

Computer Science (MSc)

Master



Universiteit
Leiden

Discover the world at Leiden University

Specialisations

- Advanced Computing and Systems (MSc)
- Artificial Intelligence (MSc)
- Bioinformatics (MSc)
- Computer Science and Education (MSc)
- Computer Science and Science Communication & Society (MSc)
- Data Science: Computer Science (MSc)
- Foundations of Computing (MSc)

The two-year master's programme in Computer Science offers stimulating, significant and innovative research at an internationally renowned institute and combines theoretical, experimental and applied approaches.

What does this master's programme entail?

Our two-year programme (120 EC) offers seven challenging specialisations that cover Computer Science from its foundations to its most recent developments. Taught by leading researchers in their fields, you experience the scientific and societal impact of Computer Science in areas such as Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Bioinformatics, Computing and Systems, Data Science, and Foundations of Computing. You can choose from a wide range of course topics and electives to fit your own specific interests. Also, our close international collaborations with industry and other scientific disciplines enable you to conduct research inspired by applications of Computer Science.

Read more about our [Computer Science master's programme](#).

Discover why our students choose the Computer Science master's programme

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Why study Computer Science at Leiden University?

- You can choose from a wide variety of in-house Computer Science courses to tailor your own study programme.
- You benefit from our close international collaborations with companies, academic research institutes, and government institutions.
- You are part of a research community with a strong international focus and highly approachable renowned staff.

Find more reasons to choose [Computer Science at Leiden University](#).

Computer Science: the right master's programme for you?

The programme is open for students with an internationally recognized bachelor's degree in computer science, AI or equivalent. You will be trained as an independent researcher, equipped with the necessary skills to advance your career as a computer scientist.

Read more about the [entry requirements for Computer Science](#).

Why Leiden University?

Our programmes are known for our scientifically based education and for our open atmosphere.

Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Sciences (LIACS)

The master's in Computer Science is offered by the Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science. The Institute has a strong tradition in combining a theoretical, experimental and applied approach to the field of expertise. This reflects in the research profile of the institute and the education programme it offers. LIACS is a partner in the Lorentz Center, an international research centre for astronomy, computer science, mathematics, physics and bio-sciences. The centre has extensive international contacts and excellent connections with other Dutch university research groups, as well as with Dutch industry.

Broad scope

Due to our broad research scope, we have knowledge about all computer science areas, such as data science, machine learning and computer vision. As a student in one of our bachelors or masters, you will be educated by our researchers. That means that you will learn to look at research questions from a scientific point of view.

Applicable science

Furthermore, in Leiden, computer science is interwoven with all other academic fields. So studying at LIACS will enable you to make a bridge between computer science and mathematics, physics, astronomy, chemistry, biology, economics, linguistics, law, history, psychology, medicine, archeology, governmental sciences or even gaming. This will make your time at LIACS very dynamic and applicable.

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 Computer Science offers five specialisations corresponding to the research focus areas within the Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science. If you would like to become a qualified teacher in Computer Science or combine our studies with science communication, you can choose one of the more practical-oriented specialisations.

Programme overview Computer Science

The Master of Science in Computer Science programme offers seven specialisations:

- [Advanced Computing and Systems](#): this programme includes future-oriented topics in computer science with a focus on high performance computing, embedded systems, cloud and distributed computing.
- [Artificial Intelligence](#): this programme in computer science focuses on machine learning, optimization algorithms, and decision support techniques.
- [Bioinformatics](#): this programme has a specific focus on applying and designing new computer science methods and techniques to handle the complex data analysis problems from molecular biology and life sciences.
- [Data Science: Computer Science](#): this programme has a specific focus on the statistical and computational aspects of Data Science as well as on its application.
- [Foundations of Computing](#): this programme has a specific focus on mathematical aspects of algorithms and on several verification techniques to increase the trust in today's software systems.
- [Computer Science and Education](#) (taught partly in Dutch): prepare yourself for a career in teaching Computer Science in secondary schools.
- [Computer Science and Science Communication and Society](#): combine research with programmes in different aspects of science popularisation.

