

**Qualifications Framework for German Higher Education Degrees
– Overview -**

Level of Qualification	Formal Aspects	Qualifications conferred by higher education institutions Higher education degrees and <i>Staatsexamina</i> (State examinations) ¹
Level 1: Bachelor's level	<p>Admission requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - higher education entrance qualification (general or subject-specific higher education entrance qualification, university of applied science entrance qualification, admission to higher education for vocationally qualified applicants without a higher education entrance qualification in accordance with the regulations of the federal states, including special procedures for determining eligibility); - in accordance with the regulations of the federal states regarding admission to higher education for vocationally qualified applicants without a higher education entrance qualification. <p>Duration: (incl. thesis) 3, 3.5 or 4 years (180, 210 or 240 ECTS credits);</p>	B. A.; B. Sc.; B. Eng.; B.F.A., B. Mus, LLB Diplom (FH) [Diplom degree awarded by a university of applied sciences], Staatsexamen [State examination]

¹ See list in Annex 1. Staatsprüfungen [State examinations] are as a rule assigned to the second level of study; however the following special rules apply: degree programmes leading to a Staatsprüfung cover a standard study period of 3 years (primary school or primary level and lower secondary level teaching careers, which may be assigned to the 1st level of study) to 6.5 years (medicine); this is equivalent to 180 - 390 ECTS credits.

	<p>Degrees at Bachelor level represent the first qualification for entry into a profession. Postgraduate options: Master level programmes (outstanding results can even lead directly to Doctoral level programmes), other continuing education options.</p> <p>Transitions from vocational education and training: On starting a study programme at a particular higher education institution, qualifications and competencies acquired outside of higher education institutions and established by means of an equivalence examination procedure can be credited, insofar as they correspond to the requirements of the respective study programme.</p>	
<p>Level 2: Master's level</p>	<p>Admission requirements: For degree programmes leading to a first degree (Diplom, Magister, Staatsexamen):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - higher education entrance qualification (general or subject-specific higher education entrance qualification, university of applied science entrance qualification, admission to higher education for vocationally qualified applicants without a higher education entrance qualification in accordance with the regulations of the 	<p>M.A., M. Sc., M. Eng., M.F.A., M. Mus., LL.M., etc. <i>Diplom (Univ.)</i> [<i>Diplom</i> degree awarded by a university], <i>Magister, Staatsexamen</i> [State examination] Master's programmes which are designed for continuing education²</p>

² The degree designations for Master's programmes which are designed for continuing education are not prescribed and are not limited to the given degree designations, e.g. MBA.

	<p>federal states, including special procedures for determining eligibility);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- in accordance with the regulations of the federal states regarding admission to higher education for vocationally qualified applicants without a higher education entrance qualification. <p>For Master level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- First higher education qualification, at least at Bachelor level, that provides qualification for a professionqualified employment, plus further admission requirements to be defined by the respective higher education institution. <p>Duration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- for Master programmes 1, 1.5 or 2 years (60, 90 or 120 ECTS credits);- for degree programmes leading to a first higher education qualification 4, 4.5 or 5 years, incl. thesis (240, 270 or 300 ECTS credits). <p>Postgraduate options: Doctorate, continuing education options.</p> <p>Transitions from vocational education and training: Notwithstanding the requirement for a first higher education qualification providing qualification for a profession, qualified employment, qualifications and competences acquired outside higher education institutions and established by examination can, on starting a study programme at a particular</p>	
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	higher education institution, be credited on the basis of an equivalence testing procedure to the amount corresponding to the requirements of the respective study programme.	
Level 3: Doctoral level	<p>Admission requirements:</p> <p><i>Master</i> (Univ., FH) [Master degree awarded by a university, Master degree awarded by a <i>Fachhochschule</i> (university of applied sciences)], <i>Diplom</i> (Univ.) [<i>Diplom</i> degree awarded by a university], <i>Magister</i>, <i>Staatsexamen</i> [State examination], outstanding Bachelor's degree or outstanding <i>Diplom</i> (FH) [<i>Diplom</i> degree awarded by a university of applied sciences].</p> <p>Additional admission requirements are set by the faculty.</p>	Dr., Ph.D.

Overview: Staatsexamen [State examinations]

- Primary school or primary level teaching careers (6-7 semesters)
- General teaching careers at primary level and at all or individual lower secondary level school types (7-9 semesters)
- Teaching careers at all or individual lower secondary level school types (7-9 semesters)
- Upper secondary level (general education subjects) or *Gymnasium* teaching careers (9 semesters)
- Upper secondary level (vocational subjects) or vocational school teaching careers (9 semesters)
- Special educational teaching careers (8-9 semesters)
- Law (9 semesters)
- Medicine (13 semesters)
- Dentistry (11 semesters)
- Veterinary medicine (11 semesters)
- Pharmacy (8 (-9) semesters)
- Food chemistry ((8-) 9 semesters)