

**Open International Olympiad Exam Guidelines**  
**for foreign students of specialist's degree and master's degree programmes in 2024/25 academic**  
**year at St Petersburg University**

Applicants should submit their admission documents in digital format via their Personal Account indicating the file type correspondent to the respective document.

Applicants should provide their official documents and credentials as legible copies in Russian or translated into Russian (translations into Russian have to be notarised by a notary or the Russian Federation embassy/consulate in the foreign country or the embassy/consulate of the foreign country in the Russian Federation unless otherwise specified in the international treaties of the Russian Federation).

No	Documents / documented facts to be evaluated	Evaluation criteria	Score of points
<b>1. Olympiad Documents</b>			
1 .1	Description of the prospective research	The criteria are specified in section 1	0- 10
1 .2	Curriculum vitae (CV)	The criteria are specified in section 2	0- 10
1 .3	diploma thesis abstract	The criteria are specified in section 3	0- 10
<b>Maximum score of points for the section - 30</b>			
<b>2. Academic credentials</b>			
2 .1	Documents and materials confirming the applicant's participation in scientific events in the area of specialisation correspondent to the chosen Subjects and interest areas	The applicant's participating in research projects supported by grants (only one document is considered)	In the position of the lead - 10 points; in the position of an executor (to be confirmed by the lead's reference) - 5
		Participation in conferences confirmed by a publication, the conference programme or a participant's certificate (only one document is considered)	5
		The status of an awardee of the All-Republic science project contest for university students (to be confirmed by a diploma of the Ministry of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Uzbekistan)	15
2 .2	Academic training at the lower level of education	Degree of the lower level of education with distinction in the main field of study or speciality correspondent to the science branch to which the Olympiad subject is relevant.	15
		Personalised fellowship for academic excellence (to be confirmed by a certificate or a letter from the respective university)	5
		A bachelor's degree/ specialist's degree/ master's degree/ diploma obtained upon the completion of a degree programme implemented through the network technology (to be confirmed by an official document on the letter-head of the respective educational organisation with the seal and official's signature)	3

2.3	<p>Scientific publications correspondent to the scope of topics of the chosen Olympiad subject.</p> <p><i>The University considers as many as two papers. Each paper is evaluated individually. Should there be three or more papers submitted, the points shall not be summed</i></p>	Scientific publications in periodicals included into academic citation indexes Web of Science or Scopus	15
		Scientific publications in periodicals included into the Russian Science Citation Index or listed by the Higher Assessment Committee	7
		Articles in other scientific editions (journals, digests etc.), other publications (abstracts, reviews, etc.)	5
		Papers published in any journal included in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), from the Chinese Science Citation Database (CSCD)	7
2.4	<p>Confirmations of the applicant's participation in intellectual competitions for university students.</p> <p><i>Only one document is considered. Should there be two or more certificates, the points shall not be summed</i></p>	The status of the winner or an awardee of international Olympiads for university students; international contests of university students' research projects; all-Russia Olympiads for university students; all-Russia contests of university students' projects	15
		The status of an awardee of the St Petersburg University open international Olympiad <i>Petropolitan Science (Re)Search</i>	15
		The winner of the final stage of the All-Ukrainian Olympiad for university students, International Olympiad for university students held under the aegis of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus; All-Republic subject-based Olympiad of the Republic of Uzbekistan, All-Republic subject-based Olympiad for university students held under the aegis of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan	10
		The winner of the final stage of the international contest of research projects in the world's politics and international relations 'The Republic of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation in the context of the international relations system transformation' in 2024/25 academic year.	15
		The winner of the initial stage of the Competitors International contest of research projects in the world's politics and international relations 'The Republic of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation in the context of the international relations system transformation' in 2024/25 academic year.	5
2.5	<p>A foreign language level proficiency certificate of the other than the Olympiad working language.</p> <p><i>Only one document is considered. Should there be two or more certificates, the points shall not be summed</i></p>	<p>Language reference test in English (B2 and higher) at St Petersburg University</p> <p>TOEFL (iBT 69 and higher)</p> <p>IELTS (5.5 and higher)</p> <p>Cambridge ESOL (B2 and higher)</p> <p>GMAT (525 and above)</p> <p>Goethe-Zertifikat (B2 and higher), TestDaF, DSD II</p> <p>DELE (21 and higher)</p> <p>DALF (B2 and higher)</p> <p>CILS (level 3 and higher)</p> <p>HSK (Level 4 and higher)</p> <p>TOPIK 2 (Level 4 and higher)</p> <p>TÖMER (B2 and higher)</p> <p>TORFL (Level 2 and higher)</p> <p>ECL (B2 and higher)</p>	5
2.6	Online courses certificates from	A certificate for an online course taken at St	10