The research-oriented master's specialisations consist of:

- Mandatory courses
- Electives
- [Master's Thesis Research Project](#)

Find out more about the research-oriented specialisation:

- [Advanced Computing and Systems](#)
- [Artificial Intelligence](#)
- [Bioinformatics](#)
- [Data Science: Computer Science](#)

- [Foundations of Computing](#)

If you choose one of the specialisations where you combine Computer Science with Education or Science Communication and Society, you need to follow specific modules (30-60 EC) in the second year.

The research programme in Computer Science consists of course work in Computer Science (30 EC) followed by a Master's Thesis Research Project (30 EC).

Find out more about the research-oriented specialisation:

- [Computer Science and Education](#)
- [Computer Science and Science Communication and Society](#)

Educational methods

- Colloquium
- Individual paper
- Lab work
- Literature study
- Presentations
- Lectures
- Working groups
- [Master's Thesis Research Project](#)

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?

Master Honours Education

Are you a curious and motivated master's student? The Honours Academy of Leiden University offers various kinds of extracurricular education, ranging from long-running programmes to short-term courses.

Leiden Leadership Programme

Are you interested in a leadership challenge? Join the [Leiden Leadership Programme](#) (LLP). This one-year programme will equip you with the leadership knowledge, insights and skills you need to increase your societal impact. You further your personal development through trainings, seminars and a practical assignment within an organisation, in which you learn to cooperate intensively with other professionals. With the LLP, you earn 15 EC in addition to your regular master's degree.

Master Honours Classes & Challenges

Would you like to further develop your academic skills and societal awareness? Join one of our [Master Honours Classes & Challenges](#). In a small-scale, interdisciplinary course, you will tackle a complex issue for society or for a specific partner organisation. You will learn about the latest scientific insights concerning the topic and cooperate in a practical setting, together with students from many different backgrounds. There are Master Honours Classes on offer for 5 or 10 EC.

Study abroad

Because of the tailor made construction of the programme students get the opportunity to study abroad. There is the option to follow elective courses abroad or you can conduct your research project at a university or in industry abroad.

Career prospects

With an MSc in Computer Science you are well prepared for broad array of career prospects in research or industry. The master's degree is an excellent stepping stone for pursuing a PhD degree.

Acquired skills and competence

With a Leiden degree in Computer Science you will have cultivated an analytical mind and a problem-solving attitude. Based on these qualities, you enjoy a wide variety of career opportunities, in research as well in commercial or industrial environments.

Career

Your job perspectives with a master's degree in Computer Science are excellent and diverse. They range from software engineer to product manager, from researcher to IT-manager, and from engineering to financial applications, from business intelligence specialist to service manager or consultant. And the demand is constantly growing. With this education, 96.9% of all graduates have a full-time job, and they find a job within an average time of 1.3 months.

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 your 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.

Master's application and admission

Find out how to apply for Computer Science 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 Computer Science at Leiden University, you must meet the following admission requirements.

Diploma requirements

You are eligible to apply if you have

- a bachelor's degree in Computer Science (Informatica) or Artificial Intelligence from any research university in the Netherlands.
OR
- a bachelor's degree in a Computer Science-related programme from a research university in the Netherlands, under the condition that you have accumulated at least 90 EC (or the equivalent thereof) in courses/projects in the domain of Computer Science.

The Board of Admissions will assess whether your degree and background are sufficiently related to the BSc degrees in Computer Science or Artificial Intelligence. If you need to meet the 90 EC requirement, you can use the list of [courses and projects](#) taught in the Leiden bachelor's programme in Computer Science for reference.

