



**ACADEMIC REGULATIONS
RESEARCH DOCTORATE PROGRAMMES**

Issued with Rectoral Decree no. 156/2022



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Article 1 – Purpose and scope of the regulations

These regulations govern the activation and operation of research doctoral programmes with administrative headquarters at Humanitas University (HUNIMED) and the University's participation, including in an associated form, in research doctoral programmes based at other Italian or foreign universities.

Article 2 – General characteristics of doctoral programmes with administrative headquarters at HUNIMED

HUNIMED's doctoral programmes are based on principles of non-discrimination, with the admission of the most qualified students and the promotion of equal treatment of people.

The University adheres to the principles of integrity in scientific research and imparts methodological knowledge in OPEN and FAIR Science to its students and researchers by fostering the development of shared competencies and adherence to ethical principles that are methodologically oriented towards the sharing, quality, rigorousness, reproducibility and transferability of research activity.

The University fosters the development of highly qualified professional profiles by directly involving third-cycle university students in multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary and cross-sectoral research programmes with an international and transnational focus. More specifically, HUNIMED promotes the provision of training activities aimed at fostering the development of transversal and translational competencies in the biomedical field by activating joint pathways between multiple doctoral programmes and other third-cycle higher education pathways, including residency programmes in the field of health.

In accordance with internationally agreed requirements and in agreement with the relevant teaching committee, the University may issue the Doctor Europaeus certificate to students who obtain a research doctoral degree at its campus.

Article 3 – Establishment and renewal of doctoral programmes and adherence to doctoral programmes under special agreement

The establishment and renewal of research doctoral programmes with administrative headquarters at HUNIMED, as well as affiliations with doctoral programmes based at other universities, including those of national interest, are approved by the Board of Directors, upon the Rector's proposal, after consulting the relevant structures and bodies.

Proposals for establishment and renewal are accompanied by the opinion of the Quality Assurance Unit, which may call on the support of the evaluation committee and/or the joint committees of the relevant departments to analyse the proposal.

The proposal to join doctoral programmes with administrative headquarters at other universities must be adequately justified and must specify the University's financial and organisational commitments.

Article 4 – Relationship with residency schools

According to the provisions of Article 7 of Ministerial Decree 226/2021, doctoral programmes may allow for places reserved for students enrolled in medical residency schools in each cycle. The available places are indicated in the call for applications to the individual doctoral programmes, and candidates are selected

based on their aptitude for scientific research, and the knowledge and competencies shown and acquired during their medical specialisation.

Successful candidates must apply for clearance from the Residency Council of the school in which they are enrolled, which is required to express an opinion on the consistency of the doctoral project with the school's teaching objectives and the compatibility of doctoral programme attendance with the activity and commitment envisaged by the school, and to certify the research activities carried out by the student during their specialisation.

Taking into account the opinion of the Residency School Council, the Doctoral Programme Teaching Committee will confirm admission to the programme and decide on any shortening of its length. However, the doctoral programme cannot be shorter than two years.

During the period of joint attendance, the discipline envisaged for physicians in specialised training must take precedence. Additionally, there is an established incompatibility between the doctoral scholarship and any emoluments, regardless of their designation, received in connection with activities at the residency school.

Article 5 – Associate doctorate

In order to effectively co-ordinate the research activity of third-cycle education at national and international level, the University may enter into special agreements and/or establish consortia with the following entities:

- a) other Italian or foreign universities, with the possibility of awarding a multiple or joint final degree
- b) public or private research institutions, Italian or foreign, that meet high cultural and scientific qualification requirements and have appropriate scientific facilities and equipment
- c) companies, including foreign businesses, that carry out qualified research and development
- d) public administrations, cultural institutions and research infrastructures of European or international importance, for the implementation of specific research and development or innovation programmes

In accordance with the principle of reciprocity, the agreements, including consortium agreements, must provide for effective sharing of teaching, learning and research activities, fair burden-sharing, criteria for regulating forms of financial support, the availability of adequate operational and scientific facilities, criteria for the exchange and mobility of teaching staff and doctoral students, and the possible award of multiple or joint degrees.

The partners or consortium members must undertake to ensure the activation of doctoral cycles, generally for at least three years, and to comply with these regulations, without prejudice to express exceptions provided for in the agreements or special agreements, which, in the case of international inter-university cooperation, may also concern the composition of the teaching committee.

