

# Welcome to Tilburg University

(Conditionally) admitted!  
What's next?

February intake, 2021

Pre-departure information for international students

# Contents

1. Welcome	3
2. Admissions, Registration and Enrollment	5
2.1 Definitions and Information Systems	5
2.2 Admission	6
2.2.1 Certified copy	6
2.2.2 Translation	6
2.3 Enrollment	8
3. Immigration	10
4. Health	11
5. Accommodation	13
5.1 Verbernelaan (WonenBreborg)	13
5.1 Student Housing Holland	13
5.3 CobbenCampus	13
5.4 The Rumour	13
5.5 Midi Tilburg	14
5.6 Private Market	14
6. Traveling to Tilburg	15
7. Arrival	16
7.1 Registration Day	16
7.2 Tilburg Orientation Program (TOP)	17
7.3 Program Introduction	17
7.4 Start Academic Year	17
7.5 Map of Tilburg University Campus	18
8. Tilburg University Card	20
9. Insurance	20
10. Financial Matters	22
10.1 Cost of Living	22
10.2 Tuition Fees	22
10.3 Dutch Student Finance System	23
10.4 Working during your Studies	23
10.5 Dutch Bank Account	23
11. Student Life	25
11.1 Life in The Netherlands and in Tilburg	25
11.2 Student Life at Tilburg University	25
11.3 Study/Student Associations	25
11.4 Sports Facilities	26
11.5 Learn Dutch	26
11.6 Free Language Course(s)	27
12. Important Dates	28
13. Pre-departure Checklist - Education abroad	29
14. Pre-departure Checklist - Education in Tilburg	30

## 1. Welcome

We can imagine that, especially in the light of current events, you might have a lot of questions about how to prepare for the upcoming academic year /the next semester. There are a few things you need to arrange before starting your studies in Tilburg, and this booklet will help you on your way.

*Please note: if you remain in your home country for (the first part of) your education, some of the topics in this booklet may not (yet) apply to you.*

### How will our education be organized in the second semester of 2020-2021?

We guarantee that ALL education in the second semester will (also) be offered online. However, in our opinion, physical proximity to the university community is an important part of academic education. Therefore, we also strive to provide as many small-scale classes on campus as possible.

Please be aware that in the case of a joint study program, the two universities can have different approaches to online/on campus education. In all cases, it is advised to keep a close eye on the information provided by your specific study program.

### Bachelor's students

To help smooth the transition to higher education, priority will be given to first-year Bachelor's students who are able to follow some components of their program on campus. We strongly encourage students to make use of this opportunity. Should the corona measures prevent you from coming to The Netherlands and/or to campus, we guarantee that you will be able to follow all your education during the first semester online.

### (Pre-)Master's students

How many small-scale on campus educational activities will also be available for new (Pre-) Master's students strongly depends on the possibilities given to us by the Dutch government and the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment. We will provide our new (Pre-)Master's students with an update about their on campus possibilities as soon as more information is available.

### Freshmen Facebook Group

To get to know your fellow students, ask questions and get the latest updates, we opened a **special Facebook page** for our international students. It is the easiest way to meet your fellow students before you start at Tilburg University, so do join!

### Stay informed

With this booklet we strive to provide you with all the necessary information regarding your upcoming studies in Tilburg. However, the current circumstances require constant updates. Therefore we urge you to regularly have a look at the following webpages:

- Our **information page about coronavirus** where we provide constantly updated information on the measures implemented by Tilburg University.
- Our **Frequently Asked Questions** aimed specifically at prospective students, where we provide answers to questions we received from our prospective students.
- Our **'Prepare' page**, here you can find key information to prepare for your studies. It includes information about immigration & accommodation, insurance, financial matters and how to finalize your enrollment.

These webpages are constantly being updated to provide you with the latest information. On our website, you can also find a **Quick Start Guide** for new students, that includes information on topics such as registration for courses and exams, laptop requirements and which books to buy.

### Pre-departure Information

Furthermore, you can join our Pre-departure Information Session, that will take place on December 3. It will provide information on a range of practical topics, such as immigration and housing. Furthermore, you can ask your questions in the live Q&A. We offer two separate sessions:

- 9.30 - 10.30hrs: students who have already started online education at Tilburg University in September 2020 and who are planning to travel to the Netherlands for the second semester;
- 11.00 - 12.30hrs: (Pre-)Master's students who have been (conditionally or unconditionally) admitted to Tilburg University and who will start their studies in the second semester.

You can find more information and register for one of the sessions **on our website**.

Should you have any questions left after reading this booklet, please do not hesitate to **contact us**. Remember, we are here to help! Good luck in preparing for your studies in Tilburg and we look forward to seeing you soon!

### The Recruitment and Admissions team

Tilburg University

*For the best viewing experience, it is advised to open all links in this booklet using the Chrome browser.*

## 2. Admission, Registration and Enrollment

To complete your enrollment before the start of the program, you must take some steps. In this chapter, these steps will be explained.

