Chemistry (MSc)

Specialisations

- Research in Chemistry (MSc)
- Chemistry and Education (MSc)
- Chemistry and Science Communication and Society (MSc)
- Chemistry and Business Studies (MSc)

Chemistry is the central science enabling a healthy future in a sustainable society. During this master's programme you will learn to take a fundamental approach in finding tailored solutions for complex societal problems in human health and environmental issues.

Yael Kerstholt
1st year student
I’m mainly interested in the biological side of Chemistry: the Chemistry of living systems. I couldn’t find that at many universities, which was one of the primary reasons Leiden appealed to me.

Another point is that the research groups here are working from a perspective of medical application. The research is about a disease or medicine which I like: the applicability of research is important to me. Furthermore, the programme is extremely flexible. The master Chemistry and LST are quite related, because they work together. This means that as a Chemistry student, one can choose courses from LST and the other way around. There are students who love organic Chemistry and they can focus on that part. For me, I’m more into Biology and I can focus on that.

**What does this master’s programme entail?**

The aim of this two-year programme is to train you as an independent scientist and to develop the necessary skills and proficiency to advance your career. The master’s programme in Chemistry offers you access to cutting edge research. The research is concentrated in two major research areas:

- **Chemical Biology:** within this research area you will study fundamental biological and biomedical problems to understand physiological processes at the molecular level and to gather more knowledge on human health and illnesses.
- **Energy & Sustainability:** within this research area you will focus on the development of new sources of sustainable energy and the use of storage of energy. For example you will be working on the development of a new generation of catalysts for the production of solar fuels.

Read more about our Chemistry programme.

**Discover why our students choose the Chemistry master's programme**

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**Why study Chemistry at Leiden University?**
• You can tailor your programme based on your ambitions and interests within the research areas Chemical Biology or Energy & Sustainability.
• During your programme, you will be part of a multidisciplinary research team of internationally renowned researchers where you will conduct your Master research project.
• You will receive personal guidance from a mentor of choice, who is a member of one of our international and young research groups.

Find more reasons to choose Chemistry at Leiden University.

**Chemistry: the right master’s programme for you?**

The programme is open for students with an internationally recognized bachelor’s degree in chemistry or a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in chemistry. Chemistry is the right master’s programme for you if you are interested in fundamental chemistry and applied research. You will be trained for a career in research within or outside academia. You can also choose a specialisation where you combine one year of Chemistry research with one year of training in business, communication or education.

Read more about the entry requirements for Chemistry.

**Chat with a student**

Do you have a question about studying at Leiden University or student life in Leiden? Do you want more information about the Chemistry programme? Chat with a current student for answers to your questions!

**Why Leiden University?**

The Chemistry research in Leiden is conducted in two major research areas: Chemical Biology and Energy & Sustainability. You will be part of one of our multidisciplinary research teams.

**Research in Energy & Sustainability**

Twenty years from now, the world population is estimated to be around 8.3 billion people. In combination with the improvements in living standards and the corresponding growth in
consumption, this will result in an enormous increase in the demand for food, consumables, water and energy. In this programme you will investigate applied technological and fundamental chemical solutions to meet those demands.

**Research in Chemical Biology**

Chemical biology research at the Leiden Institute of Chemistry is aimed at understanding biological processes at the molecular level to strengthen the knowledge base of human health and disease. In this programme the approach to achieve this goal is a fundamental chemical one; with the aid of chemical probes biological systems are investigated.

**Access to top research facilities**

The Leiden Institute of Chemistry has access to a number of key facilities which enables our research groups and therefore students to carry out their innovative research. Leiden Chemists have access to e.g. a Cell Observatory, an NMR Facility, Cloning & Protein purification Facility, and peptide synthesizers. Read more about the facilities

**Faculty of Science**

The Faculty of Science is a first-class research faculty with an excellent position in the basic disciplines of science. The current research and education programmes span the entire spectrum of science ranging from Mathematics and Statistical Science, Computer Science and Data Science, Astrophysics, Physics, Chemistry and Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences to Biology and Environmental Sciences. Our science community is driven by their curiosity and desire to increase basic knowledge, for science and to contribute to the great societal challenges of today and tomorrow. Core values are scientific impact, technological innovation and relevance to society.

