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**Faculty of Agricultural Sciences:**

Following the decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences on 24.10.2024, the Senate of the University of Göttingen adopted the second amendment to the regulations on admission requirements and admission to the consecutive Master's degree programme "Integrated Plant and Animal Breeding" on 22.01.2025 in the version published on 16.05.2018 (Official Announcements I Nr. 22/2018 p. 409), last amended by the statutes of 15.01.2024 (Official Announcements I Nr. 1/2024 p. 4); the amendments are deemed to have been approved on the basis of a resolution of the University Foundation Committee of the University of Göttingen Foundation under Public Law of 10.07.2019 (§ 44 section 1 sentence 2 NHG in the version published on 26.02.2007 (Nds. GVBl. p. 69), last amended by Article 14 of the Act of 13.12.2024 (Nds. GVBl. p. 118); § 41 section 1 sentence 1 NHG in conjunction with § 18 section 6 sentence 3, section 8 sentence 4 NHG and § 7 section 1 sentence 1 NHZG in the version published on 29.01.1998 (Nds. GVBl. p. 51), last amended by Article 2 of the Act of 19.11.2019 (Nds. GVBl. p. 333); § 62 section 4 sentence 1 NHG, § 60a section 1 sentence 1 NHG in conjunction with § 18 section 6 sentence 3, section 8 sentence 3, section 14 NHG and § 7 section 2 NHZG).

**Regulations governing the qualifications for entry and admission for the consecutive master course of study "Integrated Plant and Animal Breeding"**

***I. Scope***

**§ 1 Scope**

(1) These regulations govern access to and admission to the consecutive Master's course of study "Integrated Plant and Animal Breeding".

(2) The University shall carry out the university's own procedure for determining the prerequisites for entry for all university places to be awarded in accordance with the following provisions in the course of study "Integrated Plant and Animal Breeding".

(3) <sup>1</sup>If more applicants meet the prerequisites for entry than places available, the university awards the university places to students according to the result of the university's own selection

procedure. <sup>2</sup>If the number of applicants who meet the prerequisites for entry falls short of the available places, a selection procedure does not take place.

## ***II. Eligibility for entry***

### **§ 2 Prerequisites for entry**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Applicants seeking admission to the master degree programme must demonstrate specialist suitability. <sup>2</sup>If you have completed a technically relevant bachelor's academic programme/ course of studies with a standard course length of at least six semesters and a scope of at least 180 ECTS credits or an equivalent degree in a course of study at a German university or at a university belonging to the Bologna signatory states, in accordance with section 3 of the Agricultural Sciences course of study or in a technically closely related subject area, then you are said to possess the relevant professional qualification. <sup>3</sup>Final examinations, which have been passed in a country outside the Bologna signatory states, require the determination of equivalence to the qualifications according to sentence 2, taking into account the proposals of the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) at the secretarial office of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Federal States in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK) for the recognition and evaluation of foreign educational certificates, which are located at the URL <http://anabin.kmk.org> . <sup>4</sup>The grades of the foreign proof of academic qualification must be converted to the German grading system.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Notwithstanding section 1, eligibility will be considered proven by applicants who have not yet completed a course of studies at the time of application, but have acquired at least 150 credits in a relevant bachelor degree programme as stated in section 3 or in an equivalent degree programme. <sup>2</sup>The average grade calculated from the previous examination components is also considered in the selection procedure instead of the bachelor grade or the grade of an equivalent proof of academic qualification, irrespective of whether the result of the bachelor programme examination deviates therefrom.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The decision whether an undergraduate programme is relevant in the meaning of sections 1 to 2 is made by the selection committee. <sup>2</sup>Prerequisite for the technical relevance of the preliminary study is the proof of at least the following achievements:

Performances in Agricultural Sciences, Plant Sciences, Animal Science, Forest Sciences, Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics or Computer Science amounting to at least 60 credits.

