# Extension study load

**Certain programmes in professional and academic education can apply for an extension of the regular study load.**

## GENERAL INFO

The following programmes can apply:

**Professional orientation**

- professional master's programmes with a study load of 120 credits;
- joint professional master's programme as referred to in Section 7.3c of the WHW if the programme is provided in collaboration with an institution abroad, for a study load of 90 credits

**Academic orientation**

- academic bachelor's programmes for a study load of more than 180 credits but no more than 240 credits;
- academic master's programmes with a study load of 120 credits;
- academic master's programmes that are partially oriented towards religious or philosophical professions with a study load of 180 credits;
- joint academic master's programme as referred to in Section 7.3c of the WHW if the programme is provided in collaboration with an institution abroad, for a study load of 90 credits;
- academic master's programme leading to a teaching qualification in secondary school subjects, for a study load of at least 120 credits and no more than 180 credits. The board of the institution determines the study load of the programme within that range.

## STEPS

## RATES

In 2026, the rate charged by the NVAO for the assessment of an extension of the duration of a programme amounts to €20,227. When an extension of the duration of a programme is requested in combination with the accreditation of an existing programme, a rate of €1,818 applies in 2026. This rate is separate from the costs associated with the accreditation of an existing programme.

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