### 2.1 Definitions and Information Systems

Before explaining the enrollment process, let us define some terms you will come across during this process. Below, we will also explain the different Information Systems and what you will need to use them for.

#### Definitions

Conditional Admission	You have been conditionally admitted to a study program but must meet the conditions detailed in your admission letter, in order to be unconditionally admitted.
Unconditional Admission	You have met all the admission requirements and have provided all the documents required to start the study program.
Registration	All applicants for a study program in the Netherlands must register in Studielink.
Enrollment	This is the final stage required to follow your program of study. You must be unconditionally admitted, registered in Studielink and have arranged the payment of tuition fees in order to be enrolled as a student at Tilburg University. You will receive a Enrollment Certificate via e-mail, confirming your status. You can find the precise actions you need to take in order to complete your enrollment as a student at Tilburg University in section 2.3.

#### Information Systems

<b>MySAS</b>	'My Student Application System', our online application system. International students must create a MySAS account to apply to any of the Bachelor's or Master's programs at Tilburg University (Psychology students apply through OSIRIS Aanmeld.).
<b>Studielink</b>	Online registration system of the Dutch government. All students (Dutch and international) must register in Studielink in order to be enrolled at Tilburg University.
<b>Osiris</b>	Tilburg University's student information system. Osiris is connected to Studielink, so all the changes made in Studielink will appear in Osiris as well.

## 2.2 Admission

You have already received your admission letter. For some of you, this will be unconditional, but for the majority, it will be conditional admission. The admission requirements that apply to you are stated in your admission letter. One important admission requirement for example is, you sending us certified hard copies of the following documents:

- Your diploma.
- Your Transcript of Records or list of grades.
- Your language test results, which need to meet our requirements.
- Your GRE / GMAT test score report, if required.

### 2.2.1 Certified Copy

A certified copy is a photocopy of an original document WITH a stamp and signature on it confirming that the copy is a photocopy of an original document. The stamp and signature must be put on the document by:

- The awarding University or school; **OR**
- A notary public (or lawyer).

### 2.2.2 Translation

Translations of the above-mentioned documents will only be required if the document is not issued in Dutch or English, and will only be accepted if made by a certified translator. In some cases, French and German documents are accepted as well - please check the Application and admission page of the program you are applying for. Translations made by yourself will not be accepted. The translator must also attach a copy of the original document which s/he has translated.

### PLEASE REMEMBER

- Your International Admissions Coordinator must receive these documents at the latest by December 1, 2020, but **the sooner the better**, and you must meet all other admission requirements as detailed in your individual admission letter.
- It's your own responsibility to send the required hard copies before the deadline.
- We strongly recommend you to send the documents by courier.



## 2.3 Enrollment

To **complete your enrollment**, you must follow the steps listed below. If you have any questions regarding a step, please refer to the contact stated for each step.

Step	Action	Description	Contact information
Step 1 <b>Studielink</b>	Register in Studielink via <a href="http://www.studielink.nl">www.studielink.nl</a> and don't forget your login details as you will need these later!	Register in Studielink for the study program to which you have been admitted; please refer to your admission letter for confirmation of the program for which you must register.	<b>International Admissions Coordinator</b> <a href="http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/admission-officers">www.tilburguniversity.edu/admission-officers</a>
Step 2 <b>Tilburg University login details</b>	Make a note of your Tilburg University login details – you will need these for the duration of your studies!	After you have registered in Studielink, your details will automatically be transferred to our student information system, Osiris. Within a couple of days of your registration in Studielink, you will receive an e-mail from Tilburg University with your Tilburg University student number and your login details for our digital learning environment.	<b>Library &amp; IT Support</b> <a href="mailto:itsupport@tilburguniversity.edu">itsupport@tilburguniversity.edu</a>
Step 3 <b>Immigration</b>	You will receive an e-mail from our immigration team. Follow the instructions given and meet the deadlines provided to make sure you will arrive in Tilburg on time.	All international students will be contacted by our immigration team regarding the immigration procedure.	<b>Immigration team</b> <a href="mailto:immigration@tilburguniversity.edu">immigration@tilburguniversity.edu</a>

Step	Action	Description	Contact information
Step 4 <b>Acceptance of Offer</b>	Return the signed Acceptance of Offer before the deadline stated.	All students who are (conditionally) admitted to a program receive a Letter of Acceptance by email.	<b>International Admissions Coordinator</b> <a href="http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/admission-officers">www.tilburguniversity.edu/admission-officers</a>
Step 5 <b>Missing Documents</b>	Meet the requirements of the conditional admission letter by the deadline given in your conditional admission letter.	In order to be unconditionally admitted, you will need to meet the requirements stated in the conditional admission letter. Once you meet the requirements, you will be sent an unconditional admission letter via email.	<b>International Admissions Coordinator</b> <a href="http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/admission-officers">www.tilburguniversity.edu/admission-officers</a>
Step 6 <b>Payment Tuition Fees</b>	Make arrangements to pay your tuition fee; details about the amount of the tuition fees and how to pay will be sent to you after November.	You must access Studielink again to complete the payment details.	<b>Student Desk</b> <a href="http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/students/studentdesk/">www.tilburguniversity.edu/students/studentdesk/</a>

When you have successfully completed all the above steps, your enrollment as a student at Tilburg University will be complete and you will receive your Enrollment Certificate via email.

