

COVID-19 and studying in the Netherlands

Information for international students



The Netherlands welcomes international students from across the globe. Our goal is to provide top-quality higher education, but we also take measures for the well-being of our students.

The Dutch approach aims to keep the COVID-19 virus under control. This way, we will protect vulnerable groups and make sure that the health-care system is able to cope. As people are [following the measures](#), the situation has improved since March 2020. The figures show a positive trend. Now, it is important that the virus stays under control until a vaccine or treatment is available. [We are therefore taking a step-by-step approach.](#)

The current measures for international students in the Netherlands are:



Health care and health insurance

International students who are currently studying in the Netherlands have access to health care. Before departure, always make sure that you check your specific insurance situation. You must also have enough coverage during your stay in the Netherlands. For reliable information, please contact [the Zorgverzekeringslijn](#). [Everyone in the Netherlands who has symptoms of COVID-19 can be tested.](#)



Tuition fees

Are you a student who will obtain a master's degree at a research university or a bachelor's degree at a university of applied sciences between September 2020 and January 2021? If so, you will receive a one-off compensation in the first quarter of 2021. the maximum amount is 3 months of tuition fees (€ 535). You will receive the amount no later than 31 March 2021. For more information, go [to the DUO website](#).



Accommodation

There is no financial compensation for students who are having problems paying their rent due to the coronavirus crisis. However, landlords must try to look for solutions. Are you in doubt about your rights and duties? Please contact [the Housing Hotline of the Dutch Student Union](#) for advice.



Dutch residence permit

Dutch higher education institutions are a recognised sponsor and apply for your residence permit on your behalf. Are you facing delay due to the coronavirus crisis? Ask your host institution if your residence permit could be extended. Handling new students' residence permits has priority. For more information, please see the [website of the Dutch Immigration and Naturalisation Service \(IND\)](#).



Language testing

All Dutch higher education institutions are now accepting online English language tests required for admission and visa purposes. This agreement was made on 15 April and updated on 16 June: [the Code of Conduct International Student in Dutch Higher Education](#). Please contact your Dutch higher education institution for more information about your enrollment.



Campuses reopening and blended learning

Dutch higher education institutions are proud of what they have achieved to date in their shift towards online education. They do so to offer the high quality that defines our higher education. Currently, Dutch higher education institutions are considering several scenarios for teaching on campus and blended learning. Some institutions have already decided on their mode of instruction for the start of the 2020-2021 academic year. These decisions may vary, so we advise you to contact your host institution. [Here, you will find an overview](#) of the coronavirus information webpages per institution.



Travel restrictions and consular services

The situation is changing so fast worldwide that information quickly becomes outdated. The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs advises to use its website www.netherlandsandyou.nl as a starting point. This website is constantly updated. The [EU travel ban has been extended to 1 July](#). There are exceptional categories that are exempt from the travel ban: students with an entry visa (MVV) or with a valid study residence permit who are willing (and able) to return. Make sure that you monitor the website of the embassy or consulate of your country of origin regularly once you are in the Netherlands. In the current situation, countries like to know where their citizens are so they can provide assistance where required.

Stay in touch. Get in touch with your Dutch higher education institution. Access the latest information via [Study in Holland](#) and [Holland Alumni](#).