If you have a bachelor's degree that does *not* meet the requirements above, you may be eligible for an individual [Pre-Master's Programme](#). Deficiencies of up to 30 EC can be compensated through such a Pre-Master's Programme. You will be admitted to the master's programme upon completion of this Pre-Master's Programme.

Always contact the [Computer Science study advisor](#) *before* applying to the master's programme in Studielink to get advice on a potential Pre-Master's Programme.

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

- obtained the diploma within a maximum of five years and
- an average final grade of at least 7.5.

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 Computer Science and whether you meet the additional requirements (including the language requirement).

Most students from a Dutch university of applied sciences are not directly admissible, but may be eligible for an individual [Pre-Master's Programme](#). Deficiencies of up to 30 EC can be compensated through such a Pre-Master's Programme. You will be admitted to the master's programme upon completion of this Pre-Master's Programme.

Always contact the [Computer Science study advisor](#) *before* applying to the master's programme in Studielink to get advice on a potential Pre-Master's Programme.

If you have a bachelor's degree in Computer Science or Artificial Intelligence, or in a Computer Science-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 90 EC (or the equivalent thereof) in courses/projects in the domain of Computer Science.

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 Computer Science. If you need to meet the 90 EC requirement, you can use the list of [courses and projects](#) taught in the Leiden bachelor's programme in Computer Science for reference.

For more information, please contact the [Computer Science 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 of 20 for each of the components Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking

The test result may not be older than two years at the time of enrolment for the programme.

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

- An International Baccalaureate diploma from a programme taught in English (or an IB diploma with “English A”);
- A diploma of secondary or higher education completed in Australia, Canada (with the exception of French-language programmes in Canada), Ireland, Malta, New Zealand, Singapore, the United Kingdom, the United States or South Africa;
- A diploma of an English-taught university degree programme completed at a Dutch research university;
- A Dutch 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 following requirements apply:

- [IELTS](#) Academic modules only, on paper or on computer: 6.5 overall, with at least 6.0 for each separate component score.
 - We do **not** accept [IELTS Academic online](#).
 - We do **not** accept IELTS General Training or IELTS Indicator.
- [TOEFL](#) internet based: 90 overall, with at least 20 for each separate component.
 - We are **not** able to accept The TOEFL IBT Home Edition™, except in the following situations only:
You took the test before 1 Sept 2022 (and it is not more than 2 years old), or you are unable to take an in-person test on location because test centres are inaccessible or closed due to unsafe conditions in a country.
 - We do **not** accept the following types of test: TOEFL My Best™ scores (multiple test scores combined), TOEFL Essentials™ or institutional tests such as ITP.
- [Cambridge English Exam](#) C2 Proficiency, or C1 Advanced (180), with a minimum score of 169 for each separate component.

Note that English test results may **not** be more than two years old.

You do not have to submit an English proficiency test if you have completed your education in the USA, UK, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, Canada (except French-taught programmes in Canada) Singapore, South-Africa or Malta; or if you have obtained an English-taught International Baccalaureate™; or if you have completed a Dutch VWO diploma or an English-taught bachelor at a Dutch research university.

For detailed information, including exemption criteria and methods of submission, 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](#).

A Dutch as a Second Language Certificate (Certificaat Nederlands als Vreemde Taal) at Educatief Startbekwaam or Educatief Professioneel level is also sufficient to meet the language requirement.

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

[>> Go to the next step: Check the application deadlines](#)

Application deadlines

Application deadlines

- If you need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **1 April**. The same deadline applies to students who already have a Dutch residence permit for study purposes and need to extend it.
- If you do not need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **15 May**.
- 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 **15 November**.

Apply early!

If you do not have a Dutch diploma that grants direct admission or you need to meet additional admission criteria, 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

Leiden University reserves a limited number of rooms each year for international students. However, as the number of housing requests always greatly exceeds the number of rooms available, we strongly recommend that you also look into other housing options at the same time. [Read more about how and when to arrange housing](#). If you want to request accommodation via Leiden University, submit both your application for admission and your housing request well before the deadlines! Accommodation is offered on a first-come first-served basis and is not guaranteed. You don't have to await admission before requesting 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.