(4) <sup>1</sup>Applicants whose first language is not English must have sufficient knowledge of English. <sup>2</sup>Sufficient knowledge of English must be demonstrated with standardised or accredited certificates at least at level B2 of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). <sup>3</sup>In particular, the following serve as proof:

- a) "International English Language Testing System" (IELTS Academic): min. band 6;
- b) "Test of English as a Foreign Language, internet-based test" (TOEFL iBT): min. 80 points;
- c) "Test of English as a Foreign Language", paper-based test (TOEFL PBT): min. 550 points;
- d) "UNIcert", at least level II;
- e) other B2 certificate in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR);
- f) subject-specific certificate or lecturer's examination after a stay abroad of at least three months or university language courses in an English-speaking country corresponding to the level of the tests in letters a-e).

<sup>4</sup>As a rule, successful completion of the test may not date back more than three years prior to receipt of the application for admission to the Master's degree programme. <sup>5</sup>Proof of sufficient knowledge of English must be provided upon enrolment; proof is a prerequisite for enrolment; conditional enrolment does not take place.

(5) <sup>1</sup>In addition, the provisions of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen that are generally applicable to enrolment shall remain unaffected. <sup>2</sup>The enrolment of the applicants, authorised in principle for admission according to section 2, is conditional upon submission of proof of successful completion of the bachelor degree programme or an equivalent programme. <sup>3</sup>The proof must be provided during enrolment to the winter semester by the end of the 15.11. <sup>4</sup>If the dean or the dean of studies confirms, on the basis of the course of study at present, in particular, the examination components at present, that the applicant will obtain the degree at the latest by the end of the first semester of the Master course of study, the period according to sentence 3 will be extended upon enrolment for a winter semester until the end of 31.03.; the confirmation is permitted only if

- a) as examination results, only the thesis is missing or
- b) the thesis was already submitted to the university and the extent of the still missing examination components does not exceed six transfer of credits.

### **III. Selection procedure**

#### **§ 3 Start of programme, admissions application, closing date**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The Master degree programme starts with the winter semester. <sup>2</sup>The application for admission must be submitted via an online portal of the university. It must be received with the application documents required under section 2 by 01.06. (closing date) for the winter semester. <sup>3</sup>The application is valid only for awarding university places for the relevant admission date. <sup>4</sup>The university is not obliged to review the details of the applicants as part of its required duties.

(2) The application for admission must be accompanied by the following documents, which must be uploaded to the University's server using the online portal:

- a) the applicant's degree certificate or certificates in a certified German or English translation if the originals are not in English or German; if a degree certificate is not yet available, a certificate of achievements, credits and average grade must be submitted;
- b) a curriculum vitae written in English with a meaningful description of the applicant's educational background;
- c) proof of sufficient knowledge of English in accordance with § 2 section 4, if the applicant's first language is not English;
- d) a declaration as to whether the applicant has successfully completed, unsuccessfully completed or not yet completed a closely related Master's degree programme;
- e) if applicable, further documents proving special study-relevant knowledge or subject-related achievements;

(3) <sup>1</sup>Applications that are not submitted complete, or in due form and time, will be excluded from the further procedure. <sup>2</sup>The submitted documents are retained by the university.

(4) If a prospective student establishes that he or she is disadvantaged in the selection procedure with respect to other applicants due to a handicap, a suitable compensation of disadvantage is to be granted by the Selection Committee upon request.

#### **§ 4 Selection committee**

(1) For the preparation of the selection decision, the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the University will form at least one selection committee for this course of study.

(2) <sup>1</sup>A selection committee includes two members eligible to vote, who belong to the scientific personnel working full-time or the professorial group, and a member of the students' group

with advisory vote. <sup>2</sup>At least one member must belong to the professorial group. <sup>3</sup>The members are appointed by the faculty council of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. <sup>4</sup>The tenure of the members is two years, while that of the student union member is one year. <sup>5</sup>Reappointment is possible. <sup>6</sup>The selection committee has a quorum if at least two members eligible to vote are present.

(3) The tasks of the selection committee are:

- a) review of the incoming admissions applications for formal correctness,
- b) review and assessment of the prerequisites for entry, if necessary,
- c) conducting the interviews in accordance with § 8,
- d) decision on the admission or rejection of the applicant.

(4) The selection committee will report on the experience gained to the faculty council of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences after completion of the award procedure and, if appropriate, will submit proposals for the further development of the award procedure.