In the case of Doctorates activated in association with public research entities, pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 2, letter b) of Ministerial Decree no. 226/2021, researchers in the roles of leading researchers, established researchers and recognised researchers of those entities may also serve on the committee.

In the case of participation in doctoral programmes of national interest, the University may also define the terms of its participation in derogation from the previous points.



Article 6 – Industrial doctorates

Doctoral programmes may be designated as "Industrial doctorate" in consideration of the stipulation of specific special agreements or consortia that expressly provide for participation in the definition and implementation of the educational project by companies, including foreign businesses, that carry out qualified research and development activities. In such cases, the administrative headquarters of the doctorate is the university that is responsible for awarding the academic title.

This is without prejudice, however, to the possibility, provided for in Article 45 of Legislative Decree no. 81/2015, of activating apprenticeship contracts aimed at awarding a research doctoral degree. To this end, special agreements must be signed that establish the length and criteria, including those of time, of the training at the employer's expense, and guarantee the predominance of the research activity.

The possibility of concluding special agreements with public and private institutions for the funding of individual doctoral positions on existing doctorates is also confirmed.

The calls for applications may reserve a quota of the available places for employees of companies or partner institutions, even if the latter are not directly involved in the educational project's definition and implementation. These employees must be engaged in highly qualified research and development activities and will be admitted to the doctoral programme upon successfully completing the relevant selection process. In such cases, stipends remain the responsibility of the employer.

Article 7 – Establishment of the Doctoral Schools and connecting structures

Pursuant to Article 6, paragraph 7 of Ministerial Decree no. 226/2021, doctoral programmes may be organised into Doctoral Schools with the task of coordinating and managing common activities. These schools may also collaborate with other postgraduate training pathways.

To promote the development of transdisciplinary and cross-sectoral research activities, the University may establish connecting structures between university departments and research centres. This may also be done through special agreement or in consortium with other public and private entities.

The Board of Directors decides whether to establish Doctoral Schools and connecting structures on the proposal of the Academic Senate after consultation with the relevant bodies and structures.

The establishment proposal referred to in the preceding paragraph must contain, inter alia:

- a) a description of the school's project and organisation
- b) the school's draft regulations
- c) the list of the doctoral programmes pertaining to the school

The school's regulations must set out the school's objectives and management procedures and define the school's constituent bodies, specifying their tasks and the procedures for appointing and reappointing each office.



Article 8 – Doctoral programme bodies with administrative headquarters at the University

The following are doctoral programme bodies:

- a) the Teaching Committee
- b) the Coordinator
- c) the Executive Committee

The composition of the Doctoral Programme Teaching Committee is determined according to current regulations and may be supplemented and assisted by other members belonging to university bodies and public research institutions or by experts with established qualifications belonging to public or private institutions, or who have contributed to the scientific debate at national or international level in the relevant field of research for the doctorate.

The members of the committee must meet or exceed the minimum requirements laid down by the current regulations for the accreditation of research doctoral programmes.

Application for membership of the teaching committee is voluntary. The application must be sent to the coordinator, accompanied by an up-to-date curriculum vitae and list of publications, a declaration of non-membership of other doctoral committees at Italian Universities and, in the case of University professors and researchers belonging to another University, authorisation issued by the department or University to which they belong. Membership of the doctoral committee will be renewed annually upon verification of the continuing fulfilment of the requirements for the accreditation of doctoral programmes.

The teaching committee meets at least once a year to deliberate on issues relating to the organisation, management and quality of the doctoral programme. Resolutions are adopted by a majority vote of those present. In the event of a tie, the coordinator has the casting vote.

The teaching committee is convened by the coordinator, or at the request of at least 1/5 of the members entitled to vote. The summons must be sent at least five days before the meeting by the methods deemed most appropriate to ensure its receipt. In cases of urgency, the summons may be sent no less than 24 hours in advance. The agenda should generally be sent with the summons. An absolute majority of committee members with voting rights is required for meetings to be valid. The coordinator may convene virtual meetings or allow one or more members to attend the meeting through the use of audio and video connection systems, ensuring the possibility for each member to speak and express their opinion and vote. The coordinator may also convene virtual meetings based on the prior sharing of the documentation to be examined and deliberated.

At the invitation of the coordinator, persons who are not teaching committee members but whose contribution is deemed useful because of their scientific, didactic, technical or financial support for the programme's activities, including representatives of the students enrolled on the programme and tutors from outside the teaching committee, may attend teaching committee meetings, or the discussion of specific points, without the right to vote.