**Study at a world-class university**

Leiden University is the oldest university in the Netherlands and enjoys an excellent worldwide reputation built up over more than four centuries. Since 1575 we’ve provided sound personal education for hundreds of thousands of students. We’ll do our utmost to give you the best possible support. And if you can and want to do more, we’ll challenge you every step of the way. For many years, we’ve been among the leaders in Dutch university rankings and we are currently to be found in a variety of top international rankings too.

More reasons to choose Leiden University
About the programme

The MSc programme Chemistry offers one research specialisation where you can focus on either Chemical Biology or Energy & Sustainability. If you would like to combine Chemistry with education, management or science communication, you can choose one of the other specialisations.

Programme overview Chemistry

The MSc Chemistry programme offers four specialisations:

- **Research in Chemistry**: you follow a two-year programme in one of the research areas to become an independent and creative scientist.
- **Chemistry and Education (taught partly in Dutch)**: prepare yourself for a career in teaching chemistry.
- **Chemistry and Science Communication and Society**: combine training in Chemistry with courses in different aspects of science communication, such as journalism.
- **Chemistry and Business Studies**: combine training in Chemistry with components in business and entrepreneurship.

The research specialisation comprises research training projects to a total of at least 60 EC, including a presentation for the group and a written report (the master thesis). The major research project is carried out in the institute under the supervision of the mentor. The mentor guides you in your research project(s) and will advise you which courses best fit in with the research topic and study planning.

Find out more about the Research specialisation:

- **Research in Chemistry**

If you choose the education, science communication of science based business specialisation, you need to follow specific modules (30-60 EC) and therefore have a reduced research programme which consists of compulsory chemistry components (60 EC) and electives (max 30 EC). The compulsory chemistry components comprise a research training
project (30 EC), four core courses to be selected from the core chemistry MSc courses (24 EC) and a course related to academic training (6 EC).

Find out more about the programme outline of the specialisations:

- Chemistry and Education
- Chemistry and Business Studies
- Chemistry and Science Communication and Society

**Educational methods**

- Thesis Talks
- Colloquium
- Literature study
- Lab work
- Writing of essays
- Presentations
- Lectures
- Project groups
- Working group

**Study guidance**

At the start of the programme you will choose a personal mentor in a research group related to the selected research area. The mentor will be your personal coach during the complete master's programme. You will also use a digital Master planner to schedule your studies. The schedule will be monitored by your mentor and the study coordinator. During your master programme you will become a member of one of the research groups at the Leiden Institute of Chemistry (LIC) and receive the necessary guidance.

**Extra-curricular**

Are you interested in taking up an extra challenge during your master’s programme? Have you thought about developing your personal leadership style?
**Leiden Leadership Programme**

Do you like a personal challenge in leadership? Then join the Leiden Leadership Programme. In this one-year programme, you work on developing your personal leadership skills through an assessment, training, seminars and a practice assignment in an organisation. You discover and develop your qualities in the context of an organisation. The goal is to learn how to work intensively with other professionals and learn how to use their qualities. With the Leiden Leadership Programme, a Dutch-based honours programme, you will be able to follow 20 EC next to your Leiden, The Hague or Delft master's programme. Read more about Leiden Leadership Programme

**International Leiden Leadership Programme**

Curious about your personal leadership style? The International Leiden Leadership Programme is a 5 EC honours programme for master’s students looking to understand leadership, train and develop their leadership skills and acquire an insight into their personal strengths and weaknesses. Thanks to its small-scale approach and supportive tutor-mentor system, you’ll be working on your development on a very personal level. During this interdisciplinary programme you will attend seminars and skills-training sessions, which will give you more insight into the effect that your behaviour has on others. The programme involves the creation of a Personal Leadership Roadmap, a five-year plan for reaching and developing your own leadership style. 

For more information: International Leiden Leadership Programme

**Study abroad**

Within the tailor-made construction of the programme students get the opportunity to study abroad. You will have the option to follow elective courses abroad or conduct your research project in an industrial research laboratory or at a university abroad.

