



Nederlandse Academie
van Voedingwetenschappen

**REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR
NUTRITIONAL SCIENTIST A and B**

Drawn up by the
Dutch Academy of Nutritional Sciences (NAV)

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REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NUTRITIONAL SCIENTIST A

General

Registration as a Nutritional Scientist A is possible for candidates with training at the Master level who have attained at least 90 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits specifically relating to nutritional science knowledge and skills as specified in Appendix 1.

Registration as a Nutritional Scientist A can be obtained via two procedures. The same learning outcomes apply to both procedures. The first is through scientific training programmes already endorsed by the Nutritional Sciences Board of Inspection and Assessment (CTB). The second procedure involves a personal review and applies to those individuals who have fulfilled the attainment targets but obtained these through another academic programme not endorsed by the CTB.

Registration through endorsed training programme

The candidate must have a **Bachelor (BSc) and Master (MSc) degree** obtained from a University programme which focusses on training in nutritional science knowledge and skills and which, according to the CTB, fulfils the required attainment level.

This includes the following completed study programs, in which the candidate has completed the (graduation) research during the Master period with a nutritional subject:

BSc

- Wageningen University: Bachelor Nutrition and Health
- or
- Maastricht University: Bachelor Biomedical Sciences, The minor “From global diversity to a personalised nutrition intervention”
- or
- Free University (VU) Amsterdam: Bachelor Health Sciences, with completed 3rd year optional course Voedingsonderzoek/ Nutritional Research AND a Bachelor-internship on a scientific nutritional topic
- or
- BSc dietetics (HBO)

AND

MSc

- Wageningen University: Master: “Nutrition and Health” (all specialisations);
- or
- Maastricht University: Master “Biomedical Sciences, specialisation Nutrition, Physical Activity and Metabolism”.
- or
- Free University (VU) Amsterdam: Master: “Health Sciences, differentiation Nutrition and Health”.

Registration of candidates with a different preparatory training programme

Candidates who have not completed one of the above endorsed preparatory training programmes can propose an alternative portfolio of scientific training that has to be approved by the CTB. They can be registered as a Nutritional Scientist A if this portfolio meets the following criteria:

- a Bachelor and university Master degree in the field of nutrition or a similar field
- a statement clearly outlining the arguments and motivation of the candidate why he/she thinks to have sufficient nutritional science knowledge and skills for registration; To this end, a spreadsheet must be completed in which per final term (see Appendix 1) is explained in detail how the required knowledge was gathered during the training or during work.

Candidates wishing to be eligible for this procedure must timely contact the NAV Secretariat. The Secretariat can give provide guidance about the information that can be submitted in the portfolio for assessment by the CTB. The portfolio should make clear that the proposed training programme has sufficient scientific depth. If judged to be insufficient for registration, candidates may receive advice about required modifications or extensions of their portfolio. After completion, it should be demonstrated that the alternative preparatory training programme is successfully finished. The CTB will then decide whether the candidate fulfils the requirements for registration as Nutritional Scientist A/B.

Portfolios that are incomplete or contain insufficient details will not be processed by the CTB.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR NUTRITIONAL SCIENTIST B

General

Candidates for registration as a Nutritional Scientist B (Foundation for Biomedical Scientific Research Training (SMBWO) registration) must fulfil all the requirements as set for registration as a Nutritional Scientist A. In addition, they must fulfil the following additional requirements:

A. PhD degree

The candidate must indicate the title of the PhD thesis, the university from which the PhD degree was obtained, the PhD thesis supervisor(s) and the date of the PhD defence. The candidate must also provide a brief description of his/her PhD research (summary) and send a copy of the PhD-certificate.

B. Publications

The candidate must have published at least four articles as first author, or three articles as first author and two articles as a co-author, in official international peer-reviewed scientific journals. These publications must address or relate to a nutritional science topic.

