

We are the Graafschap College

Located in the east of the Netherlands, the Graafschap College is a Euregional partner for lifelong learning and development. At 12 locations in Doetinchem, Groenlo and Winterswijk, almost 950 employees offer vocational education and training, general education and civic integration courses to approximately 10.000 students of all ages.

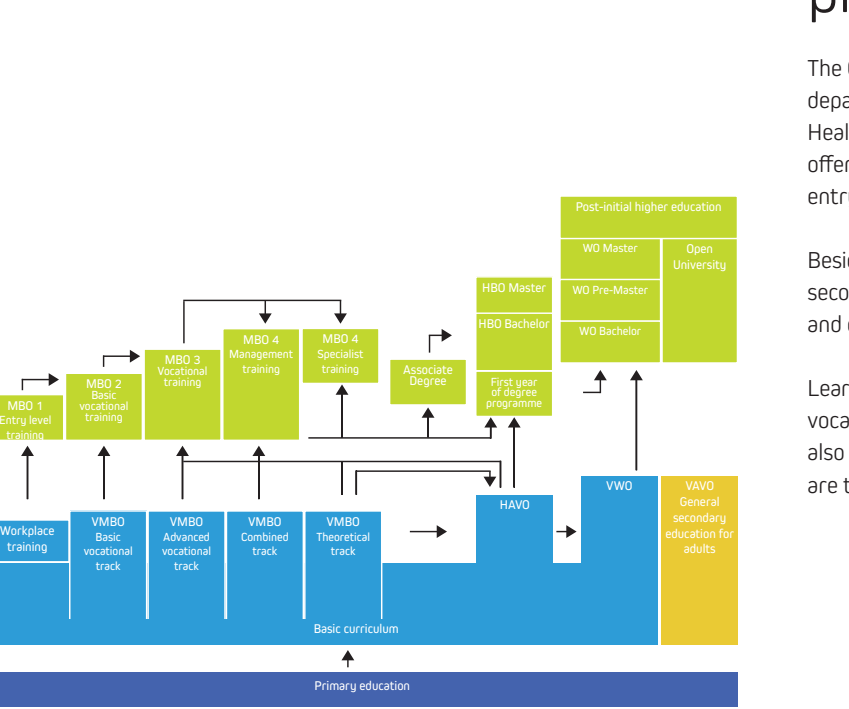
The Graafschap College has an excellent reputation within the region and beyond. Our results, both for quality and for educational output, have surpassed national averages for many years in succession. We have high certification rates and low drop-out rates. Students and staff alike are happy with our modern educational facilities. We are a financially healthy organisation that is prepared for the future. We have strong ties with employers in our region and across the border. In short, there is a lot to be proud of, and we are! At the same time, we are fully aware that continued efforts are needed to remain an efficient, flexible and innovative organisation.

This brochure highlights some of the things we are proud of, along with background information. We invite you to meet the Graafschap College!

The executive board,
Mirjam Koster
Sarien Shkolnik



The Dutch education system



Multifaceted education programme

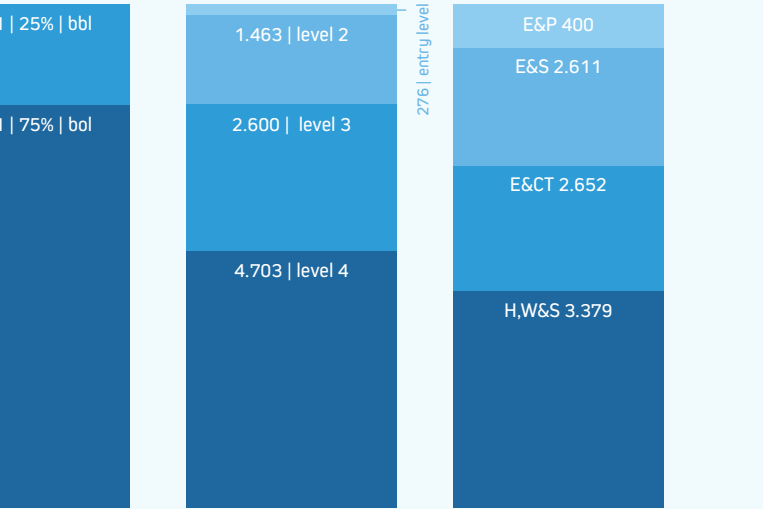
The Graafschap College offers more than 60 vocational (mbo) courses in the education departments of Engineering & Computer Technology, Economics & Services and Health, Welfare & Sports. In addition, the department of Education & Participation offers entry level training, which caters for students who do not fulfil the educational entry requirements for an mbo course.