## 3. Immigration

Tilburg University's immigration team will assist you throughout the immigration procedures that apply to your particular circumstances. Their assistance is free of charge. However, an immigration fee may apply.

**CONTACT:** [immigration@tilburguniversity.edu](mailto:immigration@tilburguniversity.edu)

PROCESS	NON-EU/ EEA NATIONALS	EU/ EEA NATIONALS
Dutch Entry visa	Some nationalities	No
Dutch Residence Permit	Yes	No
Registration at the Dutch City Hall in the area where you live	Yes	Yes

Source: [www.tilburguniversity.edu/immigration](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/immigration)

Our immigration team will contact all international students as soon as they have been (conditionally) admitted to a study program. Please follow the instructions in a timely manner to ensure that you will be able to arrive at Tilburg University on time.

Due to the situation regarding coronavirus, information regarding the immigration process is subject to change. For current information, please regularly check our [immigration information pages](#) and our [FAQ for prospective students](#), or get in touch with our immigration team through [immigration@tilburguniversity.edu](mailto:immigration@tilburguniversity.edu).

### Self-quarantine upon arrival in The Netherlands

All students traveling from a high-risk area (code red and orange) are strongly urged to self-quarantine for 10 days upon arrival. You are requested to stay in your accommodation during those 10 days and not to leave it at any time. Furthermore, you can not receive visitors. If you do not develop any symptoms that could be caused by coronavirus, you can end the self-quarantine after 10 days.

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, you must get tested by the GGD (the Area Health Authority). You can call 0800-1202 to arrange this. If you have COVID-19 symptoms, the Dutch government requires both you and all those sharing your accommodation to stay in quarantine until test results are negative and it has been proven that you do not have COVID-19. A negative result means that the people you share your accommodation with no longer need to stay in quarantine. However, you must still complete the 10 day quarantine period.

Please note that these requirements are subject to change. A complete description of the current quarantine requirements (including a list of high-risk areas) can be found on the website of the [Dutch government](#). In our [FAQ for prospective students](#), you can find answers to frequently asked questions regarding self-quarantine such as *Is my accommodation suitable for self-quarantine?* and *How can I get groceries during my quarantine?*

### Extra information with regards to coronavirus

Due to the coronavirus, we also would like to point out the following:

- Have a look at this website provided by the Dutch government regarding travel restrictions that may apply to you: [www.netherlandsandyou.nl](http://www.netherlandsandyou.nl). Also make sure to check the regulations provided in your current country of residence. A constantly updated webpage regarding travel regulations worldwide can also be found [on this website](#).
- For your convenience below we state the Corona websites of the two main airports in the Netherlands. Please have a look at the updates there when planning your travels:
  - [www.schiphol.nl/en/page/coronavirus](http://www.schiphol.nl/en/page/coronavirus);
  - [www.eindhovenairport.nl/en/corona](http://www.eindhovenairport.nl/en/corona).

## 4. Health

### Medical check

You are not required to have a medical check before coming to the Netherlands. However, we recommend the following:

- Make sure your vaccinations are up-to-date, particularly for mumps, measles, and rubella;
- Contact the public health organization in your own country to ask if they recommend any specific precautions.
- You may be required to fill in and show a health declaration when you arrive at the airport in The Netherlands.
- If you have any corona symptoms such as a cold, runny nose, sneezing, sore throat or a mild cough, or if you have been in contact with someone with these symptoms, make sure you follow the [current regulations](#) in place, both in your home country and in The Netherlands. These can include self-quarantine and delaying your travel.
- In The Netherlands, you can get tested for coronavirus free of charge. You can find more information on testing on the website of the [Dutch government](#).

### What corona measures are in place in the Netherlands?

The Dutch government provides an overview of current coronavirus rules and measures on [their website](#). Always check this information before you leave. Please make sure you meet the restrictions and regulations when arriving in the Netherlands and traveling in the country. For

your convenience we sum up the most important measures below:

- Wear a non-medical face mask in indoor public spaces;
- Do not shake hands;
- Keep 1.5 metres (2 arm's lengths) distance from other people;
- Wash your hands often with soap and water;
- Cough and sneeze into your elbow;
- Use paper tissues to blow your nose and discard them after use.

### Mental health

During this period of social distance, it is difficult for many people to find a nice rhythm in the days at home. Mental and physical health are now extra important. There are several options if you feel like you could use some extra help or would simply like to discuss your situation with someone. These options are displayed **on our website** and include an **anonymous helpline** that is available 24/7, the Student Psychologist and the Tilburg University Chaplaincy **Marantha**. Remember that help is available, both for minor and larger problems!