By its own resolution, the teaching committee may delegate the executive committee to perform all or part of its functions.

COORDINATOR

The coordinator is the head of the doctoral programme, directs its activities and ensures that the quality standards set by the University are maintained. They represent the teaching committee in the University bodies and in relations with external bodies.

The function of coordinator may only be exercised in one committee at national level.

The doctoral coordinator must possess a high scientific qualification, attested based on the requirements laid down by the current regulations governing access to the position of tenured full professor.

The coordinator is appointed by the Rector subject to the authorisation of the Board of Directors and is selected from among the full-time professors with adequate scientific qualifications, as defined by the ministerial guidelines for the accreditation of doctoral programmes. The coordinator chairs the doctoral committee.

The coordinator may draw on the support of special committees composed mainly of committee members to carry out specific activities and functions related to the operation of the doctoral programme. There is no remuneration for participation in these committees.

The term of office is three years and is renewable.

The coordinator performs the following functions and duties:

- a) coordinating and organising the teaching and learning and administrative activities of the doctoral programme, working together with the administrative offices in the programme's accreditation and quality assessment procedures
- b) convening and chairing the teaching committee and attending to the execution of its resolutions
- c) after consultation with the teaching committee, authorising students, directly or through their teaching staff or assigned supervisors, to travel off-site to carry out research or internship/traineeship activities at consortium universities or at other institutions or research centres
- d) notifying the competent administrative offices of any unjustified student absences for the purposes of suspension of the grant payment and exclusion from the doctoral programme
- e) drawing up a detailed annual report on the programme's status as a function of degree programme quality monitoring activities
- f) verifying the expenses for the ordinary running of the doctoral programme from the funds allocated for that purpose by the Board of Directors
- g) identifying, from among the members of the executive committee, a "Vice Coordinator" who, in their absence, may perform functions to be subsequently ratified by the coordinator and/or the committee

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The executive committee consists of a maximum of four members including the coordinator, who chairs it and who, in the event of a tie, has the casting vote.
2. The members of the executive committee are nominated by the coordinator, after consulting the doctoral committee.
3. The provisions laid down for the functioning of the teaching committee are adopted for the functioning of the executive committee.
5. The coordinator may assign to individual members of the executive committee specific functions deemed necessary for the pursuit of the doctoral programme's management and organisational objectives. Specifically, the members of the executive committee are entrusted with the coordination of any committees established to assist the coordinator in the running of the doctoral programme and the fulfilment of tasks.
6. In the event of the resignation, termination or inability to serve of a member of the executive committee for a period of more than three months, they may be replaced by the coordinator.

Article 9 – Length and functioning of doctoral programmes

1. Doctoral programmes normally last three years and can be divided into several curricula and pathways depending on the teaching and learning objectives and the number and composition of the teaching committee.
2. To promote forms of doctorates by special agreement with companies and greater flexibility in participation in the programmes, part-time pathways may be activated in which the pathway length is extended to four years.
3. The official language of the doctoral programmes may be Italian or English. Depending on the teaching and learning objectives, the programmes may also be multilingual.

SUSPENSIONS AND ABSENCES

1. Attendance of the doctoral programme is compulsory and presupposes a full-time commitment.
2. Attendance of the doctoral programme is compulsorily suspended in the event of maternity, paternity, adoption and fostering, in accordance with the relevant current legislation. It is also compulsorily suspended in the event of any illness or accident lasting more than thirty days and duly documented.
3. Attendance of the doctoral programme may also be suspended, for no more than six months, at the doctoral student's request and with the prior authorisation of the teaching committee, for particular and serious personal or family reasons, to be documented. Attendance of the doctoral programme is in any case suspended during attendance of active clinical training. Solely for the duration of the suspension, no scholarship or other equivalent funding will be paid.
4. On completion of the period of suspension or absence, the student may resume the programme by notifying the coordinator and the relevant offices. Administrative deadlines and the disbursement of

any grants will be deferred for a period equal to the duration of the suspension. The teaching committee will decide on the procedures for making up the teaching and learning activity, it being understood that under no circumstances may the normal length of the programme be shortened.