**National Graduate Schools**

The Leiden Institute of Chemistry Participates in three National Graduate Schools with other universities. The Graduate Schools are designed for talented students who focus on a future PhD track. Talented students can apply for admission to one of these Graduate Schools:

- Sustainability: the Molecular approach (universities of Leiden, Amsterdam and the Free university of Amsterdam). hrsmc.nl/gp-hrsmc.nl
Career prospects

With an MSc in Chemistry you are well prepared for broad array of career prospects. The chemical industry is one of the largest contributors to the economic welfare worldwide.

Acquired skills and competence

After graduating you will have knowledge of fundamental Chemistry and highly developed research skills. You will be a creative and independent scientist who is ready to continue in research. You will have developed skills and knowledge to work in Research and Development departments somewhere in the industry.

Career

After completing the Chemistry master's programme you will have a broad array of career prospects. All students with a Master of Science in Chemistry are admissible to a PhD programme. If you have the desire to apply your knowledge of chemistry outside the university, there are good job possibilities in Research & Development departments in industry, business, public utility companies, teaching, consultancy and government bodies. Many students eventually attain higher management positions.

Career preparation

Leiden University offers you several services related to career orientation and job application skills.

Science Career Service
Are you looking for career advice? Get in touch with our science career advisor. The Science Career Service supports students of the Science Faculty in their career orientation and making effective career decisions during their study. We offer services such as consultation hours, individual appointments with the career counselor and advice on your CV or motivation letter.

**Science Career Event**

Whether you are actively looking forward to meet interesting employers, or even if you have no idea what you career will look like yet, the Science Career Event gives you a chance to speak with a large number of employers. Every year the Science Career Event is organized by students of the Faculty of Science. During this event you can get your resume checked, participate in a workshop or speed date with a potential employer to discuss possibilities in the near future. The Science Career Event is the ideal day to orient yourself on career possibilities.

**The Mentor Network**

If you have questions about the job market, you can get in touch with Leiden alumni who are happy to offer their advice. On the Mentor Network platform you can view the profiles of around 650 alumni. Once you have found someone you would like to contact for advice, you can send him or her a request for assistance.

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**Master's application and admission**

Find out how to apply for Chemistry at Leiden University by following our step-by-step guide.

**Step-by-step guide**

This guide clearly explains the steps you need to take to apply, and the subsequent admission process.

- **Step 1**: Check the admission requirements.
- **Step 2**: Check the application deadlines.
• Step 3: Collect the required documents.
• Step 4: Start your application.
• Step 5: Pay your tuition fees
• Step 6: Prepare for your studies at Leiden University

Admission requirements

To be eligible for Chemistry at Leiden University, you must meet the following admission requirements.

Master’s admissions: exceptional circumstances

The university is providing an option for third-year bachelor’s students who have encountered a study delay because of the corona measures and wish to begin a master’s programme in the 2020-2021 academic year.

For this Master’s programme, this means that students are allowed to complete their Bachelor’s programme during the 2020-2021 academic year and will already be allowed to start the Master’s programme on 1 September 2020. The following additional conditions apply:

- students must have a minimum of 150 ECTS to be able to apply,
- the missing 30 ECTS must include the final bachelor’s project.

You will have to have completed your Bachelor’s programme by 31 August 2021 at the latest.

This option does not apply for students from applied universities or students who are following a pre-Master’s programme.

Enrol on and request admission to both programmes (Bachelor's and Master's):
1. Fill out this form before 15 June
2. Register for the Master’s programme in Studielink
3. Request admission in uSis before 15 June
4. Re-enrol for the bachelor’s or pre-master’s programme before 1 September for a maximum of one month.

Your Master’s programme enrolment will be definitive as of 1 September 2020 on the condition that you have completed your Bachelor’s programme before 31 August 2021 at the latest; otherwise your Master’s programme enrolment will be cancelled.

You pay only one tuition fee, so you only pay for your master’s programme. This is on the condition that you have completed your bachelor’s programme by 31 August 2021 at the latest and have de-registered for this programme. If your master’s enrolment is cancelled, you pay the tuition fee for continuing the bachelor’s programme. If you are following a bachelor’s programme at another institution, you can request proof of tuition fee payment (bewijs betaald collegegeld) via the contact form from Student Affairs Front Office, so that you will not have to pay the tuition fee. In the form choose the option tuition fee in the field *Category.