*Please also check section 3 of this booklet for extra immigration information regarding the coronavirus.*



## 5. Accommodation

Tilburg University does not provide student accommodation. However, we help you by providing information about finding a place to live. Finding accommodation is one of the most important things to arrange before you arrive. Since it is not easy if you do not know where to start, we are happy to provide you with information about the housing options in Tilburg. Tilburg University offers preferred suppliers as well as support on the private market. Please make sure to fully read and understand your contract, especially the cancellation policy, before signing. All information about renting a room with one of our preferred suppliers and information about the private market can be found on **our webpage**.

### 5.1 Verbernelaan (WonenBreborg)

The housing complex located on this street is popularly referred to as 'Verbs'. The buildings are within walking distance of the University, the Sports Center and the train station. The rooms are fully furnished and available for a period of six months. You will live on a shared floor with 6 or 17 other students, so it is the perfect way to make new friends and have a great time here in Tilburg. Please check the **accommodation website** for more information on how to book a room at Verbs.

### 5.2 Student Housing Holland

This preferred supplier offers rooms in three different price categories including their unique everything-you-need service. They provide you with all the essentials like airport pick up, a public transport card, your own bike, a bank account, sport services, a sim card and 24/7 emergency service. You will stay with other students in student houses which are centrally located in the city and close to the university. **[www.studenthousingholland.com](http://www.studenthousingholland.com)**

### 5.3 CobbenCampus

CobbenCampus is a campus designed for international and Dutch students, located at the Professor Cobbenhagenlaan 9 in Tilburg. It is within walking distance of Tilburg University and other facilities. The CobbenCampus has fully furnished apartments for rent for short and long stays. They come with your own facilities, and with a common area including a big garden and private gym. **[www.magisrent.nl/apartments#cobben](http://www.magisrent.nl/apartments#cobben)**

### 5.4 The Rumour

The Rumour is a brand new building located within five minutes cycling distance from the University. The Rumour provides fully furnished studios and apartments with air-conditioning for international students. This means that you will have a fully equipped living area, bathroom and kitchen to yourself. **[www.magisrent.nl/apartments#rumour](http://www.magisrent.nl/apartments#rumour)**

## 5.5 Midi Tilburg

A brand new residential complex has risen in the heart of Tilburg. Renting is possible from August 1 and for a maximum period of one year. The apartments are fully furnished and equipped with a luxury kitchen and bathroom, fine furniture and good equipment (think of a Samsung Frame TV and Sonos audio system!). The complex provides a self-service laundry and spacious bicycle storage room. Each apartment has its own house number, which means that even applying for rent allowance from the Dutch tax authorities is possible under certain conditions. [www.miditilburg.com](http://www.miditilburg.com)

## 5.6 Private Market

It is common in the Netherlands that students' rooms are offered online either by the landlords directly, or through housing agencies or lessees looking to sublet. By searching online, you can find rooms, studios and apartments around the city. Please make sure to take a look at the safety instructions provided on the [private market section](#) on the website. Please use official websites of companies you can trace. You can find a list of recommended websites and safety instructions at [our website](#).

If you have any question or you encounter any problem when searching for accommodation, feel free to contact our housing office through [studenthousing@tilburguniversity.edu](mailto:studenthousing@tilburguniversity.edu).



## 6. Traveling to Tilburg

If you are traveling to The Netherlands by plane, you will most probably fly to Amsterdam Schiphol Airport. From the airport, you can take the train to 'Tilburg Universiteit' – the train station at our university. This will take 1.5-2 hours and the costs are approx. € 20. Alternatively, you can fly to Brussels Airport in Belgium (2-3 hours to Tilburg by train; costs: approx. €30) or Dusseldorf International Airport in Germany (3-4 hours to Tilburg by train, costs: approximately €30).

If you fly from a location within Europe, you can also fly to one of the following local airports:

- Rotterdam–The Hague Airport (bus to railway station, train to Tilburg Universiteit; travel time 1.5-2 hours; costs: approx. €15);
- Eindhoven Airport (bus to railway station, train to Tilburg Universiteit; travel time 1-1.5 hrs.; costs: approx. €10);
- Maastricht-Aachen Airport (bus to railway station, train to Tilburg Universiteit; travel time 2-3 hrs.; costs: €20-25).

### Online Journey Planners

To plan your journey by public transport within the Netherlands, we recommend the following websites:

- By bus and train: [www.9292.nl/en](http://www.9292.nl/en);
- By train only: [www.ns.nl/en](http://www.ns.nl/en).

### Public transport during the corona crisis

During the corona crisis, the use of public transport can be restricted. These restrictions can include the mandatory use of a face mask, keeping distance or only using public transport when absolutely necessary. Before you travel by public transport in The Netherlands, please make sure that you know the rules currently in place:

If you travel by train, check the [website of the NS](#).

If you travel by bus, check the [9292 website](#).

*Please also check section 3 of this booklet for extra immigration information regarding the coronavirus.*

## 7. Arrival

### 7.1 Registration Day: online services

In order to make sure that your arrival at Tilburg University will go smoothly and that you start to feel at home from the moment you arrive, we have arranged a Registration Day on January 22, 2021. If you plan to travel to Tilburg in January, we advise you to arrive during this day in order to benefit from the travel assistance we offer (if corona measures permit)!