5. Any absences not agreed in advance and not promptly reported in writing to the Internal Supervisor or coordinator may constitute grounds for exclusion from the doctoral programme.
6. For demonstrable reasons that do not allow the doctoral thesis to be submitted within the timeframe provided for by the length of the course, the teaching committee may, at the doctoral student's request, grant an extension of a maximum of twelve months, without further financial burden on the University.
7. The teaching committee may also decide to extend the length of the doctoral programme by a period not exceeding twelve months for justified scientific needs, ensuring in this case the corresponding extension of the scholarship or equivalent financial support enjoyed by the doctoral student.
8. Periods of extension and suspension may not exceed a total of eighteen months, without prejudice to specific cases provided for by law.

EXCLUSION

1. Having heard the internal supervisor, and by reasoned resolution passed by the majority of those entitled to vote, the teaching committee may decide to exclude a student from the doctoral programme, with the consequent loss of the right to the grant in the case of:
 - a) a breach of rules and regulations or of the duties imposed on the doctoral student
 - b) performance of work that has not been notified in advance and/or authorised by the teaching committee
 - c) unjustified and prolonged absences, or prolonged unavailability
2. A student may also be excluded should they not be admitted to the programme years following the first, or should they fail to pass the final examination.
3. In the event of exclusion from the programme, the scholarship or other equivalent support will be immediately suspended.

Article 10 – Procedures for access to and participation in doctoral programmes

1. Applications for admission to the doctoral programmes may be submitted, without any restrictions on nationality, by anyone who, at the time of the call for applications, holds a master's degree or an appropriate qualification obtained abroad, or by anyone who will obtain it by the starting date of the doctoral programme, under penalty of exclusion from admission. Anyone already enrolled in the same doctoral programme may not apply for admission.

The suitability of the foreign qualification will be ascertained by the Programme Admission Selection Committee, in compliance with the relevant current legislation in Italy and in the country where the qualification was awarded as well as with international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies.

2. The call for admission to the doctoral programme is issued by rectoral decree and is advertised electronically on the University websites, on the Euraxess website and on the website of the Italian Ministry of University and Research. The call will be widely disseminated within the relevant scientific communities through appropriate means indicated by the members of the teaching committee.
3. The notice, issued in Italian and English, states:
 - a) the legal length and teaching and learning objectives of the doctoral programme
 - b) the deadline and procedure for submitting applications
 - c) the requirements for admission to the doctoral programme and the criteria for evaluating candidates
 - d) the criteria under which the selection will be carried out, specifying that the examination(s) will be conducted exclusively in English
 - e) the number of places available
 - f) the possible quota of places reserved for scholarship holders from foreign countries; or specific international mobility programmes; or for employees of companies engaged in highly qualified activities that may join the doctoral programme as industrial partners
 - g) the maximum number of surplus candidates to be admitted, if any
 - h) the number of scholarships or equivalent forms of financial support, and their amount, in relation to the individual positions available
 - i) the number of any apprenticeship contracts and any other forms of financial support, the amount of which must be at least equivalent to that of the doctoral scholarships
 - j) a description of the research project for grants awarded on specific topics
 - k) the amount of the scholarship increases for periods spent abroad
 - l) the criteria for the disbursement of the scholarship
 - m) cases of suspension and exclusion from the grant
 - n) criteria for admission to the years following the first year
4. Admission to the doctoral programme is by means of a selection procedure with comparative evaluation of candidates based on qualifications and with possible interview or knowledge tests on subjects related to the doctoral programme. The selection criteria are specified in the call for applications. The interviews are public and may also be conducted remotely. Equal treatment of all candidates must be ensured when conducting the interviews.
5. The Selection Committee for admission to the doctoral programme is appointed on the recommendation of the programme coordinator. It must be composed of persons with proven qualifications in the disciplines pertaining to the scientific areas of the doctoral programme and respect gender balance where possible. If the call provides for a selection for specific research projects financed



by external bodies, persons representing those bodies may sit on the committee as external experts. The committee selects a president and secretary from among its members.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR ADMISSION TO THE YEARS FOLLOWING THE FIRST YEAR