### **§ 5 Sequence of the selection procedure**

(1) A selection procedure includes the award of university places related to the specific admission date.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The admissions applications are decided in a main procedure and in the procedure for subsequent admissions, if required. <sup>2</sup>In the first step of the main procedure, some university places will be awarded at first to the applicants entitled to admission with outstanding suitability (best quota; § 6) and then to applicants entitled to admission according to combination of several criteria (combination quota; § 7).

(3) <sup>1</sup>Any persons admitted based to the selection procedure on the best quota will not be eligible to participate in the selection procedure within the combination quota. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who has been awarded admission in the best quota or the combination quota, will not participate in a procedure for subsequent admissions.

(4) The selection committee can consider in the event of an overbooking that some university places may not be accepted.

(5) The remaining university places from the best quota are included in the combination quota.

(6) <sup>1</sup>The general provisions of the enrolment regulation of the university governing enrolment shall otherwise remain unaffected. <sup>2</sup>The admission of the applicants, authorised in principle for admission according to § 2 section 2, is conditional upon submission of proof of successful completion of the bachelor degree programme or an equivalent academic programme. <sup>3</sup>The

proof must be provided during enrolment to the winter semester by the end of the 15.11. <sup>4</sup>If the dean or the dean of studies confirms, on the basis of the course of study at present, in particular, the examination components at present, that the applicant will obtain the degree at the latest by the end of the first semester of the Master course of study, the period according to sentence 3 will be extended upon enrolment for a winter semester until the end of 31.03.; the confirmation is permitted only if

- a) as examination results, only the thesis is missing or
- b) the thesis was already submitted to the university and the extent of the still missing examination components does not exceed six transfer of credits.

### **§ 6 Best quota**

(1) <sup>1</sup>A ranking list is generated in accordance with the following provisions to make the selection based on the combination quota. <sup>2</sup>50% of the university places are awarded according to the ranking list, beginning with place 1. <sup>3</sup>In case of identical ranking, the ranking is determined according to the result of the bachelor degree or an equivalent degree. Apart from this, a draw will decide the outcome in case of identical ranking.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The selection shall be based on a ranking list with a maximum of 60 points. <sup>2</sup>This ranking list shall be drawn up in accordance with the following provisions.

Depending on the result of the Bachelor's grade or the grade of an equivalent educational qualification, the applicant will be awarded points as follows:

1.0	60 points,
over 1.0 up to and including 1.1	57 points,
over 1.1 up to and including 1.2	54 points,
over 1.2 up to and including 1.3	51 points,
over 1.3 up to and including 1.4	48 points,
over 1.4 up to and including 1.5	45 points,
over 1.5 up to and including 1.6	42 points,
over 1.6 up to and including 1.7	39 points,
over 1.7 up to and including 1.8	36 points,
over 1.8 up to and including 1.9	33 points,
over 1.9 up to and including 2.0	30 points,
over 2.0 up to and including 2.1	27 points,

over 2.1 up to and including 2.2	24 points,
over 2.2 up to and including 2.3	21 points,
over 2.3 up to and including 2.4	18 points,
over 2.4 up to and including 2.5	15 points,
over 2.5 up to and including 2.6	12 points,
over 2.6 up to and including 2.7	9 points,
over 2.7 up to and including 2.8	6 points,
over 2.8 up to and including 3.0	3 points,
greater than 3.0 up to and including 4.0	0 points.

(3) <sup>1</sup>Applicants who are admitted as part of the best quota receive a letter of admission from the university in a text form. <sup>2</sup>This letter specifies the deadline within which the applicant should declare in writing whether he or she will accept the university place. <sup>3</sup>If the declaration according to sentence 2 is not available to the university at the right time and in the right form, the letter of admission shall become ineffective. <sup>4</sup>This legal consequence should be pointed out in the letter of admission.

(4) The admitted students no longer take part in the further procedure.

### **§ 7 Combination quota**

(1) <sup>1</sup>For the selection as part of the combination quota, a ranking list is generated in accordance with the following provisions. <sup>2</sup>50% of the university places are awarded according to the ranking list, beginning with place 1.

