a first language: exemptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.



International Baccalaureate

General requirements

International Baccalaureate diploma. Only the full IB diploma (with the specific requirements mentioned below) is sufficient. IB course certificates only are not sufficient.

Specific requirements 2026-2027

Physics:	Analysis & Approaches HL + Physics HL
Astronomy:	Analysis & Approaches HL + Physics HL
Computer Science:	Analysis & Approaches HL
Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (Eng):	Analysis & Approaches HL
Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences:	Analysis & Approaches HL* + Biology HL + Chemistry HL + Physics SL
Biology:	Analysis & Approaches SL/HL or Applications & Interpretation HL + Biology HL + Chemistry HL + Physics SL
Molecular Science & Technology:	Analysis & Approaches HL + Physics SL + Chemistry SL
Mathematics:	Analysis & Approaches HL
Medicine:	Analysis & Approaches SL/HL or Applications & Interpretation HL + Biology HL + Chemistry HL + Physics SL
Biomedical Sciences:	Analysis & Approaches SL/HL or Applications & Interpretation HL + Biology HL + Chemistry HL + Physics SL
Science for Sustainable Societies (Eng):	Analysis & Approaches SL/HL or Applications & Interpretation HL + 1 HL and 1 SL subject in the following subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Economics, Geography, Environmental Systems and Societies

* For this programme, Analysis and Approaches SL is also currently accepted but not preferred.

Changes to IB mathematics curriculum

The following IB mathematics requirements apply to diplomas obtained **before 2021**:

- Programmes requiring Analysis & Approaches HL: Math HL required.
- Other programmes: both Math SL and HL are accepted

Language requirements

Dutch required for all Dutch-taught programmes:

- [NT2, programme II](#); or
- [Toelatingsexamen TUL Halfgevorderd](#) (via Leiden University Language Centre), or
- [CNAVT](#) Educatief Startbekwaam or Educatief Professioneel
- Exemptions can be granted on the basis of IB Dutch A HL/SL or Dutch B HL.

English required for English-taught programmes:

- English-taught IB or English A HL



VWO (Suriname)

General requirements

Suriname VWO diploma

Specific requirements 2026-2027

Physics:	Wiskunde 1 + Natuurkunde
Astronomy:	Wiskunde 1 + Natuurkunde
Computer Science:	Wiskunde 1
Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (Eng):	Wiskunde 1
Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences:	Wiskunde 1 + Natuurkunde + Biologie + Scheikunde
Biology:	Wiskunde 1 + Natuurkunde + Biologie + Scheikunde
Molecular Science & Technology:	Wiskunde 1 + Natuurkunde + Scheikunde
Mathematics:	Wiskunde 1
Medicine:	Wiskunde 1 + Natuurkunde + Biologie + Scheikunde
Biomedical Sciences:	Wiskunde 1 + Natuurkunde + Biologie + Scheikunde
Science for Sustainable Societies (Eng):	Wiskunde 1 + at least 2 of the following subjects: Natuurkunde, Biologie, Scheikunde, Economie, Aardrijkskunde

Language requirements

No Dutch language test required.

English:

- Recommended for Dutch-taught programmes: CEFR level B2 / IELTS 6.0
- Required for English-taught programmes: IELTS 6.0 overall score and 6.0 on each component score (or equivalent TOEFL iBT or Cambridge test) – for equivalent scores see the [language requirements document](#).