### Questions

If you have any questions about admission and enrolment, please use the online contact form to contact the Student Affairs Front Office, using ‘Admission request’ as the subject.

### Diploma requirements

You are eligible to apply if you have

1. a BSc degree in Molecular Science and Technology (MST) from any research university in the Netherlands.
   OR
2. a bachelor’s degree in an MST- or Chemistry-related programme from a research university in the Netherlands, under the condition that you have:
   - accumulated at least 150 EC in courses/projects belonging to the domain of Molecular Science and Technology and
   - obtained the degree with an average final grade of at least 7.0 and
• a research project/internship grade of at least 7.5

In the second case the Board of Admissions will assess whether your degree and background are sufficiently related to the BSc degree in Molecular Science and Technology.

For more information, please contact the Chemistry study advisor.

If you have a degree in Dutch higher vocational education (hbo) in a Molecular Science and Technology- or Chemistry-related field of science, you are eligible to apply under the condition that you have

• obtained your hbo degree with an average final grade of at least 7.5, and
• a research project/internship grade of at least 8.0

The Board of Admissions will assess whether your degree and background are sufficiently related to the level and content of the Dutch BSc degree in Molecular Science and Technology and, if applicable, whether you meet the additional requirements.

For more information, please contact the Chemistry study advisor.

If you have a Molecular Science and Technology- or Chemistry-related programme from a foreign research university with a level similar to Dutch universities, you are eligible to apply under the condition that you have

• accumulated at least 150 EC (or the equivalence thereof) in courses/projects belonging to the domain of Molecular Science and Technology, and
• obtained the degree with an average final grade of at least 7.0 (Dutch grading system), and
• a research project/internship grade of at least 7.5

The Board of Admissions will assess whether your degree and background are sufficiently related to the Dutch BSc degree in Molecular Science and Technology.

For more information, please contact the Chemistry study advisor.
Language requirements

In order to successfully participate in this programme, you must be proficient in English. The following requirements apply*:

- IELTS: minimum 6.5, with a minimum of 6.0 for each of the components Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking
- TOEFL: internet based 90 (with a minimum component score of 20)
- Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE), minimum grade C

*Please note: You do not have to submit proof of proficiency if you have

- An International Baccalaureate diploma (or other with English A);
- A diploma of secondary or higher education completed in the US, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia or Canada (with the exception of French-taught education in Canada);
- A diploma of an English-taught university degree programme completed at a Dutch research university;
- A pre-university education (vwo) diploma;

For detailed information about which English qualifications are accepted, as well as the relevant exemption criteria, refer to English language proficiency.

The education component of this master's programme is taught in Dutch. All applicants that have not achieved a Secondary Education qualification in the Netherlands, have to demonstrate their Dutch communication skills. The level of Dutch is assessed through an advanced Dutch language exam. For more information about the exam: Admission Exam TUL Advanced. For the speaking (fluency) part of the exam, at least a 7.5 must be achieved.

Mind: after completion of the Education specialisation you obtain a qualifications to be a teacher in the Netherlands.
Application deadlines

Application deadlines postponed

***update***

Leiden University has postponed the following deadlines:

- **Non-EU/EER nationality**
  - If you have a non-EU/EER nationality, the deadline for master’s programmes with an application deadline of 1 April has been extended to **1 May**.
  - If you have a non-EU/EER nationality, the deadline for master’s programmes with a capacity limitation (selection) has been extended from 1 April to **1 May**. With the exception of the MSc Pharmacy and MSc Biomedical Science; the deadline for these programmes remained 1 April.

- **EU/EER or Dutch nationality**
  - If you have an EU/EER or Dutch nationality, the deadline for most master’s programmes remains **June 15**.
  - If you have an EU/EER or Dutch nationality, the deadline for masters’ programmes with a capacity limitation (selection) has been extended to **15 June**. With the exception of the MSc Pharmacy and MSc Biomedical Science; the deadline for these programmes remained 1 April.
  - The deadline to submit your visa application in our online application system has been extended to **15 June**. (Be aware that you have to apply to Leiden University as a student with a non-EU/EER nationality before 1 May.)

Application deadlines

Update: some application deadlines has been postponed. Check the changed deadlines in the message above this page!

- If you need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **1 April**.
• If you do not need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **15 June**.