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 a list of subjects still to be completed.

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 Computer Science or Artificial Intelligence in the Netherlands and that you have accumulated at least 90 ECTS (or the equivalent thereof) in courses and projects belonging to the domain of Computer Science.

See [courses and projects](#) that are taught in the Leiden BSc degree programme in Computer Science for your reference. Based on this list you can check if you meet the admission requirement mentioned above.

*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. For this step you will need:

- a copy of your valid passport or European ID card, or
- if you are a Dutch resident, your [DigiD](#)

Be aware! If you wish to apply for a specialisation of a master's programme: first select the master's programme in Studielink, then select the specialisation for which you wish to apply in Step 4 (Institutional Questions) in Studielink.

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).

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.

If you are (conditionally) admitted, the Admissions Office will ask you to confirm whether you will join the study programme. You can do so in the online application portal (uSis).

1. Go to '[Application study programme](#)' in the online application portal (uSis).
2. Open the 'Confirm' screen. Here you will see three options:

- Yes, I want to study at Leiden University.
- No, I no longer wish to study at Leiden University and hereby withdraw my application.
- Maybe later; I do not wish to start this semester/academic year. I would like to receive further instructions by email.

The sooner the better

Confirm attendance as soon as possible, to avoid missing other important deadlines and information about your study programme.

Changing your mind

You can still change your mind if necessary, either in uSis or by contacting the Admissions Office [master team](#).

Deadline final decision

Do you need a student visa or residence permit? You can only request one after confirming attendance. So make sure to confirm attendance before the [visa/residence permit deadline](#).

If you don't need a visa or residence permit, the latest deadline for confirming attendance is before the start date of your study programme.

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.

[>> Go to the next step. Step 5: Pay your tuition fees](#)

Pre-master's

If you are keen on pursuing an MSc degree in Computer Science but you do not fully meet the admission requirements, a Pre-Master's programme may be possible.

A Pre-Master's programme is meant to remedy deficiencies of a BSc degree that is closely related to

Computer Science and/or Artificial Intelligence but is insufficient for admission. A Pre-Master's programme consists of at most 30EC (and thus can remedy up to 30EC of deficiencies), is tailored to your background and the Computer Science specialization that you would like to pursue, and is agreed upon with the study adviser.

In order to be considered for a Pre-Master's programme, you should contact the study adviser prior to applying to the MSc Computer Science. To ensure sufficient time to discuss a potential Pre-Master's programme, it is advised to do this at least one month before the submission deadline. You should provide a comparison of your BSc degree curriculum with that of the [\[link: courses and projects\]](#) of the Leiden BSc Computer Science program.

After agreeing upon a Pre-Master's programme with the study adviser and applying, the Board of Admissions will evaluate your application and –if appropriate- will accord the Pre-Master's programme. Completion of the agreed programme within the agreed timespan will make you admissible to the Master's programme.

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 2023-2024 are:

- Dutch, EU/EEA, Swiss and Surinamese students: €2,314* per year
- Non-EU/EEA students €19,600 per year
- Second Dutch master's programme: €15,400 per year

The tuition fees for the academic year 2024-2025 are:

- Dutch, EU/EEA, Swiss and Surinamese students: €2,530 per year
- Non-EU/EEA students €21,200 per year
- Second Dutch master's programme: €16,300 per year

More information about tuition fees

The tuition fee for this programme is €2,314 for the academic year 2023-2024 (statutory fee).

The tuition fee for this programme is €2,530 for the academic year 2024-2025 (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:

Austria	Latvia
Belgium	Liechtenstein

Bulgaria	Lithuania
Croatia	Luxembourg
Cyprus	Malta
Czech Republic	Norway
Denmark	Poland
Estonia	Portugal
Finland	Romania
France	Slovakia
Germany	Slovenia
Greece	Spain
Hungary	Suriname
Iceland	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland
Italy	

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

The tuition fee for this programme is €19,600 for the academic year 2023-2024 (institutional tuition fee).

