

Appendix 1

To the Programme Regulations 2023 of the
Master's degree programme in Biochemistry – Chemical Biology
05.07.2022 (Version: 05.07.2022)

Applies to students who commence or re-enter the degree programme in Autumn Semester 2023 or later. Students who entered or re-entered the degree programme up to and including Spring Semester 2023 are governed by the previous pertaining stipulations.

This English translation is for information purposes only. The German version is the legally binding document.

This Appendix sets out the academic and language prerequisites for and further details regarding admission to the Master's degree programme in Biochemistry – Chemical Biology (BCB). It supplements the stipulations of the ETH Zurich Admissions Ordinance¹ and the Directive on Admission to Master's degree programmes².

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¹ SR 414.131.52

² www.directives.ethz.ch

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1 Profile of requirements

For admission to the Master's degree programme in BCB (subsequently "the degree programme") all of the following prerequisites must be satisfied.

1.1 Degree qualifications

¹ For admission to the degree programme one of the following is required:

- a. A university Bachelor's degree in BCB comprising at least 180 ECTS credits or an equivalent university degree in BCB
- b. or an university Bachelor's degree comprising at least 180 ECTS credits or an equivalent university degree or a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences³ in the qualifying disciplines of chemistry, biochemistry and biology (subject direction Chemistry) which – provided that any pertaining additional requirements can be completed – satisfies the academic prerequisites.

² A Bachelor's degree qualifies its holder for admission to an ETH Master's degree programme only if it also qualifies said holder to enter, without additional requirements, the desired Master's degree programme within the university system where the Bachelor's degree was acquired. The Rector may also demand proof of this, and will determine whether such proof must come from the home university or from another university in the country where the Bachelor's degree was acquired.

1.2 Academic prerequisites

¹ Attendance of the Master's degree programme in BCB presupposes basic knowledge and skills in Biochemistry, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Mathematics and Statistics which must in content, scope, quality and skill level be equivalent to those covered in the Bachelor's degree programme in BCB at ETH Zurich (discipline requirements profile).

² The **discipline requirements profile** detailed below comprises **145 ECTS credits** in total and is based on knowledge and skills covered in the ETH Bachelor's degree programme in

³ A Diploma from a Swiss university of applied sciences is considered equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in the same discipline. A Bachelor's degree from a German or Austrian university of applied sciences is considered equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences.

BCB. This includes training in the relevant methodological scientific thinking and in experimental competence.

³ If a candidate does not completely satisfy the academic prerequisites, admission may be subject to the acquisition of the missing knowledge and skills in the form of additional requirements (admission with additional requirements). Completion of additional requirements is expressed in ECTS credits.

⁴ The discipline requirements profile is structured in two parts. Information on the content of the course units is published in the ETH Course Catalogue (www.vvz.ethz.ch).

Part 1: Basic knowledge and skills (115 ECTS credits)

Part 1 comprises 115 ECTS credits and covers basic knowledge and skills in the Natural Sciences, Mathematics, Statistics, Physics and Informatics as well as in practical laboratory work.

Part 1A: Natural Sciences and Mathematics (88 ECTS credits)

The substance of the following course units is required:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| – Chemistry (Inorganic, Organic, Physical and Analytical Chemistry) | 42 ECTS credits |
| – Biology and Biochemistry | 17 ECTS credits |
| – Mathematics and Statistics | 17 ECTS credits |
| – Physics | 8 ECTS credits |
| – Informatics | 4 ECTS credits |

Part 1B: Laboratory work (27 ECTS credits)

Part 1B comprises 27 ECTS credits and covers practical laboratory knowledge and competences in Chemistry (General and Organic Chemistry and Analytical Biochemistry) and Biology.