• If you need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **15 October**.
• If you do not need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **1 December**.

**Apply early!**

If you don’t have a Dutch diploma that grants direct admission, you’ll have to complete a two-part application procedure:

• First register your application(s) in the national system Studielink.
• A day later you will receive log-in details for Leiden University’s application system (uSis), where you can complete your application.

You must submit your application via Leiden University’s application system (uSis), before the deadlines mentioned above. So don’t delay; if you haven’t registered in Studielink and activated your uSis account in time to apply by the deadline, you’ll miss out!

**Other deadlines**

If you want to request accommodation via Leiden university Housing Office, apply early! Accommodation is allocated on a first-come first-served basis and there is limited availability, which means the Housing Office cannot guarantee accommodation. Submit both your application for admission and your housing request well before the deadlines. You don’t have to wait for a decision on your application before submitting your housing request. Read more about when to arrange housing.

If you want to apply for a scholarship, grant or loan, please bear in mind that different deadlines apply, and these deadlines can often be earlier. Deadlines vary per scholarship. Visit the [scholarship website](#) for more details.

>> Go to the next step: Collect the required documents
Required documents

When you apply for admission, you’ll be asked to submit several documents.

Note: If you have a Dutch diploma that grants direct admission, you will generally *not* be asked to submit additional documents.

Update: problems sending your diploma/transcripts/test results to the Admissions Office on time due to coronavirus issues: what should you do?

Please contact the Admissions Office for instructions in the first week of April by filling out this contact form: Master admissions contact form. Leiden University will do its utmost to take your circumstances into consideration and offer flexibility in terms of deadlines. However, please be aware that in some situations the only option may be for you to delay your studies until a later date.

Required application documents

You’ll need to submit the following documents:

Please upload a copy of the page(s) in your passport containing your personal details and photograph. If you are from the EU/EEA, you can submit a copy of your identity card instead. Please upload copies of both sides.

If you are a non-EU/EEA national already living in the Netherlands, upload copies of both sides of your Dutch residence permit.

Your CV (curriculum vitae) must be written in English and should contain your basic personal data, as well as a clear overview of your educational and professional history to date.

You can apply for admission before receiving the results of your English language test. However, a sufficient result will then be a condition of your eventual admission. Of course, if you already have your English language test results, you can upload them directly.
Digital copies of diplomas and transcripts are initially required. Once you have been admitted, we will inform you how to submit certified copies.

The documents must be in the original language. If they are not in English, Dutch, German or French, they must be accompanied by official translations into one of these languages.

If you have not yet completed your current programme, state your expected graduation date and submit copies of all transcripts obtained to date plus an official list of subjects still to be completed.

Every applicant (except MST BSc students) should provide a letter of recommendation, preferably by the internship supervisor.

Moreover, students who obtained their BSc diploma at a University of Applied Sciences should additionally submit a letter of recommendation by the mentor (‘studieloopbaanbegeleider’) of the BAS programme.

- Letters of recommendation must be written on letterhead paper, signed and (for verification purposes) they must bear the full contact details of the applicable referee.
- Your referee should describe your skills, qualities and competencies.

Option 1. Uploading the letter yourself
You can upload the letter(s) of recommendation in the online application portal (uSis).

Option 2. Sent by your referee
Your referee can send the letter directly to the university, as follows:

1. Your referee must clearly state your name and application number in the letter.
2. He or she should send the letter to us, either:

   • digitally, by uploading the letter in our contact form
   • by posting it to:
3. Complete this form and upload it in the online application system (uSis), instead of your letter of recommendation.

**Additional documents for this programme:**

In this letter you are asked to explain in writing that you possess the same level of knowledge, understanding and skills as applicants who are holding a Bachelor’s degree in Molecular Science and Technology (MST) or a MST- or Chemistry-related programme from a research university in the Netherlands.

*Please note that if you would like to apply for a scholarship with this programme, you may need to upload additional documents with your application. Please inform yourself here.*

>> Go to the next step: Step 4: Start your application

## Application procedure

The application procedure is broken down into three parts.

### Part 1. Application in Studielink

All students applying for a degree programme at Leiden University must start the application process in Studielink, the national online registration system for students wishing to follow a degree programme at a Dutch university. Studielink is open for applications from 1 October in the year preceding the academic year in which you wish to start.

