Decision to temporarily soften Bachelor-before-Master rule at TU/e
9-April-2020 Dean Graduate School Paul Koenraad

Context

As a result of the measures taken in relation to the Corona virus, students may be delayed in their studies, despite all the extra efforts that the TU/e is making to support students. Because of the Bachelor-before-Master rule (‘harde knip’) this can have negative consequences for students in the transition from Bachelor HBO (Hoger Beroeps Onderwijs) and Bachelor WO (Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs) to premaster program WO or Master WO.

Up till now, there was no possibility to enter the Master without a Bachelor degree. Recently, the Ministry of Education made it possible to temporarily enable universities to be more lenient towards the Bachelor-before-Master rule due to the Corona measures.

In order to limit study delay for Bachelor students, please read below the measures that have been taken. Be aware that your focus should be on finishing your Bachelor program. If you are allowed to take master courses due to these new measures, please keep in mind that your study program should be feasible in terms of study load.

Measures being taken

o TU/e Bachelor students who are allowed to enrol in a Master program without a premaster program:

1) Students are allowed to follow Master courses during their Bachelor program and take Master examinations with a valid result in Q4 of the academic year 2019/20 and in the full academic year 2020/21, if they have obtained at least 150 EC within their examination program of the Bachelor program before 18 May 2020.

2) Students, who did not take Master courses in Q4 of the academic year 2019/20, are allowed to follow Master courses during their Bachelor program and take Master examinations with a valid result in the academic year of 2020/21, if they have obtained at least 160 EC within their examination program of the Bachelor program before 1 September 2020.

It is up to the department to decide if the BEP project can or cannot be part of the deficiency. This information can be found in the study guide.

o If the Bachelor degree is obtained by 31 August 2021 the successfully completed Master courses will transferred to the Master program including their grades.

o If the Bachelor degree is not obtained by 31 August 2021, the possibility to follow Master courses and to take Master examinations will be terminated. The Master courses are registered as extracurricular Bachelor courses. If students eventually enrol in the Master program, they may apply for exemption for these already taken courses.

o These measures apply to internal Bachelor students with a measuring moment of either 18 May 2020 or 1 September 2020. These measures do not apply for Bachelor students who have obtained 160 EC after 1 September 2020. For instance, if students obtain 160 EC of their Bachelor program after Q1 2020, they will not be allowed to take Master courses and they will have to finish their Bachelor first before entering the Master program.
NB

- Starting point is the autonomy of students whether or not to make use of this temporary measures. The academic advisors can advise students in making the right choice. Students are strongly advised to consult with an academic advisor about their choices.

- It is possible that students apply for a Master course that is already full. Bachelor students will only be admitted to a course when the lecturer agrees.

- It is possible that students do not have sufficient prior knowledge to successfully take certain Master courses. This information is preferably shown in Canvas.