

Elite sport scheme 2020- 2025

Policy and support options

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1. Introduction

This policy paper has been written with the aim of clarifying the possibilities for students who practice elite sport (further: elite sport students) and follow a study program at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (further: AUAS). The aim is to be able to optimally support elite sport students in combining sport with a (full-time) study and thus be able to excel in both areas. To organize and implement this successfully, the Elite Sport Academy Amsterdam (hereinafter: TAA) was established within the AUAS.

The Netherlands has five Centers for Elite Sport and Education (CTO) where, under supervision of NOC*NSF, the combination of Elite Sport and Education is made possible. These centers are certified by sport and the government institutions on their qualities and the extent to which a sports career and education can be successfully followed. Besides Amsterdam, the other places are located in Eindhoven, Heerenveen, The Hague / Rotterdam and Papendal. Amsterdam occupies a special position in this as it has actively involved all educational institutions in the interpretation of education and has secured maximum support by means of a covenant with all parties. The education partners involved thus have agreed to create adapted learning routes for elite sport students. One way of safeguarding these routes in education is through the student statute and through an Elite Sport scheme.

This regulation lays down the rights of a student who practices elite sport and who has received an elite sport declaration via the TAA (further: AUAS elite sport declaration). The basic principle here is that, while the requirements of the curriculum and final objectives laid down in the OER continue to have to be met, the student will be supported as much as reasonably possible in the combination of elite sport and study.

When writing these regulations, both the Education and Examination Regulations applicable to the various study programs and the AUAS-wide student charter have been taken into account.

2. ELITE SPORT REGULATION

The number of students who have an ambition to participate in high-level sports activities in addition to their ambition to complete a study program has increased in recent years. In order to stimulate this talent and to ensure that it develops as smoothly as possible, this elite sport regulation provides a prerequisite for students with an elite sport statement within the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (AUAS).

Article 1. Objective

The aim of these regulations is to facilitate students with an AUAS elite sport declaration, where possible and within the limits of reasonableness, for the final assessment of the examination board(s) of the study program(s) followed in their combination of elite sport and study.

The right to facilitation cannot result in a compulsory situation for the study program which becomes impossible to organize. It is reasonable that in a program with a lot of compulsory practical subjects, other solutions have to be found than in a program with a lot of self-study. Such problems can be discussed at an early stage during a (soft landing) interview before the student is admitted to the study program, as it is done with other special target groups, such as students with a disability. Within reasonable limits and in consultation with the student, it will be examined which possible support aspects can offer a solution.

Article 2. Elite athlete

The Elite Sport Academy Amsterdam (subsequently: TAA) grants the elite sport declaration to a student who meets the conditions applicable at that time on the basis of the evidence provided. The specifics can be found on the TAA website.

The student with a granted elite sport statement will be referred to as: elite sport student. This is to distinguish them from students who participate in sports, but do not meet the conditions stated on the website.

Article 3. Adapted study program

The study program must facilitate an adapted course program. In the event of a negative outcome (i.e. a NO), the elite sport coordinator of the faculty plays an advisory and supporting role.

A student who has been granted status as an elite sport student by the TAA on the basis of Article 2 of these regulations may be eligible for adjustments within the regular study program, if the following conditions are met:

- a) the Examination Board of the study program is of the opinion that the nature, content and structure of the study program leave room for an adapted course program;
- b) the study program can facilitate an adapted course program;
- c) at the start of the academic year, or as soon as the status of elite sport student has been granted, the elite sport student draws up a study schedule together with the supervisor from the study program, which is submitted to the Examination Board for approval;
- d) changes in the study schedule during the academic year always take place in consultation with the elite sport student and the supervisor. The Examination Board

is involved when it concerns adjustments to the planning of assessments or adjustments to the administration of assessments.

Article 4. Adapted examination options

Paragraph 1

An elite sport student may qualify for adapted examination options, such as the combination of studying and elite-level sport that is necessary in the context of a feasible program.

Paragraph 2

Adapted examination options can concern both partial tests and examinations and may consist of:

- a) taking a partial test or exam from a distance;
- b) another method of assessment (for example an assignment instead of an examination);
- c) taking an examination at a different time.

Paragraph 3

A modified examination option must be requested from the Examination Board of the respective study program. In case of an approved modification, the employees involved are informed about the further organisation of the test.

A modified examination option may be separate from a modified course program.

Article 5. Binding Study Advice

When issuing a study advice at the end of the first year of enrollment, as included in the Education and Examination Regulations, the Examination Board must always first ask the elite sports coordinator of the faculty for assistance when giving advice regarding an elite sport student.

Article 6. Financial support

If there is a study delay as a result of practicing elite sport, the elite sport student can qualify for financial support as arranged in the student statute. In this case, the student must report to the student counselor.

Article 7. Entry into force

These regulations will enter into force on 1 September 2020 and, with an unchanged policy, will be valid for 5 years.