

# Regulations of the PhD Programme in Health Sciences

---

## Art. 1 Scope of Application

In compliance with and without prejudice to the University Regulations for PhD Programmes, these regulations provide specific guidelines regarding the activities of PhD candidates enrolled in the PhD Programme in Health Sciences, particularly with respect to practical aspects of the study path and procedural requirements not addressed or regulated by the aforementioned University Regulations.

---

## Art. 2 Research Projects: Preliminary Declaration

Within six months from the beginning of the PhD programme, each candidate must submit one or more preliminary research projects, providing a document signed by the candidate and countersigned by the curriculum supervisor.

---

## Art. 3 Research Project for the Final Thesis

At the end of the second year of the PhD programme, the candidate must submit a detailed research project drafted according to the standard rules used for research project proposals. Unless exceptions are motivated and agreed upon with the tutor and the PhD coordinator, this project—fully or in part—will constitute the basis of the final thesis.

---

## Art. 4 Tutor

The curriculum supervisor shall act as tutor or shall appoint a tutor chosen among faculty members belonging to the same academic sector (SSD) or a closely related one. Exceptions apply to candidates conducting research off-site, for whom the PhD Board will appoint an ad hoc tutor upon proposal from the curriculum supervisor.

---

## Art. 5 Educational Credits

With regard to educational activities (ADE) and seminars offered to students, credits shall be awarded according to the following scheme:

- (a) **Participation in seminars** organized by the PhD Board specifically for PhD candidates:  
3 hours = 1 CFU;
- (b) **Participation in ECM activities** on topics relevant to the curriculum:  
3 hours = 1 CFU;
- (c) **Attendance at national scientific society congresses** as an observer: 5 CFU;
- (d) **Attendance at national scientific society congresses** as a speaker: 10 CFU;
- (e) **Participation in Summer Schools or courses** organized by international scientific societies lasting at least 2 days (each event must be approved by the curriculum supervisor): 14 CFU;
- (f) **Attendance at international scientific society congresses** as an observer: 7 CFU;
- (g) **Attendance at international scientific society congresses** as a speaker: 14 CFU.

The third year of the PhD programme is dedicated exclusively to research activities. Any participation in educational activities will be optional.

**Notes:**

To document activities, the following is required:

- for lectures: the instructor’s signature on the student’s logbook;
  - for events: a participation certificate and an annotation in the student’s logbook signed by the curriculum supervisor;
  - for other activities (e.g., master programmes): the number of credits shall be agreed upon each time with the curriculum supervisor.
- 

**Art. 6 Public Presentation of Research Progress**

At the end of each PhD year, during a formal meeting attended by all PhD candidates and the PhD Board, each candidate must present the progress of their research, including a list of publications. The presentation will be kept on file.

---

**Art. 7 Final Thesis**

By December of the final year of the PhD programme, each candidate must submit their final thesis together with a detailed curriculum vitae and list of scientific publications. The thesis will be evaluated by **two external experts** for each curriculum. One external expert may evaluate theses from different curricula.

---

**Art. 8 Final Dissertation**

By May of the following year, the candidate must defend their final dissertation during a formal meeting attended by all PhD candidates, the PhD Board, and in particular the members of the Examination Committee appointed by the Rector.

---

**Art. 9 Mandatory Publications**

No candidate may obtain the PhD degree unless, over the three-year period, they have published (an acceptance letter is sufficient) **at least two articles in peer-reviewed journals with an impact factor**, related to their curriculum.