

## **Admission requirements for the bachelor's degree programme Science (full-time) of the Faculty of Science, Charles University, for the academic year 2023–2024**

The admission procedure starts with the submission of a correctly completed application and the payment of the application fee by February 28, 2023.

### **Admission requirements**

- Completion of secondary education with proof provided by September 30, 2023. Applicants who pass the final exam in the autumn term and applicants who have to wait to have their international studies recognized must present a document concerning their bachelor's degree by October 22, 2023. Applicants who have graduated from Czech schools must provide a registered copy of their graduation certificate. Applicants who hold a degree from an international school must provide proof of their education in one of the ways described at the following link: <https://www.natur.cuni.cz/fakulta/uchazeci/nostifikace/nostifikace-pro-uchazece-domagisterskeho-a-doktorskeho-studia>
- Proof of language proficiency (see below). Applicants must attach the relevant document to their applications. If the applicant does not have the required language certificate at the time of application and obtains the necessary number of points for admission, they must provide the required certificate by July 31, 2023.
- Passing the entrance exam (if the exam is not waived).
- Applicants will be admitted to study in the order determined by the number of points achieved in the entrance exam. The point threshold for admission to individual study programmes is set by the dean of faculty based on the number of applicants taking the entrance exam and the capacity of the faculty.
- Required attachments to the application form:
  - o Curriculum vitae (max. one A4 page);
  - o Motivation letter (max. two A4 pages);
  - o Complete classification (report card) for the last two completed years of secondary school (this document must be in English, Czech, or Slovak; alternatively, it can be officially translated into one of those languages).

### **Evidence of language proficiency sufficient to study for a bachelor's degree in English:**

A. The applicant provides evidence that he/she has completed at least one year of secondary education in English in one of the countries where English is an official language (e.g., Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States of America, South Africa, Malta, or India).

Or

B. The applicant has passed at least one of the following examinations and achieved at least the following minimum score or level (if specified):

- The Czech Republic General State English Language Examination;
- TOEFL (paper) - 480 points;
- TOEFL (computer) - 160 points;

- TOEFL (Internet) - 64 points;
- IELTS - 5.0 points;
- C2 Proficiency (formerly called CPE) - Pass;
- C1 Advanced (formerly called CAE) - Pass;
- B2 First (formerly known as FCE) - A, B, C;
- ESOL International - B2–C2.

### **The application and the admission fee**

The **application** is submitted electronically via the study information system (SIS) of Charles University (<https://is.cuni.cz/studium/eng/prijimacky/>). The application needs to be submitted electronically by February 28, 2023 (**no hard copies** can be sent). The email and password used to submit the application remain the same throughout the admission procedure.

The **admission fee** is 830 Czech crowns and is paid for each application submitted. The fee must be paid by February 28, 2023.

#### **Payment information:**

Account name: Univerzita Karlova.

Account number: 19-2764980247/0100, KB Praha - město, Václavské náměstí 42, 114 07, Praha 1.

Constant symbol: 0308

Variable symbol: 988018

IBAN: CZ8701000000192764980247

SWIFT (BIC): KOMBCZPPXXX

Specific symbol: the ID number generated by the information system after the application is submitted.

In “Notes for the recipient”, list the name of the applicant.

When paying from abroad, it is necessary to **pay all applicable bank fees**.

If an application does not meet all the requirements or if the application fee has not been paid, the faculty will ask the student to rectify the matter and will grant him/her adequate time to do so. If the matter is not resolved within the allowed time, the admission process will be suspended. The application fee is not refundable.

### **Admission examination**

Primary date: April 14, 2023

Alternative date: April 21, 2023

Invitations to the admission exam are only sent electronically via the university's electronic information system and no later than thirty days before the exam date. If the faculty sends an invitation for an alternative exam date, this period may be shortened accordingly.

Admission exams on an alternative date may only be permitted by the dean for applicants who **request an alternative date at least three days** after the primary examination date. Only serious reasons, mainly health-related ones, can justify an alternative date. Other reasons

include studying abroad in preparation for university. The request must be explained in detail, and the circumstances must be documented. Other alternative dates are not permitted.

