



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

ΕΘΝΙΚΟΣ ΟΡΓΑΝΙΣΜΟΣ ΕΞΕΤΑΣΕΩΝ
NATIONAL EXAMS ORGANIZATION
INDEPENDENT AUTHORITY

Directorate for Administrative and Scientific Support

SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

ADMISSION TO HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN GREECE

PREREQUISITES FOR ACCESS TO UNIVERSITIES

Admission to higher education institutions is achieved through participation in the Panhellenic exams¹, which are held on an annual basis, at the end of the school year, following the completion of upper secondary education. The access to higher education is provided in the Ministerial Decision Φ.251/25089/A5/20.02.2020 (B'643).

In the 2nd Grade of upper secondary education, students choose one of two orientation groups (O.G.): Humanities or Sciences. In the 3rd Grade, which is the last year of upper secondary education, they choose an orientation group with subjects from the following groups: Humanities (Humanities, Law and Social Sciences), Natural Sciences and Health (Natural Sciences and Technology and Health and Life Sciences) and Business and Information Technology (Business and Information Sciences). Applicants are examined in four subjects according to their orientation group, for which the higher education institutions have set weighting factors. It must be pointed out that there exist faculties the admission to which require the examination in a particular subject (e.g. Spanish for the Faculty of Spanish Literature). Requirement for these faculties is the achievement of the minimum admission grade of the particular subject in question. The candidates then prepare a form, via a web application, with their selections of faculties, taking into account the minimum admission grade requirement in place. This minimum admission grade requirement constitutes the prerequisite so that a candidate is able to select the respective faculty. It must be clarified that the minimum admission grade requirement is the first stage of the process. It just allows the candidate to select the faculty; it does not secure access to the respective faculty. His/her final score will define this. The minimum admission

¹ The Panhellenic exams are national entrance exams to higher education institutions in Greece.



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grade requirement is not an invariant, neither equal to 10 on the 0-20 scale; it might be higher or lower. It is determined every year after the Panhellenic exams and varies among the different universities and faculties. It is a variable dependent on the candidates' grades and a coefficient set a priori by each faculty.

GENERAL SCORE CALCULATION FORMULA


As mentioned above, every higher education institution has set its own weighting factors for each subject apart. These weighting factors are used in the formula for calculating the general score at the final stage of the selection of candidates who succeed in the process. More specifically: the grade achieved in every single subject of the orientation group on the 0-20 scale is being multiplied by the respective weighting factor, set by the faculties and published in the respective Ministerial Decision. The result of the above calculation (Four subjects of the O.G. X the respective weighting factors) is being added and multiplied by 1000. Grades are given on the 0-20 scale while the final score on the 0-20000 scale. The same formula also applies in case of a faculty that requires a particular subject. Adding the result of: Four subjects of the O.G. + one or plus particular subjects X the respective weighting factors and multiplying it by 1000. The maximum score for faculties without particular subject might reach the number of 20000 while the maximum score for faculties with particular subjects might reach the number of 26000 (Departments of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting, Communication and Media, Tourism Studies, Architecture, Music studies, requiring the examination in one or two particular subject/s).

The final selection of candidates is based on the prioritization of their preferences by descending order of score.

CONFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION IN THE PANHELLENIC EXAMS

A Confirmation of Participation in the Panhellenic exams is issued for every candidate who has participated in the Panhellenic exams, even if s/he has not been examined in all subjects. In this confirmation grades are included on a scale of 0-20 in every subject the candidate has been examined. Particular subjects are also included. The Confirmation is issued before the final selection of candidates, so this is why only grades appear and not the final score or the faculty s/he might have succeeded in.

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