- Date Registration Day: Friday, January 22, 2021
- Times: Between 9:00 and 18:00 hrs.

NOTE: Please make sure to register your arrival at Tilburg University by filling out the form 'Register your presence' **on our website only and as soon as you arrive in Tilburg.**

The Registration Day will mainly take place online (if corona measures permit, we will also organize a small-scale on campus activity) and is the perfect way to ensure a well-prepared arrival in Tilburg, arrange all kinds of practicalities before the start of your program and get to know Tilburg and the university as soon as possible! Because of the current corona measures, we unfortunately are not able to organize the Registration Day in our regular format on campus, however we will make sure to provide you with a warm welcome and a pleasant arrival. Therefore, all of our services and information offered during the Registration Day will be offered online and can be found on the website of the **Registration Day**. Keep a close eye on our website for the latest information!

The offered services include live online sessions and chats with our employees and some of our external partners. You will also be able to apply for a Tilburg University card and buy a membership to the Tilburg University Sports Centre. You will also receive a welcome bag that includes lots of useful information and items to make sure your start in Tilburg is pleasant and fun!

#### Travel assistance

Furthermore, if corona measures permit, we would like to offer you travel assistance when you arrive in The Netherlands. Therefore, if possible, we offer travel assistance on Schiphol Airport and Eindhoven Airport and/or 'Tilburg University' train station in Tilburg during the Registration Day. You and your luggage will be collected by minibus (if possible; otherwise by foot) and brought to your housing agency, the bus station or taxi. Please check the website '**Travel to Tilburg**' for more information and updates about this service.

The latest information on the Registration Day, can be found **on our website**. At a later moment, this page will also contain information on late arrivals. All provided information during the Registration Day will remain available after the Registration Day is over, in case you arrive

at a different moment or would like to consult the information at a later moment.

During your first weekend here in Tilburg (January 23 & 24), where the current Corona measures permit, various events will be arranged by international student organization I\*ESN to help you get to know Tilburg and your fellow students. More information on these events will be provided during the Registration Day and can also be found on the **I\*ESN Facebook page**. On Tuesday January 26, the official Tilburg Orientation Program will start.

### 7.2 Tilburg Orientation Program (TOP)

Tilburg University offers an introduction program called TOP Winter Week for all new incoming students to Tilburg before the start of the spring semester. This year, TOP Winter Week will take place from Tuesday January 26 until Friday January 29. The program will be a combination of both online and small-scale offline activities. So even if you are not in The Netherlands yet, you will still be able to attend most of the introduction program. We strongly encourage you to attend TOP Winter Week, because this week is all about getting to know your fellow students, the city of Tilburg and life as a student in Tilburg. TOP Winter Week is the best start of your new adventure in Tilburg! Check the website of TOP Winter Week to have a look at the program and to register: [www.top-week.nl/en](http://www.top-week.nl/en).

All participants are required to register online between December and the beginning of January. The participation fee is announced at a later time. You will receive an invitation to register for TOP Week from December onwards. Please note: Students studying at CentER will not be able to take part in TOP Week.

### 7.3 Program Introduction

Most of the educational programs organize a Program Introduction (PI) for new incoming students. Participation is obligatory and faculties arrange these Program Introductions. During the Program Introduction, you will be introduced to your study program, get to know your way around the Tilburg University campus, and meet your fellow students. Information on the schedule for the Program Introduction will be sent to you by email.

### 7.4 Schedules and Start of the Academic Year

Lectures will start in the week of February 1, 2021. Detailed information on the program schedule will be provided by your study program via email in the second week of January.

The academic calendar of each school/faculty can be found **on our website**. More information regarding schedules, books, registration and much more, can be found in the **Quick Start Guide** for new students.

## 7.5 Map of Tilburg University Campus

Tilburg University campus consists of several buildings. Each School or Division is located in one of these buildings.



- Tilburg School of Humanities (TSHD): D / Dante building
- Tilburg School of Catholic Theology (TST): D / Dante building
- Tilburg Law School (TLS): M / Montesquieu building
- Tilburg School of Social and Behavioral Sciences (TSB): S / Simon Building
- Tilburg School of Economics and Management (TiSEM): K / Koopmans building

Another important location for you, especially at the beginning of your studies at Tilburg University, is building A or Academia building, which houses departments and facilities such as the Student Desk, Language Center and International Office.

[www.tilburguniversity.edu/contact/campus-map](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/contact/campus-map)



## 8. Tilburg University Card

The Tilburg University card has your photograph, name and your Tilburg University administration number. The card gives you access to the Library\* and allows you to borrow books from the Library and use and pay for the printing facilities spread around the campus.

You can request your Tilburg University Card online at <https://www.tilburguniversity.edu/students/administration/university-card> from the moment you arrive in The Netherlands. After logging in with your Tilburg University username and password, you can upload your photograph and request your card. Within two weeks, you will be notified via your Tilburg University email address that your card is ready. You can collect your card in person at the Library after showing proof of identity.