1. First Year Review Report: upon completion of the first academic year, students must present their educational project and its progress to the Selection and Evaluation Committee. The project must be submitted in written form after first receiving the approval of the supervisors. In the event that the educational project is not approved by the committee, students may not be admitted to the second year, with the consequent loss of the benefits associated with the status of doctoral programme student. A possible "conditional admission" to the second year is provided for in the event of a partially positive evaluation by the committee, highlighting critical points and suggesting amendments to the training pathway to be implemented by the end of the second year of the doctoral programme.
2. Poster: at the end of the second academic year, doctoral students are required to present the progress of their doctoral studies by creating a poster relating to their assigned doctoral project. The poster session is to all intents and purposes an intermediate test for admission to the third and final year of the Doctorate. The poster should contain the following sections: *Abstract, Introduction, Results and Conclusions*. The poster submitted will be assessed by an internal committee, which will consider the following aspects: clarity of the poster's content, clarity of presentation, quality of the work and evaluation of the student's real future prospects of progressing and correctly completing the Doctorate pathway. The committee is appointed by the Selection and Evaluation Committee and issues a written judgement on the above criteria that decides for or against admission to the following year.

KEY FIGURES

The following figures are appointed for each doctoral student at the beginning of their studies, each with specific competencies: an Internal Supervisor, responsible for the assigned project, an Internal Tutor and an External Supervisor, proposed by the Internal Supervisor in agreement with the student and approved by the Selection and Evaluation Committee according to the specific educational project to be developed during the doctoral programme.

1. The Internal Supervisor is responsible for the educational research project (on the topic assigned to the doctoral student) and has the following functions:
 - a) monitoring and encouraging the student's integration into the doctoral programme
 - b) supporting the student in defining research topics by assisting them in proposing and planning the individual study plan, as well as in preparing the intermediate assessments and the doctoral thesis before the Viva Session
 - c) approving the intermediate reports and the doctoral thesis

- d) making available to the student the instrumental and material research resources necessary to carry out their research project; expressing an opinion on the student's request to use resources aimed at conducting activities consistent with the student's specific training plan
- e) promptly reporting to the teaching committee any difficulties, including those of an ethical- or behavioural nature, that may arise during the doctorate pathway of the student entrusted to them
- f) for doctoral students enrolled in the clinical curriculum, an internal clinical supervisor and an internal research supervisor are identified (the two figures may coincide in the case of a clinical research supervisor)
- g) proposing the names of the External Supervisor and the Internal Tutor
- h) proposing, in collaboration with the External Supervisor, the names of the examiners for the Viva session

2. The External Supervisor has the following functions:

- a) supporting the internal supervisor's work in the development of the research project and the preparation of intermediate assessments and the doctoral thesis by means of one-to-one meetings, either in person or remotely, at least once a year
- b) approving, in collaboration with the Internal Supervisor, the intermediate reports and the doctoral thesis for the Viva Session
- c) proposing, in collaboration with the Internal Supervisor, the names of the examiners for the Viva Session

3. the Internal Tutor has the following functions:

- a) promptly reporting to the Selection and Evaluation Committee any problems relating to the interaction between the student and the Internal Supervisor
- b) any other function deemed useful for the successful completion of the doctoral programme by the student entrusted to them

Article 11 – Doctoral award

VIVA SESSION AND FINAL THESIS DISCUSSION

1. Viva Seminar and Thesis Discussion: the doctoral thesis must be submitted by the end of the final year of the course to the internal and external supervisors and forwarded to the relevant offices by the deadlines indicated in each case.
2. For the thesis evaluation, two external examiners, at least one of whom is a university lecturer, are appointed by the supervisors, in agreement with the doctoral student, and approved by the programme coordinator. The examiners indicated must have highly qualified experience. They may be from foreign institutions, from outside the University or from other entities that may be involved in awarding the doctoral degree. External examiners must not have had any collaborative



relationship with doctoral students or their internal supervisors in the previous three years before the Viva.