(2) The selection is made on the basis of a combination of the following criteria:

- a) on the basis of the Bachelor grade and the grade of the Bachelor thesis or the grade of an equivalent educational certificate in accordance with the ranking according to § 6 section 2 and
- b) according to the result of an interview with the applicant.

(3) The selection committee screens the received applications according to section 4 and selects from the screened applicants on the basis of the selection criteria mentioned in sections 2 and 5.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The received applications are screened to twice the number of university places to be awarded as per the selection procedure for limitation of the number of participants for the interview. <sup>2</sup>This is based on a ranking according to § 6 section 2. <sup>3</sup>In the event of an identical ranking, all applicants in the highest ranking will be permitted to participate.

(5) <sup>1</sup>The selection is made on the basis of a ranking with which a maximum of 105 points can be achieved. <sup>2</sup>This will be prepared in accordance with the following provisions:

a) Points are awarded to the applicant as follows, depending on the assessment of the degree of suitability in the interview:

aa) Depending on the nature and extent of the special professional knowledge, the applicant will be credited points as follows:

The applicant has:

very good knowledge	15 points,
good knowledge	10 points,
satisfactory knowledge	5 points,
poor knowledge	0 points,

ab) Depending on the nature and extent of the special professional knowledge or study-related extra-curricular achievements, the applicant will be awarded credits as follows:

The applicant has:

very good knowledge	15 points,
good knowledge	10 points,
satisfactory knowledge	5 points,
poor knowledge	0 points,

ac) Depending on the justification for the study motivation, the applicant will be credited points as follows:

The reasons are:

very convincing	15 points,
convincing	10 points,
only slightly convincing	5 points,
unconvincing	0 points,

b) The applicant will be credited with the points acquired as part of the assessment according to § 6 section 2.

c) The points attained under points a) and b) are added.

(6) <sup>1</sup>In case of identical ranking after generation of a ranking list, the ranking order is determined according to the result of the bachelor degree or an equivalent degree. <sup>2</sup>A draw will be held to decide the outcome in all other cases in which there is identical ranking.



## **§ 8 Interview**

(1) <sup>1</sup>The interview is intended to determine whether the applicant is suitable for the selected degree programme. <sup>2</sup>The following principles apply to the interview:

- a) The interview usually takes place by 10.09. for the winter semester at the university. The exact dates and location of the interview will be announced by the university in due time before the start of the interviews. The university invites the candidates to the interview with sufficient notice. A video conference or a telephone interview is permitted for overseas applicants as well as in established exceptions, in as far as the identity of the applicant can be determined beyond doubt. The selection committee determines the details of the procedure in such cases.
- b) The selection committee will conduct an interview with each applicant for about 15 minutes in English. The interview can be held simultaneously for up to four applicants.
- c) Minutes are kept of the essential questions and answers within the interview; said minutes must be signed by the members of the selection committee. The minutes should clearly show the day and place of the interview, the names of the committee members, the name of the applicant and the assessment.

(2) The selection interview shall cover the following aptitude parameters:

- a) special subject-related knowledge,
- b) special practical professional knowledge or study-relevant extracurricular achievements;
- c) motivation to study.

(3) After completion of the interview, the members of the selection committee shall rate the applicant according to the degree of suitability for the selected course of study on a scale according to § 6a section 5 letter a.

(4) <sup>1</sup>An applicant who fails to attend the interview without good cause is excluded from the further procedure. <sup>2</sup>The selection committee schedules a new date for the interview upon request, provided there is due cause. <sup>3</sup>The important reason and application for rescheduling a new date should be shown or made promptly, at the latest within two days after the date first scheduled by the selection committee. <sup>4</sup>An excluded applicant is entitled to participate once more in the next possible selection procedure.

## **§ 9 Letter of admission, rejection letter and procedure for subsequent admissions**

(1) <sup>1</sup>Applicants who are admitted receive a letter of admission from the university in a text form <sup>2</sup>This letter specifies the deadline within which the applicant should declare in writing whether he or she will accept the university place. <sup>3</sup>If this declaration is not submitted in due time and form, the letter of admission becomes ineffective. <sup>4</sup>The letter of admission shall contain a legal notice to this effect.

