



agency for science and higher education croatia

# Central Applications of Study Programs in the Republic of Croatia

**ERI SEE**

EDUCATION REFORM INITIATIVE  
OF SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

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CENTRAL  
APPLICATIONS  
OFFICE



# Content

- history of State Matura and central applications
- IT system for applications to higher education institutions
- conditions for admission
- additional tests
- rankings



**2008**

- protests after the introduction of State Matura – an agreement with HEIs had not been reached yet on accepting the State Matura results instead of entrance exams



2009

- ❑ Central Applications Office at the Agency for Science and Higher Education founded
- ❑ the majority of HEIs abolished entrance exams and started using State Matura results instead – **agreement with HEIs reached**
- ❑ trial version of State Matura and trial version of central applications for study programs



**2010**

- the beginning of central applications for all undergraduate, graduate and integrated study programs
  - total of 754 study programs



## 2011

☐ 42.190 applicants

- 5.397 failed the State Matura

- 532 non-verified applicants

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= 36.261 candidates in rankings

☐ 36.827 enrolment quota

☐ 33.828 candidates who have earned the right to enroll



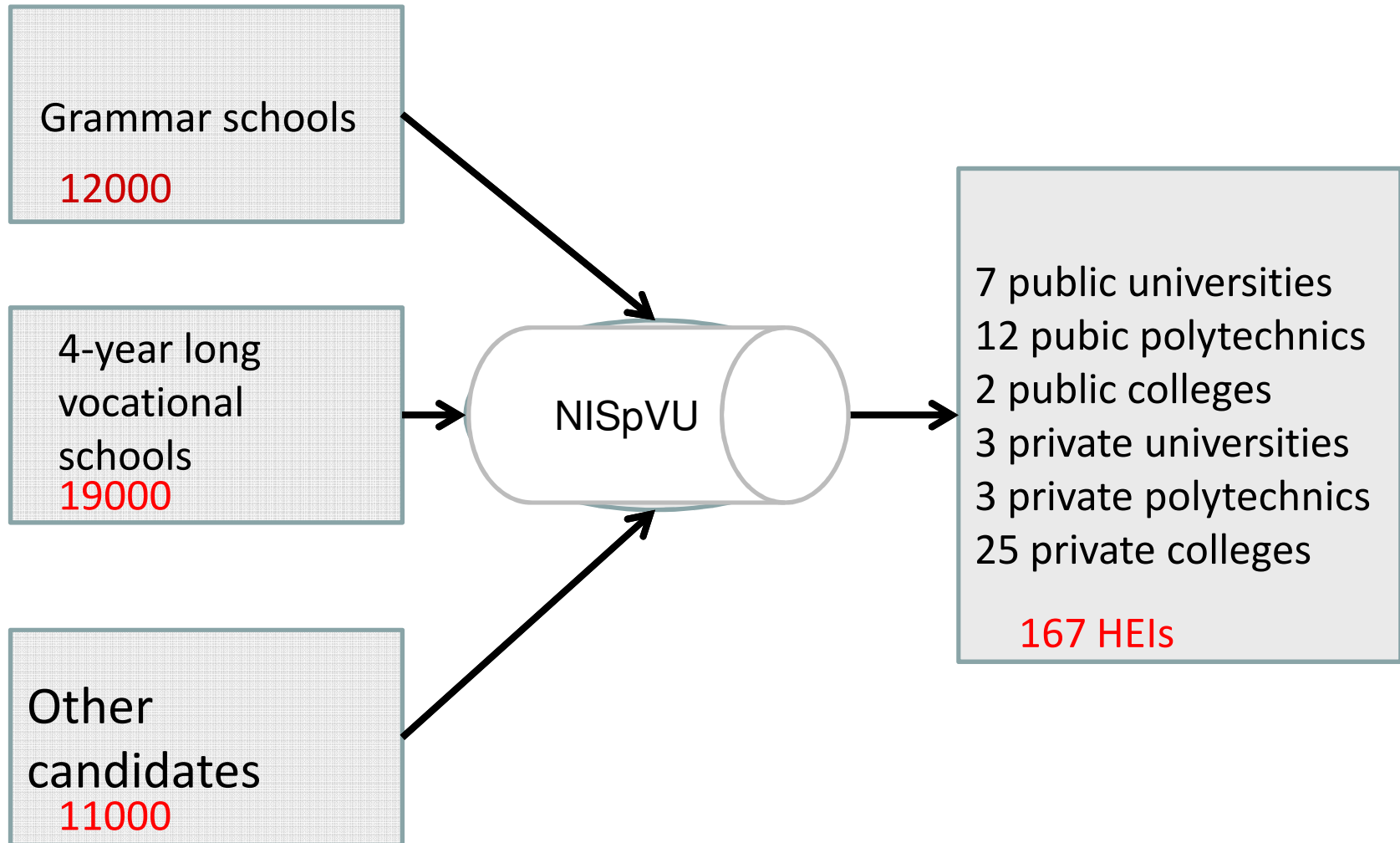
**2012**

☐ 40.413 applicants

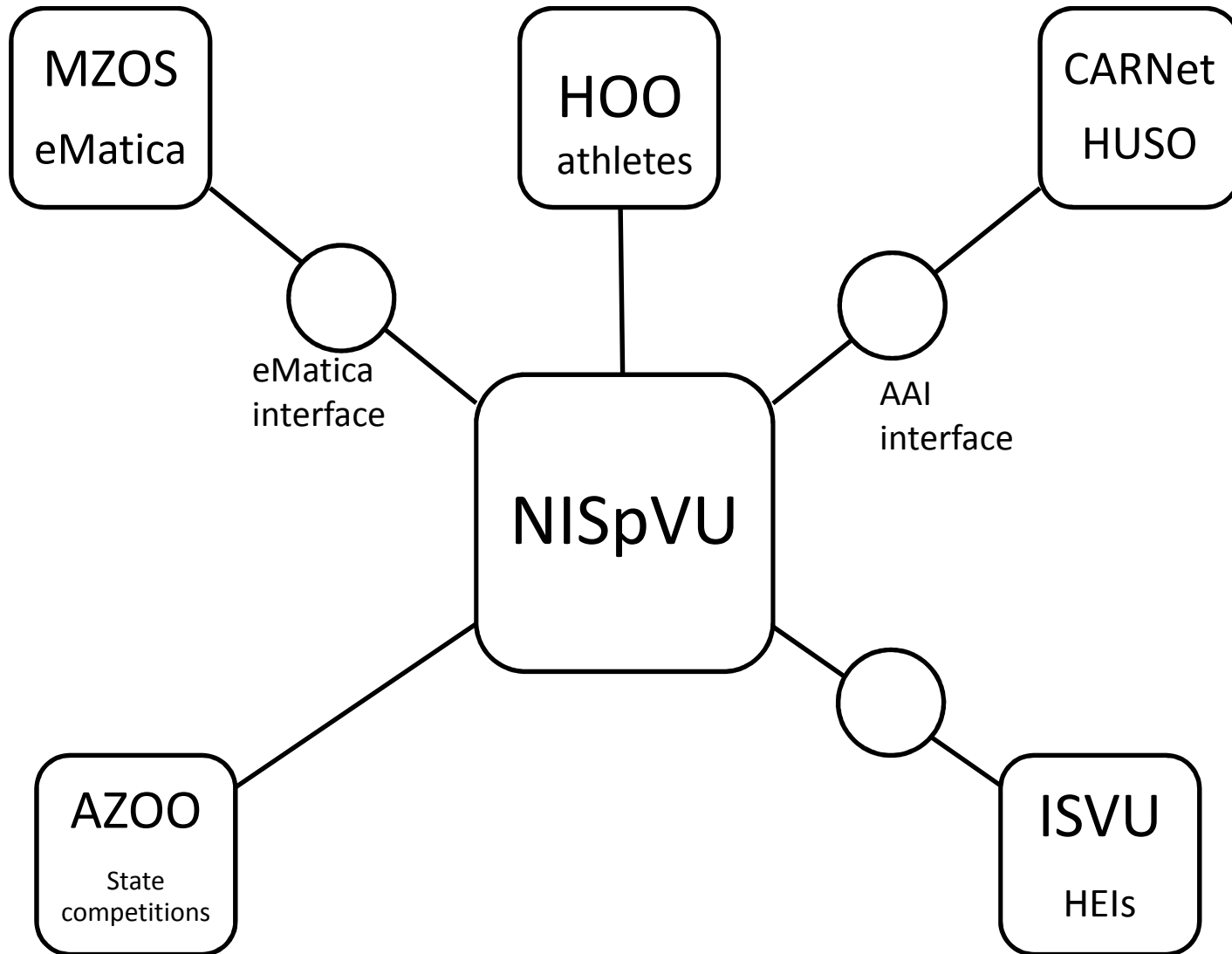
☐ 35.847 enrolment quota

☐ 31.857 candidates who have earned the right to enroll





# NISpVU System Scheme



## Possibilities

- ❑ application of 10 study programs
- ❑ unlimited applications of double major study programs at the same HEI
- ❑ the possibility of changing priorities regarding study programs
- ❑ applications time equals to about 7 months
- ❑ once the study programs are chosen, the system automatically assigns necessary State Matura exams
- ❑ first State Matura results
- ❑ change of priorities and application of a new study program is possible even in the last second before the final rankings are issued



## Conditions of enrolment

- ❑ conditions of enrolment for all study programs are published on the website
- ❑ they change annually, before applications proces start, according to HEIs needs
- ❑ HEIs mostly held the same conditions of enrolment that they have had before central application system,