Besides vocational education and training, the Graafschap College provides general secondary education for (young) adults (vavo), literacy and Dutch language courses and civic integration courses.

Learning is a continuous process. We enable lifelong development by offering vocational and general education and training in various forms. The Graafschap College also provides specialised (in-company) training to businesses and organisations, which are tailored to suit the specific educational needs and wishes of our clients.

Learning tracks and levels

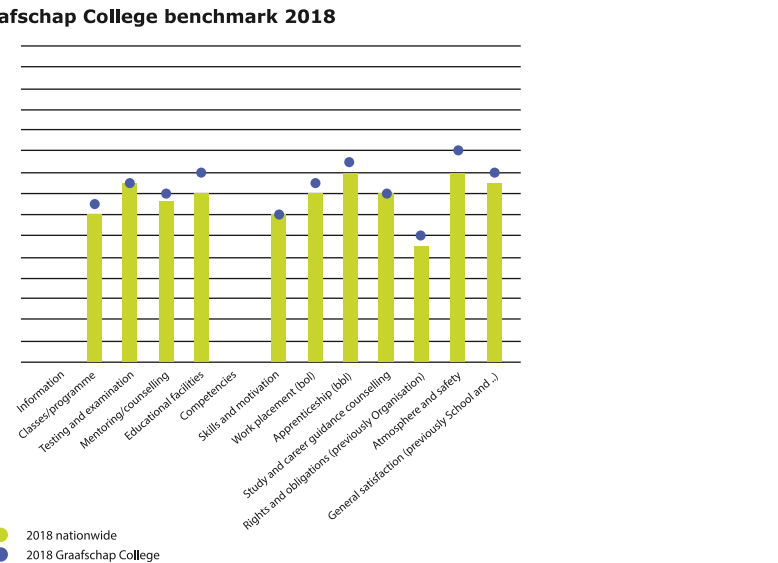
A total of 9,042 students followed a standard vocational education and training programme in 2018. The Graafschap College offers these programmes in two learning tracks (bol* and bbl**) and at four different levels (entry level, level 2, 3 and level 4).



* Bol (school-based learning track): students spend 75% of their time in theoretical and practical classes at school and 25% of their time in professional practice (work experience)
 ** Bbl (work-based learning track): students spend 75% of their time in professional practice and 25% of their time in theoretical and practical classes at school.

High student satisfaction

In 2018 the JOB youth organisation for vocational education and training conducted their yearly student satisfaction survey. 67% of our students took part in the survey. The findings revealed that the Graafschap College scored above the national average on almost all aspects investigated in the survey. The students gave an average score of 7.2 for their study programme, and they gave the school itself a score of 6.9.



11 Top-grade study programmes

The Graafschap College received an excellent rating in the 2019 MBO Guide. The school achieved a shared ninth place and no less than 11 study programmes received the designation Top-grade Study Programme. The Furniture maker/interior fitter/boat fitter programme was declared the best in the Netherlands!

These are the 11 top-grade study programmes at the Graafschap College:

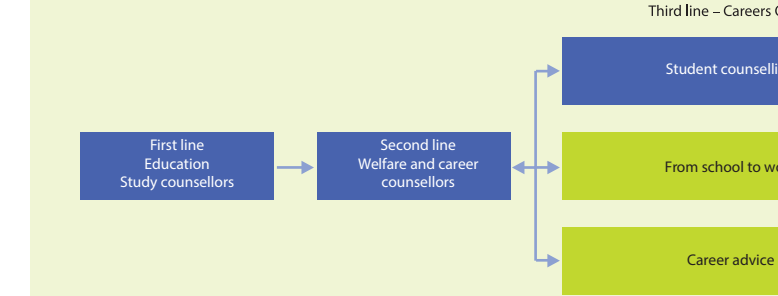
- Furniture maker/interior fitter/boat fitter
- Sports and exercise coordinator: neighbourhood, education and sport
- Sports and exercise coordinator: sports, exercise and health
- Sports and exercise coordinator: sports and exercise science
- Sports and exercise coordinator: sports instruction, training and coaching
- Sports and exercise supervisor
- Business administrator
- Financial and administrative employee
- Junior assistant accountant
- ICT management employee
- ICT employee



The MBO Guide is published every year. It compares various aspects of the 66 Dutch institutions that provide vocational education and training. Programmes with a high total score are given the designation 'top-grade' and are regarded to be among the best in the Netherlands.

