

**Admissions Regulations for the Master's Degree Program LL.M. European and International Business, Competition, and Regulatory Law within the Department of Law at Freie Universität Berlin**

*Disclaimer: Please note that only the German version of this document is legally binding. This translation is intended for the convenience of the non-German-reading public and is for informational purposes only.*

This convenience translation has been updated to reflect later amendments to the regulations, including the First Ordinance on the Amendment of the Admissions Regulations for the Master's Degree Program LL.M. European and International Business, Competition, and Regulatory Law within the Department of Law at Freie Universität Berlin, issued on July 20, 2022,<sup>1</sup> the Second Ordinance thereof, passed on October 25, 2023,<sup>2</sup> and the Third Ordinance thereof, passed on May 22, 2024.<sup>3</sup>

**Preamble**

On the basis of Section 14.1.1.2 of Freie Universität Berlin's supplemental rules and regulations (*Teilgrundordnung [Erprobungsmodell]*) from October 27, 1998 (*FU-Mitteilungen* 24/1998), in conjunction with Section 16 of the Law on Admissions to Higher Education in the Federal State of Berlin for Programs with Admission Requirements (*Berliner Hochschulzulassungsgesetz*, BerlHZG), in the version of the announcement of the amended version of October 9, 2019 (GVBl., p. 695), in conjunction with Section 10.5.2 of the Berlin Higher Education Act (*Berliner Hochschulgesetz*, BerlHG) in the version of the announcement of the amended version of July 26, 2011 (GVBl., p. 378), most recently amended on July 11, 2023 (GVBl., p. 260), the Department Council (*Fachbereichsrat*) of the Department of Law at Freie Universität Berlin issued the following regulations on January 15, 2020:<sup>4</sup>

**Section 1 Scope**

These regulations govern admissions to the study program in accordance with Section 10.5.2 BerlHG and the selection procedure for the allocation of places in accordance with Section 16 BerlHZG for the master's degree program European and International Business, Competition, and Regulatory Law within the Department of Law at Freie Universität Berlin.

**Section 2 Number of Available Places and the Application Deadline**

- (1) The number of places available for the master's degree program for each given admissions cycle is stipulated in Freie Universität Berlin's General Admission Regulations.
- (2) The application for admission must be submitted electronically to the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin – Admissions Office using the online application system.
- (3) The application deadline for enrolling in the upcoming winter semester is March 15 of each year.
- (4) If the number of applications received is less than the number of available places, the remaining places will be awarded to applicants with a first university degree and subsequent qualified practical professional experience of generally not less than one year. If the number of applications received is

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<sup>1</sup> The Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin approved these regulations on August 12, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> The Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin approved these regulations on January 10, 2024.

<sup>3</sup> The Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin approved these regulations on July 2, 2024.

<sup>4</sup> The Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin approved these regulations on January 24, 2020.

greater than the number of available places, a selection process will be carried out in accordance with Sections 3 to 5.

### **Section 3 Selection Criteria**

(1) The following criteria are taken into account in the selection process:

1. Completion of a first university degree, preferably one from a degree program in a legal field, particularly if this degree was obtained at an institute of higher education outside Germany; completion of the first state examination in law (*erste juristische Staatsprüfung*); or completion of the first examination in law (*erste juristische Prüfung*) in accordance with the German Judiciary Act (*Deutsches Richtergesetz*, DRiG).
2. Proof of English language skills at a level equivalent to C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) for applicants who did not complete a university degree at an institution where coursework was conducted in English.
3. Short personal statement (max. three pages) explaining why the applicant wishes to apply for the master's degree program.
4. Information regarding the applicants' prior areas of academic specialization and planned areas of specialization for their master's thesis.
5. Proof of qualified practical professional experience related to the master's degree program, preferably in the fields of competition and regulatory law, of generally not less than one year, following the applicant's first university degree.

(2) Where necessary, the admissions officers may invite applicants to a selection interview.

### **Section 4 Selection Interview**

(1) The selection interview is carried out by the admissions officers in accordance with Section 5. Selection interviews are not open to the public and last about 20 minutes per applicant.

(2) The admissions officers will invite applicants to the selection interviews in writing, providing them with the time and location of their interview. The invitation must be issued and sent to the candidate at least 10 working days before the interview is to take place.

(3) A record is to be kept of each selection interview evaluating the candidate and the reasons for this evaluation.

### **Section 5 Admissions Officers**

(1) At least two admissions officers will be appointed to conduct the selection process. The appointed admissions officers must be members of academic staff involved in carrying out the master's degree program and must be university employees with Freie Universität Berlin as their main employer. The dean of the Department of Law appoints these two people under the authority of Freie Universität Berlin's Executive Board. The admissions officers hold their positions for one admission cycle. These positions may not be filled by substitutes or alternates.

(2) The admissions officers suggest candidates for admission to the Executive Board – Admissions Office based on the applicants' suitability and motivation.

(3) If potentially suitable candidates fail to submit complete applications or if the admissions officers require additional material in order to make a decision, they may request that applicants provide this information by a certain deadline.

### **Section 6 Admission Decision**

(1) The decision on which applicants are to be selected is made by the Executive Board of Freie Universität Berlin – Admissions Office on the basis of how candidates have been ranked.

(2) The selected candidates receive a formal notification of admission stating the deadlines for their written acceptance and enrollment. Failure to meet these deadlines will result in the place being offered to another candidate.

(3) Applicants who are not admitted will receive a rejection letter that states the reasons for the decision.

(4) To enroll, students must provide evidence that they have paid the amount specified in the fee regulations for the master's degree program.

(5) The documents submitted for the selection procedure are to be kept until the decision is final; in the case of legal proceedings, they are to be kept until a legally binding decision has been made.

### **Section 7 Entry into Force**

(1) These regulations enter into force on the day following their publication in *FU-Mitteilungen* (the official bulletin of Freie Universität Berlin).

(2) The admissions regulations for the master's degree program from April 25, 2012 (*FU-Mitteilungen* 37/2012, p. 580), therefore lapse when the new regulations come into force.