

Admission to the Faculty of Law, Recognition of Credits, and Determination of Standing

The University-level Admissions Office, in its admission, matriculation, and advising role, (“Zulassungsstelle ZIB”) handles *admission to studies* at the University of Bern. The Faculty of Law’s Dean’s Office is responsible for *questions regarding the recognition of credits and the determination of standing based on prior studies*.

Students requesting a transfer to the Faculty of Law at the University of Bern, from another Swiss or foreign law school, must not have been expelled from a single-subject program in law.

The recognition of credits and the determination of standing is based on Articles 46 and 47 of the Study Regulations RW of June 21, 2007 with amendments through May 22, 2014.

Recognition of Law or Non-law Studies of Students from other Swiss Universities

- For those transferring to the University of Bern *during their Bachelor’s degree programs*, credits from the introductory and main study period can be recognized if their prior studies at another university are determined to be equivalent. The grades already achieved will not be calculated into the grade point average. Generally, Bachelor’s transfer students are admitted in the third or fourth semester of the Bachelor’s main study period.
- Students who have successfully completed a Bachelor’s degree program in law at the Law Faculty of another Swiss university will be admitted without reservation to the Master’s degree program in law at the University of Bern.
- *During the Master’s degree program*, credits already earned can be recognized for students transferring into the Master’s degree program at the University of Bern, up to a maximum of 35 ECTS credits if they are determined to be equivalent.
- Students who have completed a *non-law Bachelor’s degree* and during that degree program have earned at least 60 ECTS credits in law, are admitted to the Master’s degree program *with additional requirements*. These additional requirements can consist of completion of up to a maximum of 60 additional ECTS credits from the Bachelor’s degree program. They must be completed at the latest by the end of the Master’s degree program with an overall sufficient grade point average.
- Credits in law which have already been recognized towards another completed study program cannot be re-recognized towards the Bachelor’s or Master’s degree programs at the University of Bern (no double recognition).

Recognition of Law Studies for Students from Foreign Universities (Except Germany)

- For those transferring to the University of Bern *during their Bachelor’s or Master’s degree programs*, credits can be recognized if their prior studies at another university are determined to be equivalent to the corresponding credits of the Law Faculty of the University of Bern.
- Credits which have already been recognized towards *another completed study program* cannot be re-recognized towards the Bachelor’s or Master’s degree programs at the University of Bern (no double recognition).
- Students who have successfully completed a Bachelor’s degree in law are admitted to the Master’s degree program *with additional requirements*, provided that this Bachelor’s degree is determined to be equivalent to the Bachelor’s degree in law at the University of Bern. These additional requirements can consist of completion of up to a maximum of 60 additional ECTS credits from the Bachelor’s degree program. They must be completed at the latest by the end of the Master’s degree program with an overall sufficient grade point average.

Recognition of Law Studies of Students from Universities in Germany (Based on the Dean's Resolution of January 7, 2019)

- Students who have acquired or have passed all university certificates and examinations, including the university special subject examination for admission to the *first state examination in law* in Germany, will be admitted to *the Bachelor's main study period*, i.e. the introductory study period will be waived.
- Students who have passed the *first state examination* in law in Germany are admitted to the Master's degree program in law at the University of Bern *without additional requirements*.
- Students who have acquired a *Bachelor's degree in law* from a German university, are admitted to the Master's degree program in law at the University of Bern with additional requirements. These additional requirements can consist of completion of up to a maximum of 60 additional ECTS credits from the Bachelor's degree program. They must be completed at the latest by the end of the Master's degree program with an overall sufficient grade point average.

January 23, 2019