The tuition fee for this programme is €21,200 for the academic year 2024-2025 (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 €15,400 for the academic year 2023-2024 (institutional tuition fee).

The tuition fee for this programme is €16,300 for the academic year 2024-2025 (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 €39 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 the introduction week in [Leiden \(OWL\)](#) or [The Hague \(HOP\)](#)! 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. You can find your digital student card in the Leiden University app three days after your student registration is finalised. Read more about your student card [here](#).

As soon as you receive notification that your student registration has been finalised 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.

De Leidsche Flesch

De Leidsche Flesch is the study association of the studies Computer Science, Physics, Astronomy and Mathematics. The main goals of the De Leidsche Flesch are to contribute to the interaction between its members and the scientific community and to contribute to the interaction between its members themselves. They organize a wide range of activities, like (lunch) lectures, excursions and study trips. They also try to acquaint you with job opportunities for after completing your study.

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 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

Get to know us through our online and in-person events for prospective students!



Student with laptop

Are you thinking about joining this Master's programme, and want to determine if it will be the right fit for you? Below, you can browse the events that we have coming up, and sign up to experience Leiden University and the programme for yourself. Alternatively, take a look at the Master Talks videos to find out more about the programme or check out our virtual campus tours!

Master Talks: Programme videos

On the [Master Talks: programme videos platform](#) you can find videos for each master's programme. This includes a video which gives a short introduction to the programme and after the Master's Online Open Days you will also be able to watch a recording of the programme presentation on the platform.

Upcoming events

On Campus Master's Open Day (incl. Minor market) Friday, 16 February 2024

The **On Campus Master's Open Day on Friday, 16 February 2024** 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 **talkshows or student presentations**, meet our lecturers, learn about the careers of our graduates and hear first-hand the experiences of current students and graduates on life at Leiden University. Experience the

atmosphere of our campus and ask all your questions at our **information market!** Some programmes also offer additional tours.

[Sign up for the next Master's Open Day here!](#)

Minor Market

Are you thinking about doing a minor during your bachelor studies? From 14:00 to 16:00 you can also check out the information market showcasing [the minors that we offer at the Faculty of Science](#). You do not need to sign up for the minor market.

Master's Online Open Days

The annual Master's Online Open Days in autumn are your opportunity to learn everything you need to know about our master's programmes and how they can help you reach your goals. Attend talkshows or student presentations, meet our lecturers, learn about the careers of our graduates and hear first-hand the experiences of students and graduates on life at Leiden University.

[Sign up for the next Master's Online Open Days here!](#)

Get to know the campus

Check out our virtual campus tours, filmed in 360 degrees – by dragging the video, you can look around at the surroundings yourself. Below is the video recorded at the Science faculty, where most of your lectures will take place; you can also view other 360 campus tours of the various university faculties [here](#).

360 Campus tour: the Science faculty

Due to the selected cookie settings, we cannot show this video here.

[Watch the video on the original website or](#)

Accept cookies

Contact

Do you have any questions about the master's programme Computer Science? Please contact us.

General questions

For questions about the application and admission procedure, tuition fees and scholarships, please check our [FAQ](#), or contact the Student Affairs Front Office:

[Online contact form](#)

Phone: +31 (0)71 527 8011

Office hours: Monday to Friday between 11.00 am and 16.00 pm.

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 1111 on working days between 9.00 am and 17.00 pm.

Programme specific questions

For inquiries about the programme:

S.G.I. (Bas) Biesbroeck

Study adviser

Email: studyadvisor@liacs.leidenuniv.nl

Education coordinator

E-mail: mastercs@liacs.leidenuniv.nl