Part 2: Subject-specific knowledge and skills (30 ECTS credits)

Part 2 comprises 30 ECTS credits. The substance of the following course units is required:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| – Molecular and Structural Biology | 6 ECTS credits |
| – Proteins and Lipids | 6 ECTS credits |
| – Nucleic Acids and Carbohydrates | 6 ECTS credits |
| – Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry | 12 ECTS credits |

1.3 Language prerequisites

¹ The teaching language of the degree programme is English.

² For admission to the degree programme, proof of sufficient knowledge of English (level C1⁴) must be provided.

³ The required language certificate(s) must be submitted at the latest by the last day of the application deadline. A list of recognised language certificates is published on the ETH Zurich website.

2 Specific stipulations for persons holding a Bachelor's degree Biochemistry – Chemical Biology

2.1 Bachelor's degree in BCB from ETH Zurich

Holders of a Bachelor's degree in BCB from ETH Zurich are unconditionally admitted to the degree programme.

2.2 Bachelor's degree in BCB from another Swiss university

¹ A Bachelor's degree or an at least equivalent degree in BCB from another Swiss university allows admission to the programme, provided that a major in BCB with at least 180 ECTS credits has been completed.

² Admission is subject to fulfilment of the language prerequisites of this Appendix.

³ Admission may be subject to additional requirements.

2.3 Bachelor's degree in BCB from a university outside Switzerland

¹ Holders of a Bachelor's degree in BCB or equivalent from a university outside Switzerland must satisfy all of the academic and language prerequisites of this Appendix.

² Admission may be subject to additional requirements.

³ Admission is not possible if

- a. the language or performance prerequisites are not satisfied; or
- b. the content, scope, quality and skill level of the degree are not equivalent to those at ETH Zurich; or

⁴ The required language level is measured according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages scale (CEFR).

- c. the number of additional ECTS credits required to satisfy the academic prerequisites exceeds
 - 1. 30 ECTS credits in total; or
 - 2. more than 11 ECTS credits from Part 1 of the discipline requirements profile.

3 Specific stipulations for persons holding a Bachelor's degree in a qualifying discipline⁵

3.1 Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university

¹ Holders of a university Bachelor's degree or the equivalent in a qualifying discipline may be admitted to the degree programme if they can satisfy the following prerequisites:

- a. They fulfil the academic requirements of this Appendix.
- b. They satisfy the language prerequisites of this Appendix.
- c. They produced very good academic achievements during Bachelor's degree studies.

² Admission may be subject to additional requirements.

³ Admission is not possible if

- a. the language or performance prerequisites are not satisfied;
- b. the number of additional ECTS credits required to satisfy the academic prerequisites exceeds
 - 1. 30 ECTS credits in total; or
 - 2. more than 11 ECTS credits from Part 1 of the discipline requirements profile.

3.2 Bachelor's degree from a university outside Switzerland

¹ Holders of a university Bachelor's degree or the equivalent in a qualifying discipline may be admitted to the degree programme if they can satisfy the following prerequisites:

- a. They fulfil the academic requirements of this Appendix.
- b. They satisfy the language prerequisites of this Appendix.
- c. They produced very good academic achievements during Bachelor's degree studies.

² Admission may be subject to additional requirements.

³ Admission is not possible if

- a. the language or performance prerequisites are not satisfied;
- b. the content, scope, quality and skill level of the degree are not equivalent to those at ETH Zurich

⁵ Revised version, applies to all students entering the degree programme from autumn semester 2024 onwards.

- c. the number of additional ECTS credits required to satisfy the academic prerequisites exceeds
 - 1. 30 ECTS credits in total; or
 - 2. more than 11 ECTS credits from Part 1 of the discipline requirements profile.

3.3 Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences

¹ If they can fulfil the academic and language requirements of this Appendix within the given framework, and if they produced very good academic achievements during their Bachelor's degree studies, persons holding a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences may also be admitted to the programme.

² Admission is always subject to the compensation of missing academic and methodological knowledge and skills with additional study achievements comprising at least 40 ECTS credits. The additional requirements include course units from Parts 1 and 2 of the academic prerequisites.