The request is submitted and handled through the [university's electronic information system](#).

### **Description of the entrance examination**

- The entrance exam is a one-round online interview in biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, computer science, and programming.
- The entrance exam is held in English.
- Students will be assessed on their high school knowledge of biology, chemistry, and physics, as well as their ability to connect and apply this knowledge.

The range of knowledge tested in biology, chemistry, and physics is equivalent to the content of current secondary school textbooks. Some questions may go beyond the secondary school curriculum in terms of content and topic. These questions are intended to reveal the candidate's interest in the subject and their ability to think logically and solve problems based on the correct interpretation of the information provided (e.g., in the form of a text, graph, table, diagram, or picture). Applicants are also assessed on their ability to analyze and apply achieved knowledge.

### **Entrance examination scores**

A maximum of 100 points can be awarded.

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|-------------------|-----------|---|
| Curriculum vitae  | 10 points | Achievements in all extracurricular activities are evaluated, both scientific and non-scientific ones.  |
| Motivation letter | 25 points | The applicant's readiness to study a demanding interdisciplinary programme is evaluated.  |
| Classification    | 10 points | Grades in mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, computer science, or programming are evaluated.   |
| Entrance exam     | 55 points | Secondary school knowledge is evaluated, especially in biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, computer science, and programming. The ability to integrate and apply knowledge as well as the student's capacity to communicate scientific topics in English are also assessed. |

### **Evaluation criteria**

#### **Curriculum vitae**

Excellent prerequisites: successful solver of the national round of the International Olympiad, participant in the International Olympiad as specified in the overview section criteria to be considered, min. one year of study at a foreign secondary school (different from the applicant's nationality), proven involvement in scientific activities (e.g., co-authorship of a scientific publication), presentation of results at a conference, a statement from the supervisor of a research team and evidence of participation in a grant project, popularisation activities at the international and national level, or other extracurricular activities with significant international and national impact (10–8 points).

Sufficient prerequisites: successful solver of the national round of the International Olympiad as specified in the overview section criteria to be considered, demonstrable involvement in

scientific activities as evidenced by a statement from the supervisor of a research team, popularization activities at the local level, or other extracurricular activities with significant national and local impact (7–5 points).

Minimum prerequisites: the applicant has not demonstrated any of the above, but his/her curriculum vitae demonstrates other significant achievements (4–0 points).

**Motivation letter**

Compelling motivation: a well-thought-out letter that is relevant to the Science programme (25–20 points).

Semi-compelling motivation: a reasonably thought-out letter that is broadly relevant to the Science programme (19–14 points).

Uncompelling motivation: an unclear letter that is not relevant to the Science programme (13–0 points).

**Classification**

The grades in biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics for the last two completed years of secondary school are evaluated. The calculated percentage of A grades is divided by ten and rounded; the result represents a score on a scale from zero to ten.

In the case of verbal, point, and percentage marks, the applicant must provide the basis for the conversion of the results of the studies issued by the secondary school in question or another relevant institution.

**Waiver of entrance examination**

The entrance examination will be waived upon the applicant's request if he/she provides evidence in the form of an electronic copy of one of the necessary criteria.

The application is processed through the [university's electronic information system](#) and must be submitted no later than March 1, 2023.

**Evidence of fulfillment of the necessary criteria**

The document must be submitted in English, Czech, or Slovak; alternatively, it must be officially translated into one of those languages.

The result of the International Advanced Placement Examinations is documented by a copy of the Student Score Report for Colleges and Universities or a certificate/confirmation issued by the Center for Talented Youth in Prague.

Participation in the relevant round of the International Olympiad is evidenced by a copy of the diploma or a certificate of participation.