Expert personal guidance and support

At the Graafschap College each student is given all the personal guidance and support they need. Study counsellors or mentors provide basic ('first line') support. If a student needs more or specialised support, they can see the welfare counsellor or the careers adviser of their course or department ('second line'). The second line counsellor can refer students to other forms of counselling or guidance, usually through the Graafschap College Loopbaanplein (Careers Office). At the Careers Office ('third line') various organisations work together, offering support in matters ranging from dyslexia, personal finance and psychological issues, to job search, work experience places, and school and career choices. In 2018 the Careers Office gave counselling to 1,811 students, which amounts to 20% of the total number of students at the Graafschap College.



Low drop-out rates

For years now, dropout rates have been falling at the Graafschap College. Also, the percentage of students leaving our school without a qualification has been significantly lower than the national average. We have put special programmes in place to monitor students and offer support to those who need it. Whether a student wants to switch courses, needs a time-out to re-evaluate their study or career choices, or needs help in getting a qualification in a different manner, specialized staff are there to help.



Premature school leavers (reference date 1 October)					
	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Graafschap College	4.9%	4.2%	3.4%	3.9%	3.8%
National average	5.8%	5.4%	5.1%	5.2%	5.4%

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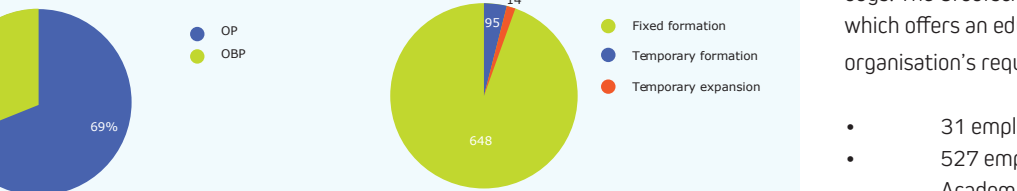
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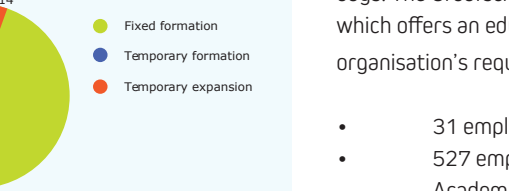
943 employees get the job done!

On 31 December 2018 the Graafschap College had a workforce of 943 employees, amounting to a total of 757 FTEs.

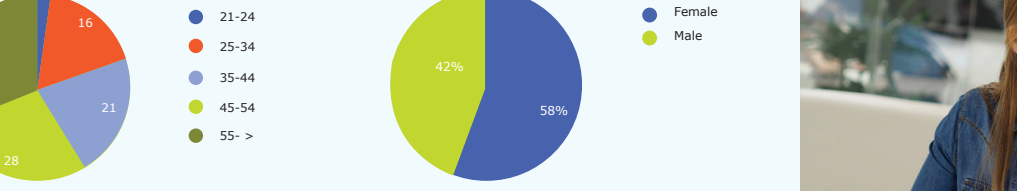
Ratio of educational staff (OP) to support and management staff (OBP)



Formation



Age group percentages of workforce



Ratio male/female



Ongoing professionalisation

Providing high-quality education is our absolute top priority, and the professionalism of our employees is an important precondition for this. Teachers and other staff are stimulated to improve their professional standards all the time, through training programmes, further education, and coaching, as well as attending symposia and study days. The Graafschap College has a dedicated department, the Graafschap Academy, which offers an educational programme that fits both the employees' wishes and the organisation's requirements. Some facts and figures relating to 2018:

- 31 employees followed an internal or external study programme
- 527 employees took part in one or more activities at the Graafschap Academy, which amounts to 55% of the workforce
- Employees participated in activities at the Graafschap Academy 1,216 times



