

# Master's program in Science of learning and assessment

*Class of 2023. Portfolio assessment criteria*

## Portfolio components

1. A copy of the diploma and academic transcripts. Diplomas received from non-Russian universities have to be officially verified.

2. Motivation letter (in English) should be 400-600 words and include information about:

- What are your research interests?
- The project (link) or faculty member (link) you are most interested in working with
- Why did you choose to apply to our program?
- What makes you a good candidate for this program?
- What are your long-term professional plans?

3. Evidence of academic publications such as pre-prints, articles, conferences.

4. Two reference letters from academic supervisors, employers etc. The recommendation letter should include descriptions of the individual accomplishments of the applicant and include contact information of the referee. Letters should be emailed directly to Name (email)

5. Descriptions of the previous research experience that are not published (e.g., bachelor thesis, work projects).

6. Evidence of academic achievements (e.g., scientific competitions, grants, scholarships)

7. Certificates from summer schools, courses and online-courses which are relevant to the program goals.

8. One of the two options for a one minute video

- Option 1: Explain a complex concept to a 5-year-old (e.g., executive function, psychometrics, neuroscience, MRI)
- Option 2: Explain what you are interested in studying in the SOLA program to a grandparent.

All material should be original (i.e., create your own content) or copyright free. It should be in English or in Russian with English subtitles.

9. Certificate from the course *Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans* <https://tcps2core.ca/welcome> This is a free course on ethics which would require from an applicant several hours of work.

## Criteria of assessment

	Portfolio element	Points max.	Criteria
1	Higher education diploma	10 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>with distinction from HSE – 10;</li> <li>with distinction from another university – 9;</li> <li>with grades excellent and good from HSE – 7;</li> <li>with grades excellent and good from another university – 5;</li> <li>with satisfactory grades from HSE – 3;</li> <li>with satisfactory grades from another university – 1</li> </ul>
2	Courses, summer schools etc, relevant to the program's goals	5 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Courses and certificates relevant to the SOLA goals -- up to 5</li> <li>Other certificates – up to 3</li> </ul>
3	Certificates of English language proficiency	10 points	<p>For admission certificates are required. We accept scores:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TOEFL PBT – 577;</li> <li>TOEFL IBT – 90;</li> <li>Academic IELTS – 6.5;</li> <li>Cambridge Proficiency in English – any score, Cambridge Advanced English – A, B and C.</li> </ul> <p>If the candidate has not received the required score on the international exam in a foreign language, the certificate should still be attached to the portfolio.</p> <p>Exceptions: applicants for whom English is a native language, and who received basic education entirely in English.</p>
4	Motivation letter	30 points	<p>Assessment criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>demonstration of research interests related to the SOLA goals: 0 to 6 pts.</li> <li>logic, composition, style, spelling and punctuation: 0 to 6 pts;</li> <li>personalisation, concrete details: 0 to 6 pts;</li> <li>relevance of expectations: 0 to 6 pts;</li> <li>relevance of the background: 0 to 6 pts.</li> </ul> <p>Recommended length of the letter: 400-600 words</p>
5	Research experience, project experience	25 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participating in a research project – up to 20 pts;</li> <li>conferences --- up to 10 pts;</li> <li>thesis – up to 10 pts;</li> <li>academic achievements (scholarships, grants, competitions) – up to 6 pts;</li> <li>publications from the HSE 'white list' journals – up to 25 pts;</li> <li>publications in other journals – up to 10 pts, depending on the journal level and relevance.</li> </ul>
6	One-minute video	10 points	<p>Assessment criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Original material -- up to 5</li> <li>structure and organisation -- up to 2</li> <li>accuracy and correctness -- up to 3</li> </ul>
7	Course Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans <a href="https://tcps2core.ca/welcome">https://tcps2core.ca/welcome</a>	10 points	Certificate - 10 pts.

Maximum possible score is 100. In case of further questions, we might contact you and ask for an interview.