³ Admission is not possible if

- a. the language or performance prerequisites are not satisfied;
- b. the number of additional ECTS credits required to satisfy the academic prerequisites exceeds 60 ECTS credits.

4 Entering the Master's degree programme

4.1 Bachelor's degree in BCB from ETH Zurich

¹ The following stipulations apply to all Bachelor's degree students in BCB enrolled at ETH Zurich who transfer to the ETH Zurich Master's degree programme:

- a. The normal ETH enrolment dates and deadlines apply.
- b. Admission is provisional until the Bachelor's degree is issued. Admission will be revoked if the Bachelor's degree is not or cannot be issued.

² Students of the Bachelor's degree programme in BCB already matriculated at ETH Zurich may enrol directly in the degree programme via www.mystudies.ethz.ch as soon as they have passed the examination block of the third Bachelor's study year.

4.2 Bachelor's degree from ETH Zürich in a qualifying discipline

The following stipulations regarding entry to the Master's degree programme apply to students from an ETH Bachelor's degree programme (other than BCB) who have been granted admission:

- a. The normal ETH enrolment dates and deadlines apply.

- b. They can enrol in the programme once they have acquired that number of credits which would qualify them to enrol in the Master's degree programme consecutive to their original subject.⁶
- c. Admission is provisional until the Bachelor's degree is issued. Admission will be revoked if the Bachelor's degree is not or cannot be issued.

4.3 Bachelor's degree from another university

Candidates with a positive admission decision can enter the programme if they have successfully completed the previous (Bachelor's) degree programme.

5 Application and admission procedure

¹ All candidates – with the exception of students matriculated at ETH Zurich in the Bachelor's degree programme in BCB – must submit an application for admission to the degree programme. The specifications for application, in particular the documents required and the dates and deadlines for submission, are published on the website of the ETH Zurich Admissions Office (www.admission.ethz.ch).

² Application may be made at a time when the required preceding degree has not yet been issued.

³ The admissions committee of the degree programme determines how far the background of the candidate corresponds to the profile of requirements and submits an application for admission/rejection to the Director of Studies.

⁴ On the request of the Director of Studies the Rector makes the final decision regarding admission, admission with additional requirements, or rejection.

⁵ The candidate receives a written admissions decision which includes the relevant information concerning any additional admission requirements.

6 Fulfilling additional admission requirements

6.1 General regulations

¹ Candidates who are admitted subject to the fulfilment of additional requirements must acquire the required additional knowledge and skills before or during the Master's degree programme via independent study or by attending classes. The corresponding individual performance assessments must take place by set deadlines.

² If the candidate fails said performance assessments or does not respect the set deadlines they will be regarded as having failed the programme and will be excluded from it.

⁶ The permitted number of missing credits is set out in the Programme Regulations of the respective consecutive Master's degree programme (e.g., BSc Physics → MSc Physics).

³ The deadlines and conditions for undergoing said performance assessments depend upon the background of the candidate.

6.2 University Bachelor's degree

¹ Candidates holding a university Bachelor's degree must undertake all of the performance assessments pertaining to the additional admission requirements by the end of the first year of the Master's degree programme at the latest. All additional requirements, including any repetitions of performance assessments, must be fulfilled within 18 months of the start of the Master's degree programme at the latest.

² A pass grade in each individual performance assessment is required.

³ A failed performance assessment may only be repeated once.

6.3 Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences

¹ Candidates holding a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences must undertake all of the performance assessments pertaining to the additional admission requirements by the end of the first year of the Master's degree programme at the latest. All additional requirements, including any repetitions of performance assessments, must be fulfilled within two years of the start of the Master's degree programme at the latest.

² Performance assessments may be combined in examination blocks. A pass grade in the examination block is achieved if the average of the individual grades is at least a 4.

³ A failed performance assessment or a failed examination block may be repeated only once. The repetition of an examination block entails repeating all of the examinations belonging to it.