Pushing back the boundaries

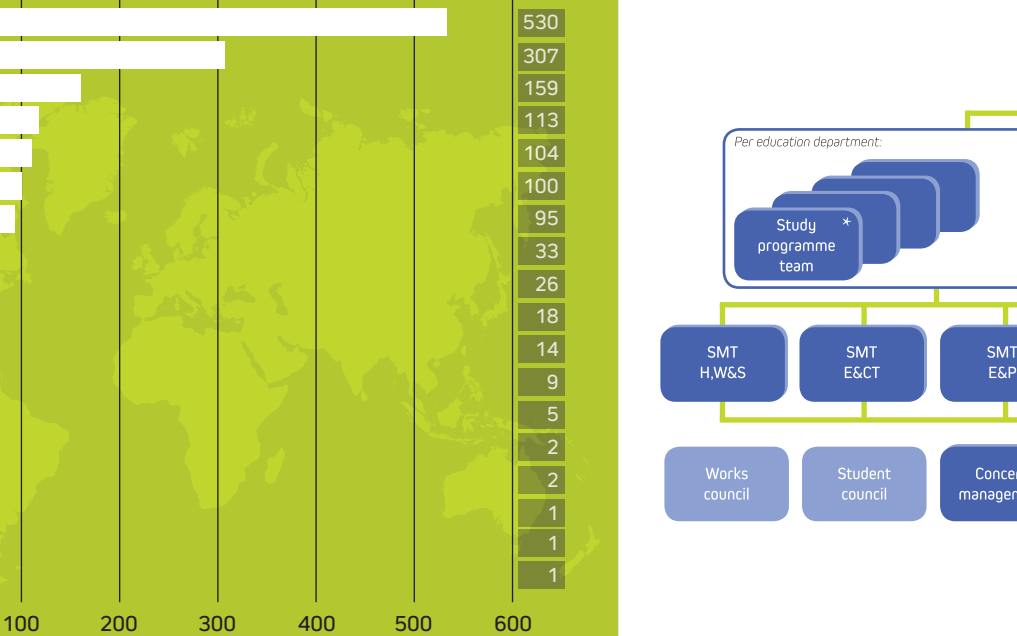
Globalisation is increasing all the time and boundaries are fading. International cooperation is becoming increasingly important. Being located so close to the German border, Euregional cooperation is of particular importance to the Graafschap College. We work closely with our German partners in educational, socio-economic and cultural matters. We also offer our students and staff various opportunities to broaden their horizons and increase their expertise, in international exchanges, internships and other activities, inside and outside of Europe. Our goal is that in 2020:

- 10% of our students have participated in an international exchange or internship for at least two weeks during their studies;
- 30% of our employees have participated in an international exchange programme;
- International activities have become a fixed component of our study programmes, including so-called internationalisation at home*.

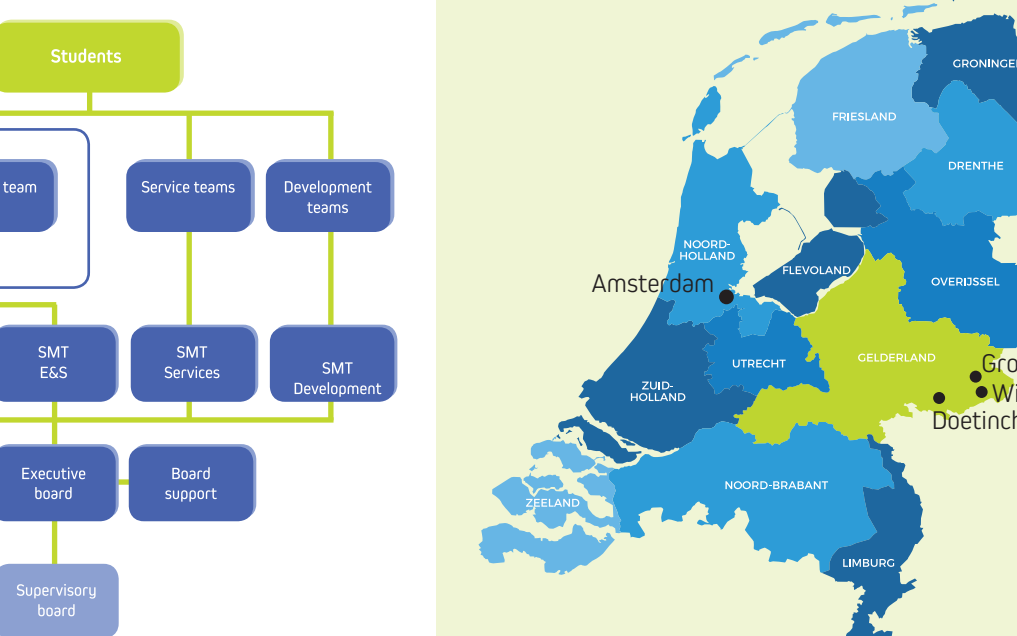
In 2018, 1,540 students and 240 employees took part in an international activity. 225 students and 61 employees made use of an Erasmus+ grant. The Graafschap College was visited by 386 foreign students and 21 additional foreign guests.

* for example: offering parts of the study programme in a foreign language, inviting foreign lecturers, internships with international businesses, or participation in international projects.

Where did our students go in 2018?



Organisation chart of the Graafschap College



* The number of study programme teams differs per education department

Location of the Graafschap College in the Netherlands



A brief summary of the Graafschap College

