



UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM STUDENT SUPPORT FUND SECTION 3 TOP-CLASS ATHLETES AND CULTURAL EXCELLENCE

Article 1 Definitions

- 1 In this section of the regulations, the following terms have the following meanings assigned to them:
 - a. DUO: *Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs* (the Education Executive Agency), which is responsible for student finance, among other things;
 - b. Nominal duration of the study programme: the duration of the programme according to the RIO or the WHW Implementation Decree;
 - c. Performance-related grant: performance-related grant for higher education as referred to in Article 5.1 of the WSF 2000;
 - d. Basic grant: part of the performance-related grant as referred to in Article 5.1(a) of WSF 2000.
 - e. RIO: *Registratie Instellingen en Opleidingen* (Register of Institutions and Degree Programmes);
 - f. WHW: *Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek* (Dutch Higher Education and Research Act) of 8 October 1992, Bulletin of Acts and Decrees 1992, 593 and as subsequently amended;
 - g. WSF 2000: *Wet Studiefinanciering 2000* (Dutch Student Finance Act) of 29 June 2000, Bulletin of Acts and Decrees 2000, 286 and as subsequently amended;
 - h. Student Counsellors' Committee: the committee that assesses student applications under the Student Support Fund and makes a decision on them on behalf of the Executive Board.
 - i. UvA Top-class Athletes Scheme: the Top-class Athletes Scheme of the University of Amsterdam, adopted by the Executive Board on 5 April 2022 under decision number 2022-028205, effective from 1 September 2022;
 - j. UvA Cultural Excellence Scheme: the Cultural Excellence Scheme of the University of Amsterdam, adopted by the Executive Board on 21 February 2023, reference number 2022-166141, effective from 21 February 2023.
- 2 Other terms used in these regulations have the meanings assigned to them in the law, if they are used in any acts.

Article 2 Conditions for financial assistance

1. Financial assistance will be issued to a student:
 - a. whose studies, as a result of activities in the field of Top-class sports or cultural excellence, on the basis of the UvA Top-class Athletes Scheme or the UvA Cultural Excellence Scheme respectively, are delayed during an academic year in which the student is enrolled as a full-time student for a degree programme for which the student has not yet taken the final examination;
 - b. who, during this period of study completion delay, has received a performance-related grant in the form of a basic grant and, if applicable, a supplementary grant; and
 - c. who was registered as a student at the UvA for the duration of the basic grant period; and
 - d. who has paid the UvA the requisite statutory tuition fees.



2. Students who are not eligible for financial assistance under the Student Finance Act purely on account of their nationality may invoke these regulations (except for the provisions of Article 4 of this section of the regulations), as long as they are studying within the nominal duration of the degree programme. Previously completed higher education programmes, including those completed abroad, are included in the calculation of the nominal duration of the degree programme. Students must comply with the requirements of these regulations, with the exception of the provisions specified in the first paragraph under items b and d.

Article 3 Notification and determination of study completion delay for top-class athletes and top-level artists and performers

1. A student who has been designated as a top-class athlete by the Top-class Level Sports Coordinator of the UvA or as having top-level cultural talent by the High-level Culture Committee and who has incurred a study completion delay as a result of activities that bear a direct relationship to the performance in question may submit a request for financial assistance.
2. Students as referred to in paragraph 1 must report to a student counsellor or academic study adviser as soon as possible, but in any event within three months of the occurrence of the study completion delay. If a student reports at a later date, they will not be eligible for assistance for study completion delay that occurred earlier than three months before the report of the exceptional circumstance took place. Reporting to another employee of the university will not result in eligibility.
3. An applicant who has obtained 60 EC or more in an academic year, including those obtained at other institutions or programmes, is deemed not to have incurred any study completion delay and is therefore not eligible for financial assistance from the Student Support Fund.

Article 4 Application procedure for top-class athletes and top-level artists and performers

1. Students must submit a request to determine the period of delay and the application for financial assistance simultaneously after the end of the academic year in question, but before 31 December, using the appropriate form.
2. The following documents must be enclosed with the application form:
 - a. a statement from the academic study adviser or student counsellor on when the study completion delay was reported, what agreements have been made with the student and how many credits by which the student is short;
 - b. an overview of academic results obtained elsewhere, if applicable;
 - c. a statement from DUO showing that the student has received a basic grant and, if applicable, a supplementary grant in the academic year in which the exceptional circumstances have occurred;
 - d. proof of top-class athlete status or cultural excellence status, as described in the UvA Top-class Athletes Scheme or the UvA Cultural Excellence Scheme.



Article 5 Processing and decision

1. The Student Services director will reach a decision, on behalf of the Executive Board, within eight weeks of receipt of the request for financial assistance.
2. The student counsellor will issue advice to the Student Counsellors' Committee regarding the length of the study completion delay. The amount of support is related to the actual study completion delay incurred in connection with high-level competitive sports or high-level cultural activities.
3. The applicant will be notified of the decision in writing. The notice of the decision will also inform the student that an appeal may be lodged with the Executive Board within six weeks.
4. The decision will state one of the following:
 - either that the student will be granted financial assistance;
 - or that the application has been rejected.

Article 6 Period covered by the grant

The duration of the support will not exceed 12 months for the entire period of the student's enrolment at the UvA.

Article 7 Amount of financial assistance

1. The financial assistance from the Student Support Fund is an amount per month of study completion delay equal to the last basic grant received, if applicable, plus the supplementary grant to which the applicant was entitled in the period in which the study completion delay occurred.
2. A study completion delay of 5 EC due to circumstances as referred to in these regulations is equivalent to one month of study completion delay.
3. If an applicant holds a position – as referred to in the Student Support Fund regulations, Administrative Body Membership Grants for Participation in Decision-making section – during the academic year or part thereof, the award will be reduced pro rata.

Article 8 Convergence of circumstances

In the event that a convergence of circumstances as described in the various sections of these regulations exists within the same period, which each separately provide cause for the allocation of financial assistance, a determination will be made as to which cause has resulted in the greatest study completion delay. Financial assistance will be issued solely on that ground.

Article 9 Incomplete applications

If the application is incomplete, the applicant will be given a reasonable amount of time to complete the application. If the application is not completed within this period, it will be rejected. The applicant will be notified to this effect. As long as the period for submitting an application has not elapsed, the student may submit a new application.



Article 10 Hardship clause

In circumstances other than those specified in these regulations, the Executive Board may make provisions so as to prevent significant unfairness.

Article 11 Effective date, official title

This section of the regulations enters into force on 1 September 2026 and may be cited as ‘Section 3 of the University of Amsterdam Student Support Fund regulations’.