\* Please note that due to coronavirus measures, it is possible that access to the Library is restricted. Current information can be found on our website:

<https://www.tilburguniversity.edu/campus/university-library>

## 9. Insurance

Please be aware that having medical insurance in The Netherlands is obligatory by law. It is therefore important to arrange your insurance before you travel, to make sure that you are covered from the moment of your arrival in the Netherlands.

INSURANCE TYPE	EU/EEA NATIONALS	NON-EU/EEA NATIONALS
<b>Health Insurance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal requirement</li> <li>• Dutch medical costs can be high</li> </ul>	European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) should be sufficient. Check the Insurance <b>Checklist of EP-Nuffic</b> and check with your own Department of Health.	Check with your insurance company whether you are covered (if you already have insurance).
<b>Liability Insurance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal requirement</li> </ul>	Check with your insurance company whether you are covered (if you already have insurance).	
<b>Travel Insurance</b>	Strongly recommended, particularly if you plan to travel during your studies.	

If sufficient cover is not offered by your existing policy/policies, you must take out private insurance. We recommend **AON**. These policies can include:

- Medical costs;
- Liability;
- Household effects;
- Luggage;
- Legal costs;
- Travel.

Please remember:

- It is your responsibility to make sure you have the correct insurance coverage; we advise you to also check the coverage of coronavirus related medical costs.
- If you are planning to find a part-time job in The Netherlands, you will be required to take out a Dutch Basic Health Insurance.
- It is important that you take out the correct insurance **before** you need it. We recommend you take out insurance before coming to the Netherlands even as it mostly also covers your journey to the Netherlands.

For more information about which insurance applies to your situation, visit

[www.tilburguniversity.edu/insurances](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/insurances),

or check the Insurance Checklist on the Nuffic website:

<https://www.studyinholland.nl/plan-your-stay/insurance>.

## 10. Financial Matters

### 10.1 Cost of Living

The cost of living in Tilburg is relatively cheap compared to other Dutch university cities, such as Amsterdam or Utrecht. Approximate living expenses are between €730 and €850 per month.

Below is an approximate annual overview of the cost of living in Tilburg, but costs can vary per person and according to lifestyle. Keep in mind that tuition fees are not included.

ANNUAL EXPENSES	
Accommodation	€4,500 - €5,700
Food	€3,000
Books and readers	€800
Health, liability and travel insurance	€450
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€8,750 - €10,250</b>

You can compare the cost of living in the Netherlands with your home country on [this website](#).

### 10.2 Tuition Fees

You will be informed via email about the tuition fee that is applicable to you, as these can vary per program, or you can find out yourself at [www.tilburguniversity.edu/tuitionfees](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/tuitionfees). Below is an overview of the standard tuition fees for the academic year 2020-2021.

PROGRAM	EEA NATIONALS	NON-EEA NATIONALS
<b>Bachelor</b>	€2,143	€5,300 - €14,600
<b>Pre-Master</b>	Tuition fees are dependent on the number of ECTS credits the program consists of, but are maximum € 2,143 for a 60 ECTS program, regardless of your nationality.	
<b>Master + Research Master</b>	€2,143	€11,100 - €16,000

You will be instructed on how to pay your tuition fees via Studielink – either in a one-off payment or in eight installments. If you pay in installments an administration fee of €24 will be charged. Please note that payment in installments is only possible when payment is done through a **SEPA-bank account**. More information on opening a Dutch (SEPA) bank account is provided in section 10.5. More information on payment can also be found at [www.tilburguniversity.edu/payment](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/payment).

### 10.3 Dutch Student Finance System

If you are from an EU/EEA country or Switzerland, you may be eligible to apply for a loan from the Dutch government to cover your tuition fees. You can check all information regarding the Dutch student finance system on [the DUO website](#).

### 10.4 Working during your Studies

Although it is easy to survive in the Netherlands without speaking Dutch, it can be difficult to get a part-time job without some knowledge of the Dutch language. There may also be restrictions regarding how many hours you are allowed to work, depending on your nationality. Please take this into account when planning your finances.

NATIONALITY	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED	WORKING HOURS
<b>EU/EEA + Switzerland</b>	No Work Permit required	Unlimited
<b>Non-EU/EEA</b> (with a Dutch residence permit for study purposes)	Work Permit required (applied for by employer)	Maximum of 16 hours per week OR full time in June, July, and August

For more information about part-time jobs and general support for international students, you can contact the [International Center Tilburg](#).

Other useful websites with information about part-time jobs are:

- [www.undutchables.nl](http://www.undutchables.nl);
- [www.togetherabroad.nl](http://www.togetherabroad.nl);
- [www.hollandexpatcenter.com/jobs/](http://www.hollandexpatcenter.com/jobs/);
- European Job Mobility Portal: <https://ec.europa.eu/eures>;
- [www.studyinholland.nl/life-in-holland/working-while-studying](http://www.studyinholland.nl/life-in-holland/working-while-studying).

