

## **Step by step to Study in the Netherlands- Bachelor Pre-Masters, Masters, Research Masters and Post Doctorate**

The Netherlands, a country in northwestern Europe, is known for its flat landscape, canals, tulip fields, windmills and cycling routes. Besides these, approximately 97% of Dutch population speaks in English as a second language. Almost all the universities use English as their main language to teach undergraduate and graduate levels. Thus, the country has become quite popular destination for international students.

### **Requirements to apply for Bachelors:**

Language requirements: It is essential that you speak, read and write English well. You must have passed an English language test. IELTS and TOEFL are commonly accepted, but institutions may accept other tests as well, like Cambridge English. The required scores are at least 550 (paper based) or 213 (computer based) for TOEFL. For IELTS a score of at least 6 is required for direct bachelor program for applied sciences universities and IELTS 6.5 for research universities. All academic certificate and mark sheet, IELTS certificate, Birth certificate required as a paper.

### **Preparatory year:**

Sometimes you are not yet eligible to the program of your choice, but with a little extra preparation you could succeed next year! The Dutch higher education institution of your choice can provide you with a conditional letter of acceptance. Dutch immigration law then allows you to come to the Netherlands for a maximum of one year prior to your studies to follow preparatory courses and pass the examinations set by the institution. After you have passed the examinations, the conditional letter of acceptance will be turn into a definite letter of acceptance. The factsheet 'A preparatory year before admission to a Dutch university' gives you all the information on this topic. However, some of university allows IELTS 5.0 for one year English Language Program and IELTS 5.5 for six months.

### **Tuition Fees:**

For bachelor studies range from 6000 to 8000 Euros a year for applied sciences universities and for research universities 8000 to 12000 euro. Better come with a scholarship or just come for masters because it will be very hard to fund your own study for four years bachelor program.

There are only few scholarship opportunities for Bachelor's study. There are two types of scholarship for bachelor.

1. University excellence scholarship. 2. Holland scholarship.

These are for once only and you have to apply for September session. In February session there are no opportunities for scholarship. Go to this link to find a required bachelor scholarship for your interested area:

<https://www.studyinholland.nl/scholarships/find-a-scholarship>

### **Masters or Pre-Masters:**

Most universities follow online application system. The most important documents that a student needs to submit are undergraduate results, resume, IELTS score minimum 6.5 for direct masters and for pre-masters IELTS 6 required. GMAT score (depends on subject if necessary or not), Motivation letter, recommendation letter, bachelor thesis or internship report, CV, job experience or volunteering experience paper and birth certificate. After reviewing these documents if the university feels like you have all the necessary qualifications to study in the Masters program then you will be directly admitted to the program. However, if you do not meet the admission requirements for a master program, you could be considered following a pre-master, which usually takes a year or six months. After completing a pre-master program successfully, you have direct access to the desired master program.

### **Research Masters:**

The same application package can also be followed to apply in a research master's program. The Master of Research degree is an advanced postgraduate research degree in a specific academic discipline. The benefit of studying this program is that you have higher chance to get accepted as a PHD candidate. The program is extensively scientific research oriented. It usually takes two years to finish the program, however, after finishing research masters it only takes three years to complete the PHD. Getting accepted in this program is very competitive. A candidate has to have basic knowledge about scientific research or at least have written few articles following scientific research method. Most Universities in Holland gives full scholarship if accepted in research masters and also research assistance ship.

### **Post Doctorate:**

Being a doctorate candidate in Holland has lots of benefits. A PHD candidate gets a work permit as they are treated as paid employees. The salary ranges from €1500- €2000 per month. As the student does not have to pay any tuition fees it becomes easy to bear all living expenses by themselves. In Holland, PHD candidate also have to work as a teacher in the university which means there is a higher chance to get permanent work permit as a lecturer after completion of PHD degree. However, you need to be highly talented and have written and published few research articles to get direct admission in PHD from Bangladesh.

### **Tuition Fees and Scholarship:**

For Masters program tuition fee ranges from €10,000- €14,000 per year. Holland has specific university based scholarship that they give based on good results in undergraduate level, GMAT (depends if it is necessary for the program or not). Besides, there are some national scholarships provided by Dutch government like Erasmus, Nuffic scholarship, and OKP.

Full list here- <https://www.studyinholland.nl/scholarships/highlighted-scholarships>

### **Applying for MVV, residence permit and living cost:**

The good news is after being accepted in a program the university will apply for your residence permit. All you have to do is follow the instructions given by the university. As living cost you have to show or transfer €10,500 in university bank account. However, it does not cost that much

to live in Holland for a year. A student shared flat can be rented from €260- €350 per month. If you can cook at home your grocery expenses will not be higher than €300 a month. A health insurance need to be taken which will cost around €500 a year.

### **Studying and working:**

As a student you will have permission to work 10 hours per week. It is very hard to find a suitable job as an international student. Most jobs are odd and in restaurants. Language barrier is a problem. Best advice is to be prepared for anything. It is not possible to cover tuition or living cost by working part time. Besides if you can't manage and fail in your studies then there is a big chance that you will lose your residence permit.

### **Working after studying:**

Holland gives you 1 year after studying to look for a job. If you studied something related to IT, engineering and technical then you don't need to know the Dutch language and there is a huge demand for IT people in Holland. For people who are studying other subjects it might be hard to find job without knowing the language. In that case, the best way to prepare yourself is by doing a lot of networking while you are studying, doing extracurricular activities, knowing about the culture and people.

### **How to apply:**

The first way I would like to recommend you to see the selected university website. You can see all of universities list here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HigherstudyabroadHolland/1494691630570594/>

1. Open an account in Studielink. <https://student.sl-cloud.nl/>
2. Apply through Studielink.
3. Upload your all necessary paper through university OSIRIES website.
4. After 2 to 3 weeks they may ask for interview then they will give you offer letter within one week.
5. Transfer your money according to invoice through bank student account.
6. Wait 20 to 30 working days for IND approval.
7. While you get your IND approval you will have to face embassy viva in Dhaka Dutch embassy.
8. Then embassy will decide you will get the visa or not within 14 days.

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Best of luck for your higher study in Netherlands. 😊

Abu Musa