- ❑ State Matura exams have replaced the entrance exams
  - secondary school grade average,
  - each State Matura exam,
  - knowledge competition results,
  - athletes' categories,
  - additional examinations
  - other special achievements



## Additional examinations

- ❑ additional examinations of knowledge, skills and competences have been introduced instead of entrance exams
- ❑ applications and results are processed through the system
- ❑ 45 HEIs have the additional examinations
- ❑ i.e. Faculty of Dentistry –test of psychomotor skills, Musical Academy – singing
- ❑ only one HEI abolished some State Matura exams and introduced its own exams



## Additional value

☐ two websites:

- [www.postani-student.hr](http://www.postani-student.hr) for application of study programs, important information and notifications
- [www.studij.hr](http://www.studij.hr) for more information on the study programs and the process of application – web application for comparison of the study programs

☐ phone calls and e-mails – helpdesk



## Role of higher education institutions

- less pressure on HEIs
- if there is no additional examinations of knowledge, skills and competitions, it is only necessary to deliver the conditions of enrolment and quotas
- final rankings are directly transferred into the HEIs' information system
- each HEI has at least one coordinator who has access to the system
- they have insight into all information related to their HEI and to a whole set of statistical data
- results of all their candidates



# Rankings

- ❑ temporary rankings from the beginning of applications
- ❑ candidates can see where they stand in rankings for each applied study programs at any time
- ❑ rankings change gradually as new grades, State Matura results, etc. are entered
- ❑ candidates will get the right of enrolment for one study program, and that will be the one which is on top of their priorities, and for which they have a sufficient number of points and for which they meet all the priorities



## For the end...

- the system is centered on candidates
- public universities, polytechnics and colleges are satisfied with the central application
- the number of candidates who compete for public HEIs has risen
- private HEIs cannot be filled through central application



**Thank you for your attention!**



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