

*The Direction of the École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne,*  
based on the [Ordinance on Bachelor and Master studies at EPFL of 14<sup>th</sup> June 2004](#)<sup>1</sup>,  
based on the [Ordonnance du 14 octobre 2025 sur l'admission à l'EPFL](#) ,  
*hereby adopts the following:*

## Article 1 Definitions

<sup>1</sup> Horizontal mobility is a form of mobility whereby the student continues to follow their study plan, for a limited period of time, at another university, while remaining enrolled at the original institution. Carrying out the Master project in industry is also considered as horizontal mobility.

<sup>2</sup> Structured mobility is a form of mobility based on a structured study programme that can lead to a double or joint degree. It is regulated by specific agreements. Furthermore, EPFL determines the specific minimum requirements for admission to these programmes.

<sup>3</sup> Vertical mobility is a form of mobility whereby the student permanently moves to another university, as a rule upon completion of a Bachelor to do a Master or upon completion of a Master to do a doctorate.

## Section 1 Horizontal mobility

### Article 2 Objective

The EPFL Direction encourages horizontal student mobility. To guarantee a high level of success, and also strengthen the image of EPFL abroad, it stipulates the following conditions.

### Article 3 Framework

<sup>1</sup> The sections:

- select, with the agreement of the EPFL Study Programs Selection Service, their partner institutions from among those of the best possible level;
- give the student the authorisation to participate in a mobility programme;
- appoint a person responsible for mobility.

<sup>2</sup> For each case of horizontal mobility of an EPFL student, the section is responsible for the prior validation of the anticipated study plan, ensuring its compatibility and consistency with the student's study plan.

<sup>3</sup> As a rule, the student expects to acquire at least 30 ECTS credits per semester. The anticipated credits obtained in a foreign institution are validated by EPFL on their return.

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<sup>1</sup> [RS 414.132.3](#) - Art. 13 Mobility

<sup>1</sup> *Within the scope of mobility, EPFL may authorise students to spend one semester or one year studying at another university, or to do the Master project at another university, in the public sector or industry, while remaining enrolled at EPFL. The results of study assessments successfully completed at another university are taken into account providing that the study programme has been established in advance with the person responsible for the particular field of studies at EPFL.*

**Article 4      Mobility during the Bachelor**

<sup>1</sup> Horizontal mobility towards a partner institution takes place in the 3rd year in all sections, on condition that the previous two years of the Bachelor programme have been completed at EPFL.

<sup>2</sup> To be eligible for mobility in Europe, the student must have obtained an overall average mark of 4.50 in the foundation year examination.

<sup>3</sup> To be eligible for mobility outside Europe, the student must have obtained an overall average mark of 5.00 in the foundation year examination.

<sup>4</sup> In any case, students are subsequently authorised to participate in a mobility programme only if they have obtained the credits required for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

**Article 5      Mobility during the Master**

<sup>1</sup> Horizontal mobility takes place during the Master project.

<sup>2</sup> Students are only authorised to participate in a mobility programme if they have obtained the credits required for the Master programme and if they have successfully completed the internship required prior to the Master project, if applicable.

<sup>3</sup> An EPFL professor or senior scientist directs the Master project.

**Section 2      Vertical mobility****Article 6      Master Admissions Committee**

<sup>1</sup> For all cases in which eligibility for admission is not acquired in accordance with legal provisions, an Admissions Committee examines the applications to the EPFL Master that have been preselected by the sections. It then proposes to the Associate Vice President for Education that the candidate be admitted (conditionally or unconditionally) or refused.

<sup>2</sup> The Master Admissions Committee is composed of:

- the Associate Vice President for Education and his / her delegate;
- a Section Director for each of the five Schools and the College of Management;
- a representative of the Study Programs Selection Service;
- the Academic Registrar.

<sup>3</sup> As a general rule, the Admissions Committee meets twice a year.

**Article 7      Promotion of EPFL Master**

EPFL endeavours to promote its Master programmes among those students who have obtained the best results at Bachelor level.

### **Section 3    *Final provisions***

#### **Article 8    Entry into force**

<sup>1</sup> The present directive, entered into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012, has been revised the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (Version 2.3), as well as the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025 (version 2.4).

<sup>2</sup> The present directive abrogates the directive of 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2004.

On behalf of the EPFL Direction:

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