

Description of the procedure for renewing studies at Vilnius University

General provisions

1. The Description of the Procedure for renewing studies at Vilnius University (hereinafter – Description) defines the terms and procedures for admitting persons who have previously studied at the University according to a University studies programme, and have graduated from no less than the first semester study plan of the integrated studies programme of the first or second study cycle to renew studies at Vilnius University (hereinafter – the University).
2. The present Description has been drawn up on the basis of the Law on Higher Education and Research of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter – LHER), the Study Regulations of Vilnius University, and the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Modular Studies Concept.
3. Key concepts for the purpose of the present Description:
 - 3.1. Renewing studies – admission to the University of a person who has been studying at the University and terminated the studies to continue the studies according to a previous or another study programme.
 - 3.2. Academic debt – a failed examination (pass/fail pass) after the retake of an examination (pass/fail).
 - 3.3. Course unit /module difference – the ratio between the share of the study programme completed by the person during previous studies, and the study programme to which the person is admitted to continue the studies. The differences in course units / modules are not considered to be academic debts.
 - 3.4. Unclassified student agreement – an agreement entered into by the University and a person whereby for an established fee the person is granted the right and provided the conditions to study individual course units / modules.
 - 3.5. A major is a part of the first cycle study programme that encompasses the major study field course units (modules) corresponding to the requirements for the qualification degree of a chosen study field and general university course units (modules).
 - 3.6. A minor study programme is a part of the first cycle study programme that includes compulsory subjects (defined by the regulations of the study programme), and (or) elective subjects (modules) from another study field that meet the minimal requirements for a dual qualification degree in a chosen study field.
 - 3.7. Students of a respective study flow – a flow of students of a specific academic unit admitted in the same year to study the same study programme in the same study form
 - 3.8. The other concepts shall be used in the meaning defined in the Study Regulations of the University and other legal acts.

5. Return to studies after an academic leave or suspension of studies are not considered to be renewing the studies.
6. Persons renewing their studies are admitted to non-State financed places.
7. The studies shall be renewed from the beginning of a semester, following submission of an application to the head of the relevant core academic unit.
8. The Councils of the core academic units may impose additional conditions for a renewal of studies terminated at the request of the student. The additional conditions shall be approved by the Senate.

Cases of and conditions for renewal of studies

8. Only persons who have completely accomplished the study plan of the first semester of the first and second cycle or of an integrated study programme, and who do not have any financial liabilities to the University may be allowed to return to their studies in the first or second study cycle, integrated study programmes.
9. The specific semester of the studies to which the student is allowed to return to study shall depend on the ratio between the portion of the study programme completed by the student during the previous studies, and the course units/ modules of the study programme to which the student is admitted to continue the studies; the ratio that shall be established according to the Study Regulations of the University.
10. The ratio between the previously studied programme and the course units / modules shall be established according to the procedure for the recognition of course units / modules defined by the Procedure for the Recognition of Learning Outcomes at Vilnius University.
11. Studies may be recommenced if the credit difference between a student's previous and intended study programme does not exceed 15 credits and the term for the evaluation of learning outcomes set by the council of the core academic unit has not expired.
12. The course unit / module difference resulting from a minor change in the study programme can be eliminated within one year from the return to studies. Such differences are not considered to be academic debts. If the person has more than 15 credit differences in course units / modules, the person shall eliminate the differences before returning to the studies.
13. The course units /modules of an insignificantly changed programme whose examinations or fail/pass evaluations must be passed (retaken) are determined by the head of a core academic unit.
14. A difference in a course unit / module is considered liquidated if the person has accounted for the course unit studied, and the final grade is five and higher, or passed if the evaluation form is a pass/fail test. A special unclassified student agreement shall be concluded for the purpose of elimination of a course unit / module difference.
15. Where a student had been studying in a major study programme and a minor study programme, and has terminated their studies in one or both such programmes, the student may return to these studies:
 - 15.1. in both study programmes (in the major and the minor study programme). The decision

regarding a return to the minor study programme shall be taken by the Pro-Dean of the academic unit implementing the minor studies.

15.2. in the minor study programme having selected the missing modules, i.e. to study the modules of the major study field, other fields or general university course units/modules without obtaining a dual bachelor's degree. The decision to recognise the learning outcomes of a minor study programme of the university studies, or of the modules of other study fields shall be taken by the Pro-Dean of a core academic unit implementing the major study programme.

16. A person who has been expelled from the University for an infringement of academic integrity may file an application regarding a renewal of their studies not earlier than one year after the expulsion from the University, and only having eliminated all the course units / modules differences.

Studies renewal procedure

17. A person seeking to renew their studies shall specify the study programme which they seek to renew, to the core academic unit implementing the programme at least five days before the beginning of a new semester.

18. Applications regarding admission to continue the studies at the University shall be examined by the Pro-Dean for Studies of the relevant core academic unit, and the decision shall be taken by the Head of the unit at the proposal of the Pro-Dean for Studies.

19. The applications shall be examined and the ratio between the course units /modules of the earlier study programme and the study programme the applicant seeks to study shall be established according to the Procedure for the Recognition of Learning Outcomes at Vilnius University. Should the portion of the earlier study programme be different from the list of the course units / modules of the respective semesters by at least one course unit / module, the person may be admitted to the preferred study semester only provided both parties to the agreement agree to conclude an unclassified student's agreement regarding the elimination of the differences in the course units / modules.

20. Where more than one person applies to the same study place, priority shall be given (in decreasing order of priority) to the applicant with a higher weighted average grade of all previously completed sessions; whose weighted average of the grades of the last completed session is higher; and whose date of the application to renew the studies was earlier.

21. The relevant academic unit shall inform the person seeking to renew studies at the University of the consent or objection to admit the applicant not later than before the beginning of the new semester.

22. Having taken a decision to allow the person to continue their studies at the University, a study agreement shall be concluded with the person, and the admission shall be officially recorded by an Order of the Rector.

23. An unclassified student agreement shall be concluded no later than within three business days from the decision of the head of the division to admit the person to the studies. The unclassified student's agreement is concluded for a period of no longer than one semester.

Conditions for financing renewal of the studies

24. A person who is renewing their studies and who has been admitted to a non-State financed place, shall be subject to the same studies' financing conditions that are applied to other students of the respective study flow studying in non-State financed places.

25. A person who has renewed their studies may compete for a vacant State-funded place (if available) in the procedure specified in the LHER and the Procedure for Compiling and Application of the Grading Scale at Vilnius University.

Final provisions

26. The present Description shall come into force on 01 September 2012.