Information and instructions for university entrance qualification, aptitude testing, and application for admission: Master distance education program „Software Engineering for Embedded Systems“ for candidates who do not have a first degree from an institute of higher learning
(As of: November 2014)

Effective with the winter semester 2013/2014, admissions to the study program „Software Engineering for Embedded Systems“ will also be open to candidates who have the relevant professional experience, but do not have their first degree from a university level institution. A prerequisite for admission is the successful completion of an aptitude test. The aptitude test is designed to determine whether the applicant’s professional qualifications and subject matter expertise are equivalent to that knowledge acquired during undergraduate studies. Consequently, the aptitude test is a qualifying exam that provides an indication of whether the applicant has the prerequisite knowledge of the subject matter to enable successful participation in the program. This document provides you with information on all the relevant aspects of the aptitude test and the following application process for admission to study.

I. Admission requirements for the aptitude test

 Applicants without a degree from a university level institution must have some form of university entrance qualification. This requirement can be met if the applicant has achieved one of the following:

- A university entrance qualification or
- Professional training with a qualifying completion certificate (grade average of at least 2.5) followed by at least 2 years work experience. If an applicant has completed an advanced professional qualification in the form of a master craftsman (German: Meisterprüfung) examination or an equivalent exam, they automatically possess the admission qualification.

After acquiring the university entrance qualification, the applicant must have completed at least three years of relevant experience in a related job. Beyond this, in order to satisfy the general entrance requirements for continuing adult education, applicants without a first qualifying degree also need two additional years of relevant job experience (sect. 2 para. 2 of the examination regulations).
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target Groups</th>
<th>University entrance qualification or master craftsman certificate</th>
<th>Professional Training</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acceptance for aptitude test</td>
<td>3 years relevant work experience</td>
<td>5 years work experience, at least 3 of which must be relevant work experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acceptance for distance education program</td>
<td>2 years relevant work experience</td>
<td>2 years relevant work experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total requirements</td>
<td>5 years relevant work experience</td>
<td>2 years work experience + 5 years relevant work experience</td>
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II. Components of the aptitude test

The aptitude test consists of two parts:

Submission of a portfolio consisting of:

- Curriculum vitae
- Descriptions of professional employment and areas of responsibility
- School and other training certificates
- Where applicable, certificates of successful participation in professional development classes
- Work evaluations or other references related to work experience.

If you fulfill the formal requirements and your portfolio is complete, you will be sent a letter of invitation to take the aptitude test.

The aptitude test consists of a written examination in the field of computer science bachelor’s program, which includes basic topics, of an oral assessment and of the submitted portfolio. The Student Administration Office announces the exam dates. The exam takes between one to two hours.

The aptitude test is corrected and evaluated by an examiner. The applicant will receive written notification of the results of the written test.

The following rules apply to the period of validity and to the opportunity to retake the aptitude test:

- The determination of eligibility and aptitude to enter the distance education program “Software Engineering for Embedded Systems” is your authorization to begin studies and is valid for the next three application cycles.
• If a candidate’s eligibility is not determined, the next opportunity to retake the test is the next regular testing date. A failed exam cannot be retaken more than two times. The aptitude test must be completed in full even if it is being taken for the second or third time.
• Aptitude tests completed at another university are not a suitable substitute for the aptitude test required by this regulation.

After passing the aptitude test, a certificate will be issued to you by the chairperson of the Examination Board.

III. Deadlines and details – applicants without first academic degree

The application for admission and your request (unspecified format) to take the aptitude test, incl. your portfolio, must be postmarked before January 31 of the respective year and sent to the Student Administration Office at the following address:

TU Kaiserslautern
Abteilung für Studienangelegenheiten
Postfach 3049
67653 Kaiserslautern

IV. Applying for admission

Your application for admission to the master distance education program “Software Engineering for Embedded Systems” must include proof of at least two years of relevant work experience (see last sentence section I above, admission requirements for the aptitude test). Specifically, the work experience presented to prove eligibility for the aptitude test cannot be used again to fulfill the requirement for professional activity according to sect. 2 para. 2 of the examination regulations.

In the event that more than 30 qualified people apply, a placement procedure will be implemented. This procedure involves issuing an index number to each qualified applicant, formed from the grade of the university level degree or the grade on the aptitude test and the amount of job experience.

If you have any additional questions, please contact:

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