

Information sheet on the compatibility of studies and elite sport at ETH Zurich

1 Policy

ETH Zurich is committed to offering proven elite athletes feasible ways to combine studies and sports.

2 Prerequisite: Elite sport status at ETH Zurich

To receive elite sport status from ETH Zurich, students must hold a **Swiss Olympic Card (gold, silver, bronze, elite, or talent national)**.

International students who do not possess a Swiss Olympic Card cannot be granted elite sport status. In exceptional cases, e.g. in case of a nomination for world or continental championships or the Olympic Games, an individual solution may be considered.

Students with elite sport status are obliged to inform ETH Zurich if the requirements for the status are no longer met (e.g. in case of expiry or non-renewal of the Swiss Olympic Card, resignation, voluntary or involuntary time out).

3 Possible study adjustments

Whether studies and elite sport can be combined depends on the respective degree programme, the individual study situation and the type of sport practised. Concessions regarding academic requirements cannot be made. It is also not possible to prepone examinations, to change the examination mode or to take distance examinations.

Study adjustments for students with elite sport status are assessed separately for each study or examination level or for compulsory internships and the Master's thesis based on a substantiated request.

As a rule, the following adjustments are possible:

3.1 Splitting an examination block into two examination sessions

Even for students with elite sport status, not every request to split an examination block can be granted.

Splitting an examination block may be considered if

- the splitting can be implemented within the framework of the curriculum **and**
- the distribution of the credit points (CP) to be acquired in the examination block is ideally balanced (1/2 - 1/2) or at most 1/3 - 2/3.

Any deviations from these requirements must be justified in writing by the Student Advisory Service¹ and enclosed with the request.

¹ As a rule, these are the study coordinators or the subject advisors of the specialisations.

3.2 Interruption of an examination block or an already split examination block

If, in the case of students who have already been granted elite sport status, the selection for a competition (e.g. European Championships or World Championships) only becomes known at short notice, e.g. towards the end of the semester, and this event (travel and competition) takes place during an examination session in which the student is registered for an examination block or split examination block, a simplified procedure applies:

Upon request (incl. confirmation of selection or competition) the (split) examination block can be interrupted. This means that the examination(s) concerned must be taken in the following examination session.

3.3 Taking an end-of-semester examination on the repetition date

If it is clear (possibly only at short notice due to subsequent selection, cf. 3.2) that an end-of-semester examination cannot be taken on the regular date, the end-of-semester examination may be taken on the repetition date on condition that a repetition date is offered in the first two weeks of the immediately following semester.

3.4 Extension of study deadline

In the case of a request to divide examination blocks into different examination sessions or academic years (e.g. for the second or third year of the Bachelor's degree), the remaining duration of studies must also be taken into account when planning the course of studies. If an extension of the study deadline becomes necessary, it must be requested at the same time.

4. Procedure / Further information

Requests for special arrangements² must be submitted with the following supporting documents:

- Justification; if necessary, with additional justification from the Student Advisory Service (cf. 3.1).
- Proposed study and examination planning for the corresponding study level
- Training and competition schedule
- Copy of the valid Swiss Olympic Card (gold, silver, bronze, elite, or talent national)

Submit to the attention of the Vice Rector for Study Programmes by e-mail to:
exception_request@akd.ethz.ch

Further information and guidelines on the specific procedure and the applicable deadlines are published on the ETH Zurich website [Studies and elite sports](#).

² ETH Zurich Ordinance on Performance Assessments (Leistungskontrollenverordnung ETH Zürich): Implementation stipulations determined by the Rector (art. 5, para. 3, item 2)