

PhD Admission Requirement

University degree

If you want to apply as a PhD student, you should hold a relevant Master's degree equivalent to 120 credits (equivalent to the ECTS credit system, that is corresponding to a minimum of 5 years of master study) with excellent grades.

Applicants with a Belgian Master's degree should have obtained at least a distinction (final MS degree or mid-term/provisional end score).

For all other applicants, check the table below to see what your minimum grades should be in order to enter the selection process. A GPA (Grade Point Average) of at least 75% of the scale maximum is required.

European University/College

	Minimum required MSc score
France	14-15
Germany	1.7 and below
Greece	8
Italy	110/110 Cum laude
Netherlands	8
Poland	14
Spain	7-8 (Notable)
Sweden	A score of 5 is required for most courses
Switzerland	5
United Kingdom	First Class

Non-European University/College

	Minimum required MSc score
Bangladesh	First Class
China	80%
India	First Class
Iran	18
Pakistan	First Class
Taiwan	80%
Turkey	3.5

If the country where you obtained your Master's degree is not included in the list:

1. Be sure to include GRE test scores
2. Provide your class ranking (on page 2 of the imec Application for Admission form)

Applicants who have not yet received their Master's degree at the time of the application deadline, can also apply but the expected graduation date should be due no later than 6 months after the application deadline.

Age

Strictly speaking there is no age limit, but typically we do select young graduates for our PhD projects.

If there is a gap of more than 6 months between your graduation date and your PhD application at imec, you will be required to motivate the reason for this in the application for admission form.

Test scores

For students with a non-European Master's degree, we strongly recommend that you have passed the (general) GRE test (Graduate Record Examination test). Adding GRE scores will definitely add value to your application. Your percentile rank (% below) on Quantitative Reasoning should be minimum 80.

Do arrange a date for your test well ahead of your application and submit the results of your test together with your application. Imec does not have an ETS institution code. GRE test scores are not mandatory for applicants with a European Master's degree.

Due to the international character of imec, candidates must have an excellent command of English. You need to prove your English language proficiency by means of an IELTS, TOEFL or a Cambridge English test.

The minimum score required for IELTS is 7 (with no subscore under 6.5), for the TOEFL internet-based test it is 90 (with no subscore under 22). For the Cambridge English test you should have passed at least B2 level.

Applicants with a university degree earned in Australia, English-speaking Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom or the USA and applicants who have completed their Master's degree at an institution where all courses are taught in English are exempted from this requirement.

Further requirements may depend on your nationality and on the university that issued your Master's degree. If you have a Master's degree from a [non-EEA country](#), we might require you to follow a pre-doctoral program depending on your educational profile. A pre-doc will make your Master's degree equivalent to a European Master's degree. In most cases, a pre-doctoral program consists of attending and passing a number of courses, and giving a presentation on a research topic to a pre-doctoral jury. Passing the pre-doctoral program is a prerequisite to start the PhD program.