**Overview of considered criteria**

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|--|---|
| Successful solvers of the central (national, Czech, or Slovak) round of the Olympiad | Biology Olympiad category A<br>Chemistry Olympiad category A and E<br>Physics Olympiad category A<br>Mathematical Olympiad category A and P   |
| Participants in the Olympiad   | Biology (International Biology Olympiad - IBO)<br>Chemistry (International Chemistry Olympiad - IChO)<br>Physics (International Physics Olympiad - IPhO)<br>Mathematics (International Mathematical Olympiad - IMO) |

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| Applicants who have taken the Advanced Placement International Examination in AP Biology with a score of 5 or 4.                     |
| Applicants who have taken the Advanced Placement International Examination in AP Chemistry with a score of 5 or 4.                   |
| Applicants who have taken the International Advanced Placement Examination in AP Physics 1 or AP Physics 2 with a score of 5 or 4.   |
| Applicants who have taken the Advanced Placement International Examination in AP Calculus A or AP Calculus B with a score of 5 or 4. |

### **Characteristics of the programme**

The bachelor's degree programme Science (studyscience.eu) responds to the need to educate professionals in the natural sciences with a strong interdisciplinary focus. The programme effectively links biology, chemistry, and physics and is currently the only one of its kind in the country. The significant interdisciplinary overlap of BSc Science graduates enables them to tackle challenging research tasks and interdisciplinary projects using both traditional and modern approaches. Graduates of the programme will also gain the fundamentals of artificial intelligence (especially machine learning) and a number of soft skills. A large part of the teaching will be provided using proactive techniques and the active involvement of students from the very beginning ("active learning" and "flipped learning" will be adopted for the specific needs of the programme). The implementation of the Science programme is based on the principle of 2 + 1 years, where the first two years of study will be common to all students in the programme, while the third one will be fully dedicated to the field of study chosen by the student (biology, chemistry, or physics). During the first two years, students will gain a solid basis in mathematics, computer science, programming, and soft skills (roughly one-third of the credits). The remaining credits (for the first two years of study) will be divided equally between biology, chemistry, and physics. After mastering the common basis in the first two years, the student will choose one of the three areas to fully focus on for the final year of study. Depending on this choice, therefore, the student will acquire knowledge in biology, chemistry, or physics that will enable him/her to study in relevant postgraduate programmes.

### **Information on graduate employment**

Graduates of the Science programme (studyscience.eu) are well prepared to study in master's programmes in biology, chemistry, or physics (or interdisciplinary sciences) at home or abroad. Regardless of the focus chosen for their subsequent master's degree or doctorate, upon graduation, the student will be in a unique position to solve challenging interdisciplinary problems, even outside academia. In particular, graduates will find employment not only in interdisciplinary fields dealing with biological, chemical, physical, and mathematical issues, but also in emerging areas of sustainability research on the environment, health, technology, and economy. Graduates who choose not to continue their studies will benefit from, among other things, knowledge of mathematics, statistics, and programming, as well as training in critical thinking and effective approaches to complex problem-solving. They will therefore easily find employment in the commercial sector (corporate research and development, consultancy, risk analysis, etc.). As the entire programme is conducted in English, graduates will benefit from language proficiency and the ability to interact professionally in an international environment.

## **Viewing of personal file**

After notification of the dean's decision regarding the outcome of the admission process, the applicant is entitled to view his/her file. The administrative and organizational conditions for viewing applicants' profiles are determined by the dean.

**Further information is available from the Department of Student Affairs.**

Mailing address: Univerzita Karlova, Přírodovědecká fakulta, Studijní odbor, Albertov 6, 128 00 Praha 2.

In person: Department of Student Affairs, Na Slupi 16 (in the Botanical Garden complex), Prague 2, Mgr. Martina Linhartová.

Telephone number: +420 221 951 046

Email: [prihlaska@natur.cuni.cz](mailto:prihlaska@natur.cuni.cz)

Further information is available at <https://www.natur.cuni.cz/eng/study/applicants>

Students enrolled in English-speaking programmes are required to pay the tuition fee for studies in a foreign language as established by Appendix 2 of the Constitution of Charles University. More information about the fees is available at

<https://www.natur.cuni.cz/eng/study/student/tuition-fees>