

**INFORMATION ON THE VALUE OF FINAL DEGREES
VERSION 3 from 16 February 2022**

In the winter semester 2004/2005, the Esslingen University of Applied Sciences changed its degree programs in social work and nursing science, and in the winter semester 2005/2006 its technical, scientific and business degree programs, from Diploma to Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

This adjustment was accompanied by an extensive study reform, in which the new study programs were established in a proven way, aligning criteria of the current state of science and requirements of industry and business, as well as practice in social work and health care.

In a 7 semester Bachelor's program, 210 credits are given according to the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), and 90 credits in the 3 semester Master's program.

An outstanding quality feature of the universities of applied sciences is the practical relevance. Therefore, in the new study structure emphasis is placed on a high proportion of practical experience in the Bachelor programs: Depending on the program, the 4th or 5th semester is a practical semester, which is accompanied by the university intensely. Within the study structure it corresponds to the second practical semester of the former diploma programs. In some programs it is supplemented by a mandatory pre-internship. In numerous project works, laboratories and practical examinations, students acquire practical skills, which are theoretically worked through in the accompanying courses.

The Conference of Ministers of Education decided on October 10, 2003 that the introduction of the graduation system should not lead to a devaluation of traditional Diploma and Magister's degree. With regard to the value of the Bachelor's and Master's degree in comparison to the Diploma / Magister's degree, the following applies:

- A Bachelor's degree grants basically the same qualifications as a Diploma acquired at a university of applied sciences.
- A Master's degree grants the same qualifications as a Diploma or a Magister's degree acquired at a university or a college on equal terms.

This regulation is also found in *§ 29 Abs. 2 Landeshochschulgesetz (LHG) Baden-Württemberg*.

Diplom degrees of the university of applied sciences which were not acquired on the basis of the ECTS regulations can be assessed with 30 ECTS credit points per semester of the standard duration of study in accordance with § 8 of the Study Accreditation Ordinance. For a diploma degree with 8 semesters of regular study duration, this results in an assessment of 240 ECTS credit points accordingly.

All degree programs at the Esslingen University of Applied Sciences are subjected to a thorough examination procedure at regular intervals as part of the accreditation process. The accreditation of the degree programs guarantees the equivalence of the Bachelor's degree with the former Diploma.