(2) <sup>1</sup>Applicants who are not entitled to admission receive a rejection letter in a text form, in which the attained ranking and the ranking of the applicant last admitted are listed. <sup>2</sup>The rejection letter provides information on rights of legal recourse. <sup>3</sup>Insofar as the applicant has satisfied the requirements for entry, it also includes the request to declare in writing within a specified deadline whether the admissions application will be held for a procedure for subsequent admissions. <sup>4</sup>If the applicant does not submit this declaration within a specified period or in the correct form, he or she will be excluded from the procedure for subsequent admissions. <sup>5</sup>Reference must be made to this legal consequence.

(3) <sup>1</sup>The procedure for subsequent admissions is carried out on the basis of the ranking in accordance with § 6a section 5. <sup>2</sup>Once the ranking list according to sentence 1 has been fully applied, a ranking list is created on the basis of the results of the Bachelor grade or the grade of an equivalent proof of academic qualification and the procedure for subsequent admissions is carried out on the basis of this ranking list. <sup>3</sup>If there is rank equality after the ranking has been created, a further decision will be made on the basis of a draw. <sup>4</sup>The provisions of the section 1 apply correspondingly.

(4) <sup>1</sup>The admission procedure will be completed no later than 15.11. for admission to a winter semester. <sup>2</sup>Any university places still remaining will be awarded by a lottery to applicants entitled to admission, subject to informal application. <sup>3</sup>The application period for this starts two weeks before commencement of the period of lecture of the semester for which the admission should be made, and ends with conclusion of the selection procedure. <sup>4</sup>The award of university places through a draw is completed at the latest on 30.11 because of the advanced period of lecture in case of admission (winter semester).

## **§ 10 Admission to higher semesters**

(1) The vacant university places in a higher restricted-admission semester are awarded to applicants in the following order,

- a) who are in the same or a similar degree programme,

aa) are or were enrolled at a different German university or at a university domiciled in another member state of the European Union or in another signatory state to the Agreement on the European Economic Area,

ab) who are or were enrolled at a foreign university and possess the German nationality or are subject to the same university admissions laws and regulations as German citizens,

b) for whom the rejection of admission for personal reasons would mean extraordinary hardship,

c) who assert other reasons.

(2) Within each one of the three case groups of section 1, the result of the Bachelor's programme examination or an examination equivalent to the Bachelor's programme examination, thereupon the social, especially family-related and economic reasons that are decisive for the choice of place, and finally the draw in cases that are still identical.

### **§ 11 Quotas**

(1) <sup>1</sup>From the number of admissions to this course of study, a special quota is formed in advance of 60% of the university places to be granted for the admission of foreign nationals and stateless persons with a recognised educational record, who are neither equated with Germans by law, nor are nationals of another member state of the European Union or another contracting state to the agreement on the European Economic Area, nor have acquired their Bachelor's degree or equivalent degree from a German university or from a university in another member state of the European Union or another contracting state to the agreement on the European Economic Area. <sup>2</sup>Applications from foreign nationals and stateless persons as defined under sentence 1 will not be considered in the selection procedure according to § 5.

(2) <sup>1</sup>The selection takes place as defined in the provisions of §§ 1 to 9. <sup>2</sup>Special circumstances that favour a course of studies at a German university may also be considered additionally.

<sup>3</sup>Circumstances of this nature shall be deemed particularly applicable if the applicant

- a) proves the approval for a scholarship through a publicly financed institution,
- b) has successfully attended a college upon the suggestion of a Lower Saxony university and is preselected for a university place,
- c) comes from a developing country,
- d) enjoys right of asylum in the Federal Republic of Germany or

e) belongs to a German-speaking minority abroad or is subject to the support through interstate contracts or university agreements.

(3) The remaining university places according to this quota are included in the quota for the selection procedure according to § 5.

(4) Deviating from § 3 section 1 sentence 3, the application for admission of applicants who are neither equated by law with Germans nor are nationals of another member state of the European Union, must be submitted to the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, along with the application documents required according to § 3 section 2, by 15.02. (final deadline).

#### ***IV. Entry into force***

#### **§ 12 Entry into Force**

(1) <sup>1</sup>This regulation enters into force the day after its publication in the official announcements I of Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. <sup>2</sup>It applies initially for the awards procedure for the winter semester 2018/19