1. Go to Studielink and enter your details according to the instructions provided.
2. Within two days you will receive:
   - an email with information on the next steps you'll need to take;
• your university ULCN student account details (unless, of course, you already have a ULCN account)
• the link to Leiden University’s online application portal (uSis)

After receiving your ULCN student account details, log into Leiden University’s online application portal (uSis), using the link provided. Here you can view the status of your application, which will be one of two possibilities.

1. You can be directly admitted
If your (Dutch) diploma grants you direct admission, Leiden University's online application portal (uSis) will let you know. The portal provides an overview of what you have to do to complete your application, for example arranging housing, scholarships, applying for a visa/residence permit and insurances. Please follow the instructions carefully and proceed to step 3 Student registration.

2. You cannot be directly admitted: additional action is required
If you do not have a (Dutch) diploma that grants you direct admission, we will require additional documents to allow us to decide about your application. The online application portal (uSis) will tell you this and explain how to do so. See also Part 2: Admission to Leiden University.

Part 2. Admission to Leiden University

If you cannot be directly admitted, you must apply for admission via Leiden University’s online application portal (uSis). Please follow all steps below.

In our online application portal (uSis) you can finalise your application by uploading the necessary documents and answering a few questions. This portal provides an overview of what you need to do to complete your admission application. Please follow the instructions carefully and make sure to include all the items that are asked for. We strongly recommend that you complete your application well in advance of the application deadline.

All applicants with an international degree must pay a non-refundable €100 application fee, which entitles you to apply for up to three programmes/specialisations in the same academic year. We cannot start processing your application until we receive this application fee, so please pay it as soon as possible. The online application system explains how you can pay it.
Can I be exempted from paying the application fee?
You do not have to pay the application fee if:

- You are following, or have completed, a bachelor’s degree at a Dutch university (of applied sciences).
- You have previously registered as an exchange, bachelor’s, master’s or pre-master’s student at Leiden University.
- You have previously been admitted to the same degree programme at Leiden University, but you decided to postpone your studies. This does not apply if you are applying for a different study programme or specialisation.
- You have refugee status in the Netherlands (with a residence permit for asylum).
- You are an Indonesian student applying for an MSc programme and have been given a “review letter” by the Leiden Science Indonesia Office (LESIO).

Exemptions cannot be granted for any other reasons.

After you have submitted your application, the online application portal (uSis) will, if applicable, ask you if you want to apply for student housing, a visa/residence permit or a scholarship. Be sure to make a careful note of the relevant deadlines for these options.

After receiving your application fee payment (if applicable), the Admissions Office will check whether all the necessary documents have been uploaded and they will inform you by email whether any further items are required. The Board of Admissions of the faculty will then:

- decide whether you meet the admission requirements for the programme;
- strive to issue a decision on your completed application within four to six weeks of the University receiving it.

Once a decision has been reached you will be informed by email. You can view your admission status in the online application portal (uSis).

There are three possible outcomes:
1. **You are admitted**
   You have met all conditions for admission.

2. **You are conditionally admitted**
   You will be admitted, provided that you meet certain conditions. These conditions will be specified in the online application portal (uSis).

3. **You are not admitted**

   The reason(s) for non-admission will be clearly stated in the online application portal (uSis).

   If you are informed that you have been (conditionally) admitted, you will have to take a number of additional steps.

   The Admissions Office will ask you if you want to accept the offer of (conditional) admission. Please respond via the online application portal (uSis), by going to ‘Application study programme(s)’ then accessing the ‘Confirm’ screen, where you will have three options:

   1. Accept
   2. Accept, but defer to a later start date
   3. Decline

**Part 3. Student registration**

If you’ve been (conditionally) admitted, follow these steps to register as a student at Leiden University:

Check in the online application portal (uSis) whether you need to submit any documents to meet the conditions of your admission. Instructions on how to do so will be provided in uSis.

Arrange the payment of your tuition fee before the official start date of your programme. You will receive instructions and information on the available payment methods by email.

If you are an international student, go to the Prepare your stay page of our website for information about the practical matters you should take care of before and upon arrival. These include, for example, arranging housing, scholarships, applying for a visa/residence permit and insurances.
Tuition fees

Your tuition fee depends on a number of factors, such as your nationality and your previous Dutch higher-education qualifications.