	educational platforms correspondent to the scope of topics of the chosen subject of the Olympiad: Open Education, Coursera, XuetaangX. <i>Accepted can be only one document. Should there be two or more certificates, the points shall not be summed</i>	Petersburg University	
		Online course certificates from other universities included in international rankings (QS, THE, ARWU, Moscow international ranking of universities ‘The Three Missions of the University’)	5
2.7	Additional documents confirming the qualification	Documents confirming that the applicant has been instructed in a foreign language for at least one semester at an educational organisation rated among the world’s top 300 universities in the QS, THE, ARWU, Moscow international ranking of universities ‘The Three Missions of the University’)	10
		Documents confirming labour experience in the professional activity no shorter than 12 (twelve) months in the field of the Olympiad subject	5
2.8	A diploma/certificate of the professional training, professional retraining, another degree diploma.	One document is considered	5

**Maximum score of points for the section - 50**

**3. Reference certificate for the programme’s language of instruction.**

*Should the applicants fail to provide language reference certificate for the programme language of instruction, they shall obtain zero (0) points ).*

3.1	For Olympiads implemented in Russian <i>The points can be summed</i>	TORFL-III certificates and higher	20
		A certificate confirming the fact that the language of instruction in the lower-level programme was Russian	20
		TORFL- II certificates	15
		A winner or an awardee diploma of the St Petersburg University International Olympiad of Russian as a Foreign Language (held in 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 academic years), the Olympiad of Russian as a Foreign Language under the auspice of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation	10
		A certificate confirming the fact that the lower-level degree programme included the Russian language courses (to be indicated in the transcript of academic studies/supplement to the diploma)	10
		Certificates for other C1 level testing correspondent to the Common European Framework of Reference for languages	10
		Certificates for other B2 level testing correspondent to the Common European Framework of Reference for languages	5

		Documents confirming the fact of the Russian language mastering at language centres, preparatory departments, during internship or inclusive studies	5
<b>Maximum score of points for the section - 20</b>			
<b>Total: Maximum score of points - 100</b>			

## **Section 1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROSPECTIVE RESEARCH**

### **Requirements**

1. The description of the prospective research must be provided in the Olympiad working language.
2. It must be at least 7 pages long and must not exceed 15 pages, the font must be straight Times New Roman with the size 12 and one and a half line spacing.
3. The description must contain the argumentation of the author's choice of the topic; a well-reasoned reference to the applicability of the prospective research; a reference to the existing views concerning the given range of problems in the global scientific community; the author's own clear position concerning the chosen topic; his/her vision of the future doctoral thesis structure; a reference to the author's achievements in the chosen object research (in the course of his/her previous academic and/or professional activity).

### **Evaluation criteria**

#### **0-10 points**

1. Relevance of the chosen research topic – from 0 to 3 points;
2. Knowledge of the research issues, including academic and practical experience in the field of research – from 0 to 4 points;
3. A clear vision of the course of the research line, of the structure and content of the future thesis – from 0 to 3 points.

## **Section 2. CURRICULUM VITAE (CV)**

### **Requirements**

1. The autobiography (CV) must be provided in the Olympiad working language.
2. The CV must contain full and reliable (documented, if needed) information on the applicant's academic and professional experience, his/her achievements.

### **Evaluation criteria**

#### **0-10 points**

1. The academic experience and achievements (including a positive reference provided by the educational institution) directly in the scope of topics of the chosen Olympiad subject – from 0 to 3 points;
2. Any academic experience and achievements in another field – from 0 to 2 points.

3. Any practical experience directly in the scope of topics of the chosen Olympiad subjects (documented by a copy of the applicant's service record, a copy of a labour agreement, a letter from the employer on a sealed official blank, a positive reference from the employer) – from 0 to 3 point.

4. Any practical experience in another field (documented by a copy of the applicant's service record, a copy of a labour agreement, a letter from the employer on a sealed official blank, a positive reference from the employer) – from 0 to 2 point.

### **Section 3. GRADUATION PROJECT (DIPLOMA) ABSTRACT**

#### **Requirements**

1. The abstract must be prepared in the Olympiad working language.

2. It must be at least 4 pages long and must not exceed 10 pages, the font must be straight Times New Roman with the size 12 and one and a half line spacing.

3. The abstract must contain general information about the relevance of the research, its aims and objectives, suggested methods and solutions, practical and scientific weight of the research, its volume and structure, the conclusions and results obtained in the course of work, a review of the bibliography underpinning the research.

#### **Evaluation criteria**

##### **0-10 points**

1. Meeting the requirements to the structure and content of the abstract – from 0 to 2 points.

2. The relevance of the research topic – from 0 to 2 points;

3. Up-to-datedness of the methods and solutions given in the research – from 0 to 2 points;

4. Scientific and practical weight of the results – from 0 to 2 points;

5. Consistency and justification of the conclusions given in the research – from 0 to 2 points.