### 10.5 Dutch Bank Account

If you have a bank account in a country that is **not** a member of the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA), you are advised to open a Dutch bank account. This is particularly important if you have been awarded a Scholarship by Tilburg University, so that we can transfer the funds to you. Furthermore, in many stores in The Netherlands, it is impossible to pay by credit card. Payment is mostly done using a debit card (included in any Dutch bank account) or cash.

If you have a bank account in a country that is a member of Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA), it is not strictly necessary to open a Dutch bank account. You are advised to contact your own bank for more information.



### Opening a Dutch bank account

Every student that resides in the Netherlands can open a Dutch bank account. At the moment you have arrived in the Netherlands **and** have a permanent residence, you can start your online application with our partner ABN AMRO bank in order to open a bank account. Please keep a close eye on our [website Money Matters](#), for possible updates regarding the procedures and additional information.

## 11. Student Life

### 11.1 Life in The Netherlands and in Tilburg

When it comes to making the Netherlands home, you will discover a country in which it is safe and easy to get around. With English as an unofficial 'second language', it is also easy to communicate. The Netherlands consistently ranks in the top 10 of happiest countries worldwide and embraces no less than 160 different nationalities amongst its population. Like any other country and people, the Dutch have their own traditions and customs. Among other things, Dutch people are known as independent and non-hierarchical and have a direct way of acting and speaking.

With a population of over 217,000, Tilburg is the 7th largest city in the Netherlands. There are over 29,000 students in Tilburg, so the student way of life has an important impact on what happens in Tilburg. The city has something for everyone: a thriving café and restaurant culture, sports, art films, world-class music at pop music venue 013, classical music at the Tilburg Concert Hall and great contemporary art at the De Pont Museum. Combined with numerous festivals, exhibitions, and conferences, you will enjoy an exciting and stimulating life as a student.

The city of Tilburg is also conveniently located. Getting around in the Netherlands is easy, as the public transportation system is excellent. It is just a short train ride to cities like Amsterdam, The Hague, and Rotterdam, and European capitals like Brussels, Paris, and London are also within easy reach.

Due to the coronavirus situation, travel restrictions can be imposed and access to public facilities (such as museums, concert halls and sports stadiums) can be restricted. Furthermore, residents are expected to keep at least 1,5 meter distance from each other if they are not in the same household. An up-to-date list of coronavirus measures can be found on the website of [the Dutch government](#).

### 11.2 Student Life at Tilburg University

Tilburg University has a green campus and is located on the edge of a forest, intertwined with footpaths and bike trails, an environment that invites quiet reflection. The campus itself however, is bustling with student activity and all kinds of research, business, and cultural events – a contrast that makes it an attractive and dynamic place for learning.

The buildings that comprise Tilburg University, including our state-of-the-art University Library and excellent Sports Center, are all within easy walking distance of each other. In each building, you will find student work spaces equipped with all the modern facilities needed to make studying on campus a pleasant experience. The relaxed environment – which features a café and several restaurants – encourages informal socializing with your fellow students between lectures and study periods.

*Please note:* due to coronavirus, campus activities are limited. Small-scale activities will be organized as soon as circumstances permit. Information about the current situation can be found on our website.

[www.tilburguniversity.edu/current/news/more-news/corona-virus/faq-campus](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/current/news/more-news/corona-virus/faq-campus)

Check out the Tilburg University 360° Campus Tour at [www.tilburguniversity.edu/campustour](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/campustour).



### 11.3 Study/Student Associations

Tilburg University is home to a whole range of Study/Student Associations and societies. They are a great way to meet like-minded students and make friends. There are organizations for arts and culture, sports, student politics, and philosophy as well as study-related associations. You will also find organizations aimed specifically at international students that organize a variety of social activities. Tilburg University believes that these associations provide the ideal opportunity for every student to develop skills and talents, both personally and academically.

Visit [our website](#) for an overview of the different associations.

### 11.4 Sports Facilities

The Tilburg University Sports Center offers a broad program of activities and facilities for both recreational users and those who wish to play sports at a competitive level. You can work out at any time from early morning to late evening. Membership of the Sports Center costs approximately €130 per year. Visit [www.tilburguniversity.edu/sportscenter](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/sportscenter) for more information.

Tilburg University also provides facilities to students who want to combine study and top-level sports. The university supports these student athletes in the best way possible, for example by offering additional student supervision, in order to facilitate the successful combination of top-level sport and study.

During the coronavirus crisis, access to the Sports Centre can be limited. For current information, please check the [website of the Sports Centre](#).

### 11.5 Learn Dutch

Although you can speak English with practically anyone in the Netherlands, learning the local language will help you to get to know the country and its culture and society. Nuffic (the organization behind Study in Holland) has provided a list of options to start learning Dutch at the [Study in Holland website](#). After arrival, you can take a Dutch course at our Language Center – see the section below.

### 11.6 Free Language Course(s)

All students enrolled at Tilburg University receive one set of language vouchers worth 12 ECTS. With these vouchers, you can take free courses at the Language Center. You can choose a Dutch language course, English language skill course or one of the many other languages, like Chinese, German, French, or Italian.