C. Miscellaneous requirements

The candidate must have experience in oral presentations for larger audiences, at least two lectures in English about a nutritional scientific topic at national or international scientific meetings. The candidate must also demonstrate that he/she has successfully followed additional courses with a combined study load of 30 ECTS credits, of which at least 10 ECTS credits pertain to bolstering discipline-specific skills, and 5 ECTS credits to bolstering general research skills.

Registration as a Nutritional Scientist B must occur at the SMBWO (see regulations). Applications for registration at SMBWO should be submitted via the NAV.

APPENDIX 1. ATTAINMENT TARGETS FOR REGISTRATION AS A NUTRITIONAL SCIENTIST A

1. The candidate has nutritional science knowledge and skills, including:

- Theoretical knowledge of food and nutrition in relation to human health (45 ECTS credits, of which at least 15 ECTS credits at the Master level).

Attainment targets:

The candidate must demonstrate that he/she has fulfilled the following attainment targets at Bachelor or Master level:

1. Having knowledge and understanding of general aspects which play a role in people's eating patterns, as well as of the interrelationship of those general aspects which are relevant to people's eating patterns:
 - 1.1. Composition and availability of food;
 - 1.2. Food consumption;
 - 1.3. Eating habits and determinants of food choices;
 - 1.4. Physiological and biochemical processing of food;
 - 1.5. Nutritional needs, nutritional status and inadequacies;
 - 1.6. Positive and negative health effects of nutrition;
 - 1.7. The main principles and mechanisms involved in bioregulation, including the stimulus/response link, feedback, rhythm, homeostasis, and adaptation.
2. Being able to assess nutritional scientific literature as well as scientific literature from related disciplines.
3. Knowledge about various prevailing definitions of 'health', the differences and similarities between these definitions, and the consequences of utilising these definitions for health promotion.
4. Knowledge about nutritional interventions that are available to promote health.

The candidate must demonstrate that he/she has fulfilled the following attainment targets at Master level (at least 15 ECTS credits):

5. Being able to analyse and structure, in an interdisciplinary way, problems concerning nutrition and health. Being capable of reformulating these problems into research questions and contribute to solve these.
6. Being able to interpret societal relevant issues and applications of nutritional sciences in terms of cause, solution, and function.

And

2. Research experience in nutritional science

- Knowledge of methods and techniques in nutritional sciences and being able to apply these.

Attainment targets:

The candidate must demonstrate that he/she has fulfilled the following attainment targets at the Master level (at least 30 ECTS credits):

7. Having knowledge of research designs and being able to apply biostatistics.
8. Being capable to independently design, conduct, analyse, and report nutritional research.

APPENDIX 2. COMPOSITION OF NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES BOARD OF INSPECTION AND ASSESSMENT (CTB) AND ENDORSED TRAINERS

Composition of CTB

The Nutritional Sciences Board of Inspection and Assessment (CTB) consists of three professors and an assigned secretary. These three professors will be appointed by the Board of the Foundation for Biomedical Scientific Research Training (SMBWO), after consulting the Board of the NAV. The NAV Board will appoint the secretary.

The current CTB consists of (March 2018):

Prof. R.P. Mensink, PhD (chair)

Prof. M. Visser

Prof. E. Kampman

[R. Broekhuizen](#), PhD, assigned secretary

Endorsed trainers

The Board of the NAV appoints the endorsed trainers. The trainer will first assess whether an alternative preparatory training programme has sufficient depth in nutritional science and recommends which insufficiencies, if any, have to be addressed. The CTB will determine whether the proposed training programme fulfils the attainment level for registration as a Nutritional Scientist A. After completion, it must be demonstrated that the proposed training programme was finished successfully.

The current endorsed trainers are:

Maastricht University

Prof. R.P. Mensink, PhD

Prof. J. Plat, PhD

Free University of Amsterdam (VU)

Prof. M. Visser, PhD

Prof. J.C. Seidell, PhD

Prof. I.A. Brouwer, PhD

Wageningen University

Prof. E. Kampman, PhD

Prof. C. de Graaf, PhD

Prof. P. van 't Veer, PhD

Prof. E. Feskens, PhD