The tuition fees for the academic year 2020-2021 are:

- Dutch, EU/EEA, Swiss and Surinamese students: €2,143 per year
- Non-EU/EEA students €18,600 per year
- Second Dutch master’s programme: €16,000 per year

More information about tuition fees

The tuition fee for this programme is €2,143 for the academic year 2020-2021 (statutory fee).

This tuition fee applies if this is your first master’s programme and you are a national of one of the following countries:

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The fee applies for both full-time and part-time study.

**The tuition fee for this programme is €18,600 for the academic year 2020-2021 (institutional tuition fee).**
If you are not a national of an EEA country, Suriname or Switzerland, generally speaking you will have to pay an institutional tuition fee. This fee applies for both full-time and part-time study.

However, if, on the basis of your Dutch residence permit, you are eligible for student finance from the Dutch education agency (DUO) you are entitled to pay the statutory tuition fee. Information on qualifying residence permits can be found in the DUO nationality chart.

*Please note! If you will be studying at Leiden University via a cooperation agreement, the fees quoted in the agreement will apply.*

Only applicable to EU/EEA, Swiss and Surinamese nationals.

**The tuition fee for this programme is €16,000 for the academic year 2020-2021 (institutional tuition fee).**

If you are following a second Dutch master’s programme you will generally have to pay an institutional tuition fee that is higher than the statutory tuition fee. Some exceptions apply.

Consult the [tuition fee flowchart for second master’s programmes](#) to find out how much tuition fee you will have to pay.

**Less than 45 EC**

If you are going to follow a pre-master's or conversion programme after completing a bachelor’s programme, and if the programme is less than 45 ECs, you will have to pay €36 per study credit (EC).

**45 EC or more**

For programmes of more than 45 ECs you will have to pay the statutory tuition fee. If the pre-master's or conversion programme is more than 60 ECs – and therefore longer than one year - or if you are going to follow courses that are not part of your conversion programme,
you will have to pay the institutional tuition fee for the programme in question (see second study programme). These fees apply to students of all nationalities.

Scholarships, grants and loans

Leiden University offers a wide range of scholarships for students from specific regions of the world, or for specific programmes. Leiden University also offers the Leiden University Excellence Scholarship (LExS), a programme specifically designed for non-EU/EEA students enrolling in a master’s programme. Find out more about scholarships, grants, loans and deadlines

If you are an EU/EEA or Swiss national and under 30, you may be eligible for a loan from the Dutch government to cover your tuition fees.

>> Go to the next step. Step 6: Prepare for your studies at Leiden University

Prepare for your studies

You’ve been accepted! Leiden University looks forward to welcoming you as a new student. Your next step is to prepare for your studies. Below you can find some tips to help you get a head start as you embark on your studies at Leiden University.

For international students

If you are an international student, a wealth of information can be found on the ‘Prepare your stay’ page of our website. This includes information about visas, housing, financial matters, what to arrange upon arrival, and much more.

For Dutch students

- The ‘student website’ page on Leiden University’s student website contains information about practical aspects, introduction weeks and student associations. It’s also a handy source of study-related information and advice.
For detailed information about courses, schedules and reading materials, check out the Prospectus.

Sign up for an introduction programme! It’s the best way to get acquainted with student life and the student cities of Leiden and The Hague.

Your student card is your proof of registration as a student of Leiden University. It will be sent to you at your Dutch address as soon as you have registered as a student and paid your tuition fee. Alternatively, you can collect it from the Student Affairs Front Office. Read more about your student card here.

As soon as you start studying at Leiden University you should apply for a Leiden University ID card, or LU-Card. It also serves as your library card, print & copy card and access pass. Read more about applying for an LU-card here.

Student life

Your time at Leiden is about more than just studying. Some of your best experiences will stem from being a part of our lively and diverse student community, as well as from life in the beautiful city of Leiden.

Life in Leiden

Quaint, picturesque and the perfect size, Leiden is an idyllic place to spend your university days. You will soon become familiar with the dozens of cafes, shops and bars that line the leafy canals, as well as its year-round line-up of cultural events. For visits further afield, the major cities of The Hague and Amsterdam are a short train ride away, along with Schiphol Airport, which is just half an hour away by train.