You can use the vouchers at any time during your studies, but if you would like to start a course in your first semester, it is advisable to register in time. [Registration for courses](#) starting in February opens in January. Please be advised that you can only register if you have been (conditionally) admitted, registered in Studielink and you have to complete your payment details in Studielink by January 1 in order to be able to make use of the Language Vouchers during your first semester. For more information, please visit the Language Center's website: [www.tilburguniversity.edu/languagecourses-students](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/languagecourses-students) and [www.tilburguniversity.edu/language-vouchers](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/language-vouchers).

In the second semester of the academic year 2020-2021, most language courses will be taught partly or completely online, although the Language Center is exploring options to teach on campus as well. On the website of the Language Center and in the Course Catalog you can find more information about how the courses will be offered. The final course goals and target levels are the same for online and on-campus varieties of courses. Please note that live and active participation is required and the Language Center cannot take into account differences in time zones.

Some study programs are very intensive during the first semester, so please carefully consider whether you will have the time to follow both your academic studies and a language course. And, remember, you can always follow a language course next semester or later on in your studies.

## 12. Important Dates

In the previous paragraphs, you have read a lot of information regarding preparations for your studies. Below you can find an overview of important dates so you know what you can expect when. Unless otherwise stated, the information will be sent to you via email. If you are admitted after the date mentioned, you will receive the information as soon as possible after you receive your admission letter.

WHAT	WHEN
<b>Invitation to start immigration procedures for non-EEA nationals</b> <i>Follow the instructions given to ensure that you will receive your visa in time for your arrival in Tilburg before lectures start.</i>	from mid-November onwards
<b>Invitation to register for our introduction week called TOP Week</b>	from mid-November onwards
<b>Information about Accommodation</b>	from mid-November onwards
<b>Information about Payment of Tuition Fees</b>	after registration
<b>Unconditional Admission Letter</b> <i>You will receive this when you meet the admission requirements detailed in your conditional admission letter. You must meet the admission requirements by the deadline detailed in your conditional admission letter.</i>	see conditional admission letter for deadline
<b>Registration Day</b>	January 22
<b>Program Introduction</b>	January 26-29
<b>TOP Week</b>	January 26-29
<b>First day of lectures</b>	February 1
<b>Enrollment Certificate</b> <i>This confirms your registration as a student at Tilburg University. You will receive this as soon as you have received your unconditional admission letter AND you have arranged payment of your tuition fees via Studielink. Keep it safe – it will not be sent to you again!</i>	around February 1

## 13. Pre-departure Checklist - Education online

This checklist is focused on the situation where you have decided to attend (the first semester of) your education fully online and you will not be traveling to The Netherlands at this moment. If you decide to travel to The Netherlands now or at a later stage, the checklist provided on the next page can be used.

### GENERAL

- Read this Welcome to Tilburg University Guide!
- Register in Studielink (Before January 31!)
- Complete payment details in Studielink.
- Join the **Facebook Group for TiU freshmen**
- Register for **TOP Week**<sup>1</sup>.
- Join the Pre-departure Information Session on December 3 that applies to your situation (new or current student) - more info at [www.tilburguniversity.edu/prepare](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/prepare)

### DOCUMENTS

- Send the documents for unconditional admission to your International Admissions Coordinator by the deadline stated.

<sup>1</sup> Not applicable for Research Master students at CentER.

# 14. Pre-departure Checklist - Education in Tilburg

## GENERAL

- Read this Welcome to Tilburg University Guide!
- Register in Studielink (before January 31!)
- Complete payment details in Studielink.
- Join the **Facebook Group for TiU freshmen**
- Complete the immigration process (if required).
- Register for **TOP Week<sup>2</sup>**.
- Join the Pre-departure Information Session on December 3 that applies to your situation (new or current student) - more info at [www.tilburguniversity.edu/prepare](http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/prepare)
- Join the **Registration Day**

## HEALTH

- Arrange your health, travel and liability insurance.
- Check whether your vaccinations are up-to-date.
- Contact the public health organization in your own country to check whether you need to take any specific precautions.

## DOCUMENTS

- Send the documents for unconditional admission to your International Admissions Coordinator by the deadline stated.
- Make sure you have scanned copies of your insurance policies and passport (including your entry visa) OR EU/EEA/Swiss national ID card within easy reach, for example by saving them in the cloud or emailing them to yourself.

## ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL

- Book your accommodation.
- Book your travel tickets; if you need an entry visa, do not book your tickets until you have received your entry visa.

## FINANCIAL

- If applicable: Check our website on **Money Matters** and follow all the steps in order to open a Dutch Bank Account.
- Make sure you have cash in euros to cover your costs in the first two weeks.
- For EU/EEA students only: check if you are eligible for a loan or supplementary grant from the Dutch government.

## PACK YOUR BAGS!

- Pack a voltage converter and/or adapter.
- Pack clothes for all **weather conditions!**
- Check whether you have any coronavirus symptoms that prevent you from traveling to and in The Netherlands.

---

<sup>2</sup> Not applicable for Research Master students at CentER.