

## Blocked account procedure Postgraduate Programme International Educating Class (PIEC) @ UC Leuven (Fall or Spring semester)

Dear student,

We look forward to welcoming you at our campus in the near future. One of the main concerns prospective students have, is the cost of studying in Leuven. Our umbrella university, KU Leuven, has made a <u>general</u> <u>estimate of costs</u>.

By accepting our admission offer, you indicate that you are aware of these costs and are financially able to carry these. If your current nationality requires a visa for Belgium, your financial capability will be checked by the Belgian Embassy/Consulate before a visa will be granted.

UC Leuven can issue a letter of financial guarantee based on the blocked account procedure (see below) which will state that you have transferred the necessary financial means for the entire year of study into a UC Leuven blocked account. Such letter of financial guarantee must then be presented to the Embassy or Consulate of Belgium in your (or a nearby) country as part of your visa application file. For up-to-date information on applying for a Belgian Student Visa and more info on the blocked account procedure, please check our website.

The blocked account procedure is an offer by UC Leuven-Limburg and **no legal obligation.** However, to **ensure a swift visa procedure**, we urge you to consider this option.

The Blocked Account **does not include** the <u>tuition fee</u> nor costs linked to your studies. Those are to be paid separately.

The Blocked account consists of **6,050 euros** (six thousand and fifty):

- 850 euro monthly instalment (7 months)
- 100 euro non-refundable processing fee

## How do you obtain such a letter of financial guarantee?

- 1. After admission, you will receive payment instructions via email.
- 2. Issue the payment according to the instructions, before the deadline. Make sure to use the correct bank account number and payment reference!
- 3. Deadline

UCLL must have received the entire blocked account payment ON or BEFORE

Degree programme starting in Fall	<b>15 May</b> (preceding the AY to which you are admitted)
Degree programme starting in Spring	<b>1 October</b> (preceding the Spring semester to which you are admitted)
Current UCLL students	October (of the year to which you are admitted)

We recommend you **issue the payment at least two weeks before the deadline**, because international transfers entail longer lead times. Payments received after the deadline will not be accepted and will be refunded. A 100-euro admin fee will be deducted from the total refund (cfr. 8).

- 4. You sign the present letter and upload it onto your <u>online application</u> (documents > Blocked Account proposal).
- 1. If we receive the deposit and this signed proposal before the deadline, we will draft a Letter of Financial Guarantee. We will upload it in your online application within two weeks of receiving the payment.
- 2. Upon arrival in Belgium, you must register as a UCLL student and register at the City Office. Afterwards you can open a Belgian bank account, to which the monthly instalment will be transferred. (Instalments will only be paid by bank transfer into a Belgian bank account).

A Opening a Belgian bank account may take two months, so make sure to have a certain amount of money readily available upon arrival in Belgium to cover the first months' living costs. More info, see 'Blocked Account procedure' on our website.

- 3. The monthly instalment will be transferred to your Belgian bank account before the first banking day of each new month. Payment schedule will be available on the UCLL Intranet (after student login).
- 4. If any part of this blocked account must be reimbursed, e.g. because you missed the deadline, or you do not complete the entire academic year, the non-refundable administrative fee of 100 euro will be deducted from the money transfer as well as any bank transfer costs that apply. If you deregister early from UCLL, be aware of the consequences mentioned on

"I,
(your signature)
(Please write here 'read and approved')
(date)

Registration webpage.