Within the university’s student community, our study and student associations organise a huge variety of social, cultural, and study events to keep you busy all year round. You can also join the University Sports Centre, which offers scheduled group sports and fitness classes amongst other activities.

Welcome and orientation programme
In August and February each year, Leiden University hosts the English-language Orientation Week Leiden (OWL), which welcomes both international and Dutch students. The OWL is an excellent way to get to know Leiden University, the city and to meet other students.

New to the city and the university? Take part in the best introduction to the city, the university and your faculty: The OWL! Enjoy this week of fun, music, culture, sports, games and making new friends. It will be an unforgettable start of your studies!
Our Hortus botanicus is a place where science is conducted, but it is equally popular for studying or relaxing. Come visit it!
Leiden is a lively, compact and safe city which is appreciated by national and international students alike. Everything is in reach within a 15 minutes bicycle ride.
The city is located centrally between Netherland’s biggest cities like Amsterdam, The Hague, Utrecht and Rotterdam, all easily reached by public transport.
Enjoy strolling through the narrow cobbled streets and become familiar with the dozens of cafes, shops and bars that line the leafy canals.

**Het Chemisch Dispuut Leiden (CDL)**

The CDL is the study association for Chemistry students at Leiden University since May 20th 1926. The CDL organizes many academic and career-related activities such as excursions and lectures about career opportunities and research topics. The CDL likes to create a positive atmosphere among Chemistry students by organizing social activities such as: weekly drinks, laser gaming, parties and other fun activities. Our members often drop by for a cup of coffee or a cup of tea – both of which are free – or just to relax and have a chat. The CDL looks forward to meeting you!

**Leiden Institute of Chemistry events**

At the start of your programme you will be welcomed at an introduction day at the LIC comprising useful information about the programme, the university, library use and so on. This day is concluded with a get together BBQ for all MSc students and staff.

During the year the Leiden Institute of Chemistry will invite you for coffee and vlaai meetings, with fellow students and staff members. The joint Master committee of Chemisch
Dispuut Leiden and LIFE organises all kinds of activities throughout the year, including “bring-your-own-food” happenings where you can taste dishes from various cultures.

**Science Buddy Programme**

The Science master’s Buddy Programme has been set up by the Faculty of Science to help all international students who are new to the university to integrate quickly and easily into university life. Through the programme you will learn everything you need to know about the university, the student community, and the practical side of life in Leiden. Your buddy is your first connection in the Netherlands and he or she can help you to find your way around. A few weeks before the start of your studies, you will get an invitation for the programme. After signing up, you will be matched to a student preferably from your own study programme.

**Information activities**

Are you thinking about studying at Leiden University? Come and visit our Master’s Open Day.

**About our Master’s Open Day**

Are you exploring your options for a master’s programme? You can learn a lot by coming to our Master’s Open Days. This event is your opportunity to learn everything you need to know about our master’s programmes and how they can help you reach your goals. Attend presentations by the different programmes, visit the information fairs, and ask lecturers, students, alumni and study advisers all your questions. And you’ll get to know the best student city right in the heart of Europe in the Netherlands.

Read more about the Master's Open Days

**Impressions Master's Open Day**
Do you have any questions about the Chemistry master’s programme? Please contact us!

Do you have questions about studying at Leiden University?
Do you want to know more about one or more programmes or about our information activities? The StudyLine is a source of information for students and is staffed by students. You can contact them by mail or by phone on +31 (0)71 527 11 11 on working days between 9.00 am and 17.00 pm.

Do you have questions on your admission and application?
For questions about your admission and application, you can contact the Student Information Centre. You can contact them by telephone on +31 (0)71 527 80 11 (daily between 11:00 am and 16:00 pm) or ask your question in the online contact form.

Contact the programme
For specific questions about the curriculum, please contact the study advisor. For other inquiries about the programme, contact the coordinator.

Study adviser
msc-studyadviser@lic.leidenuniv.nl

Study coordinator
msc-coordinator@lic.leidenuniv.nl

Chat with a student
Do you have a question about studying at Leiden University or student life in Leiden? Do you want more information about the Chemistry programme? Chat with a current student for answers to your questions!