

Academic Year 2019-2020

Guidelines Binding Study Recommendations (*BSA*)

Article 1. Study Recommendations First Year (BSA)

1. At the end of the first year in which the student has registered for the propaedeutic phase but no later than 31 August, the committee on First Year Study Recommendations (*commissie Studieadvies Eerste Jaar*) delivers, on behalf of the dean, its opinion on whether the student should continue the full-time bachelor's degree programme as referred to in article 7.8b of the Higher Education and Research Act (*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek*); hereinafter to be referred to as "the Act".
2. For the purposes of these guidelines, the 'propaedeutic phase' of the bachelor's degree programmes is understood to be the first period in a bachelor's degree programme with a study load of 60 ECs.
3. The committee on First Year Study Recommendations makes a positive study recommendation to the student if the student has obtained a minimum of [alternative 1: 42] [alternative 2: 43] [alternative 3: 44] [alternative 4: 45] ECs of the propaedeutic phase referred to in paragraph 2.
4. The committee on First Year Study Recommendations makes a negative study recommendation to a student if the student does not meet the requirements referred to in paragraph 3, unless personal circumstances as referred to in article 3 of these regulations should play a role. This negative study recommendation entails a binding rejection.
5. The committee on First Year Study Recommendations notifies the student of its intention to make the binding recommendation not to continue his or her studies and grants the student the opportunity to be heard before the negative recommendation is actually made.
6. For the calculation of the required number of ECs referred to in paragraph 3, the ECs that have been granted for exemptions are included. The student is heard by the committee on First Year Study Recommendations.
7. The committee on First Year Study Recommendations makes binding study recommendations to students who have registered for a part-time programme and to students who have registered for a full-time programme after 31 January respectively at the end of their second study year. The committee on First Year Study Recommendations makes a positive recommendation [alternative 1: if the propaedeutic phase has been successfully concluded] [alternative 2: if all 60 EC of the propaedeutic phase have been obtained].
8. [Alternative 1: The provisions of this paragraph on binding study recommendations do not apply for students who have registered for part-time degree programmes] [Alternative 2: The provisions of this paragraph on binding study recommendations also apply, in full, for students who have registered for part-time degree programmes, on the understanding that the standard referred to in paragraph 3 is [...] ECs. [Alternative 3: Contrary to the provisions of paragraph 1, binding study recommendations are not made to students registered for part-time degree programmes before the end of the second year the student has been registered for that degree programme].]

9. The dean is authorised to lay down additional rules for the binding study recommendations – as meant in these regulations – that apply for students who have registered for two degree programmes recognised as dual degree programmes under or pursuant to these regulations.
10. Students who deregister before 1 March are not given any binding study recommendations for that academic year. If a student registers again for the same degree programme in the following academic year, the binding study recommendation for that student will be made at the end of that second study year. The provisions of the last sentence of paragraph 7 of the present article apply equally.
11. A student may appeal at the Examination Appeals Board against a binding recommendation not to continue his or her studies within six weeks following this negative recommendation. The appeal has no suspensive effect.

Article 2. Preliminary Study Recommendations

1. In anticipation of the study recommendations referred to in article 1 of these regulations, the committee on First Year Study Recommendations makes preliminary study recommendations, on the basis of their results so far, to students at the end of their first semester.
2. The preliminary recommendation is especially meant as a warning for students who have failed to make adequate progress. The student in question will be invited for an interview with the student counsellor to see how the study results could be improved or which other degree programme might be an alternative.

Article 3. Personal circumstances

1. When deciding on the binding study recommendations, the committee on First Year Study Recommendations takes into consideration the personal circumstances as referred to in article 2.1 of the implementation decree (*'Uitvoeringsbesluit'*) of the Act, in so far as a student advisor, a student counsellor, or any other person appointed to this end has been notified, without delay, of these circumstances by or on behalf of the student in question.
2. Apart from the personal circumstances referred to in paragraph 1, the committee on First Year Study Recommendations takes the following personal circumstances into consideration when making the decision:
 - a. the student is a top talent in arts or culture;
 - b. the student takes part in sport at top level.
3. The student may be requested to substantiate why personal circumstances have played a role or to argue convincingly that these circumstances should be taken into consideration.

Article 4. Duration negative study recommendation

1. If a negative study recommendation has been made, the student in question will not be entitled, for a period of three years, either to register for the same bachelor's degree programme or for any other bachelor's degree programmes that may have, as designated by the dean, their propaedeutic phases partially or entirely in common.
2. In the event a student should register again for the relevant degree programme after the period referred to in paragraph 1, this registration will be considered as a first registration under this paragraph and the relevant provisions will apply in full.

Article 5. No negative study recommendation or deferral of the decision

1. On the basis of the circumstances referred to in article 3, the dean, having heard the committee on First Year Study Recommendations, may decide not to attach binding consequences to a recommendation to a student not to continue his or her studies. Having heard the committee on First Year Study Recommendations, the dean may also decide, on the basis of the circumstances referred to, not to attach binding consequences as yet to a recommendation to a student not to continue his or her studies.
2. If a recommendation to a student not to continue his or her studies, as meant in paragraph 1 of the present article, does not entail a binding rejection, the committee on First Year Study Recommendations as yet makes its binding study recommendation as referred to in article 1 of these regulations before the end of the second study year if, at that time, the student has not obtained the 60 ECs of the propaedeutic phase.

These guidelines under article 7 of the Dual Board Structure Regulations were adopted by the Executive Board on 16 July 2019, following the approval of the University Joint Assembly (*UGV*) on 1 July 2019 and enter into force on 1 September 2019, thereby repealing the guidelines that applied until that date.