3. The Viva session consists of a public seminar and a private evaluation session with the aforementioned examiners.
4. The examiners are required to provide a detailed written assessment of the submitted thesis within thirty days of its receipt. This assessment should include comments and suggestions for possible improvements to be incorporated before the final submission of the doctoral thesis.
5. In the event of *minor amendments*, the candidate will have to make minor corrections to the thesis and will be able to discuss their final thesis in the first available examination session, without the need for the thesis to be re-approved. Minor amendments are indicated by the examiners in the Viva Examination Report, forwarded to the doctoral office and then shared with the candidate so that they may correct their paper.
6. In the case of *major amendments*, the comments are indicated by the examiners in the Viva Examination Report, forwarded to the doctoral office and then shared with the candidate, who has a maximum of six months to substantially modify their thesis. This must then be approved a second time by the examiners before the candidate can be admitted to the examination session.
7. Once the necessary changes have been made to the thesis, doctoral students are required to submit it to the relevant offices in its final version, following the instructions provided to them in relation to the degree award application. The thesis will be forwarded by these offices to the Selection Committee members.
8. The final discussion of the thesis takes place before a Selection Committee appointed for this purpose by the teaching committee and composed of six members, at least four of whom must be external to the awarding bodies. At least two-thirds of the committee members must be from an academic background.
9. At the end of the discussion, the committee sets out a reasoned and circumstantiated opinion on each candidate's form and awards an evaluation that can be "Eccellente – Lode", "Ottimo", "Molto buono" or "Buono" (excellent with honours, outstanding, very good or good). The examination does not result in a mark.
10. Absence from the thesis discussion is justified in the event of illness, unforeseeable circumstances or force majeure, to be substantiated by the appropriate documentation. Doctoral students in the above-mentioned situations are admitted to the discussion of their thesis in the following examination session. In the event of an unexcused absence from the final examination session, the doctoral student loses the right to graduate.

RETREAT DAY

The Retreat Day, the date of which is set each year by the programme coordinator, is the day devoted to the discussion of doctoral theses, following the Viva Session.



Article 12 – Scholarships and other forms of financial support

1. Scholarships and other forms of financial support are awarded for one year and are renewed on condition that the doctoral student has completed the programme of activities planned for the previous year, verified in accordance with the procedures set out in these Regulations.
2. The amount of the scholarship, to be paid in monthly instalments, is set at no less than the amount defined at national level by ministerial decree. Greater amounts may be awarded in connection with participation in funded projects for which specific competencies or aptitudes are required.
3. As an integral part of their educational project, students may be authorised by the teaching committee to carry out research activities abroad for a total period not exceeding 18 months, which may be noncontinuous. For stays abroad of 30 consecutive days or more, the scholarship is increased by 50% for a total period not exceeding 12 months. This period may be extended to 18 months for doctorates activated in co-tutorship. To apply, a written request, signed by the student's Internal Supervisor, must be sent to the Doctoral Office, specifying the objectives and criteria of the study programme to be carried out abroad, together with the date of departure and length of stay. A letter of invitation or acceptance from the host organisation must also be attached to this request.
3. In addition, each doctoral student receives a budget for research activities in Italy and abroad appropriate to the programme type and in any case not less than 10% of the minimum scholarship amount established at national level and financed from the resources available in the budget of the accredited bodies.

Article 13 – Rights and duties of doctoral students

ACCESS FEES, PROGRAMME ATTENDANCE AND DOCTORATE AWARD

1. The fees for admission to and attendance of the doctoral programme are decided by the Board of Directors and must be paid in a single annual instalment, for the first year at the time of registration and for the following two years by 31 October. The contributions include stamp duty and the regional tax for students' right to study. All doctoral students are required to pay fees annually.
2. Doctoral students enrolled in the clinical curriculum and simultaneously enrolled in the final year of specialisation at HUNIMED are required to pay the fee for residency schools.
3. Abandoning the doctorate does not under any circumstances entitle students to a refund of fees already paid.
4. Any doctoral student not up to date with the payment of fees may not carry out any activity related to the doctoral programme and will not be admitted to the evaluations for passing to the following year or to the end-of-course evaluation.

RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS

1. Admission to the doctoral programme entails an exclusive, full-time commitment and is not compatible with the role of university professor or researcher.
2. By enrolling in the doctoral programme, students undertake to:

- a) comply with the Code of Ethics of the doctoral programme's administrative headquarters and with the Code of Ethics adopted by the structure at which they mainly carry out their activity. Any instance not directly addressed by these Codes, or inadequately covered by them or by the regulations of the partner venues, must immediately be reported to the responsible teaching staff member and to the coordinator. They will then report to the committee, which is required to express an opinion on the matter
 - b) allow their behaviour to be inspired by the general principles of scientific integrity, by conducting their study and research activities according to criteria of honesty, precision, efficiency and objectivity
 - c) avoid all forms of plagiarism and misconduct
 - d) attend the courses, seminars, tutorials and teaching modules provided for in the doctoral programme, as well as carrying out continuous study and research activities within the framework of the structures set up for this purpose by the partner organisations
3. Individual students may submit a reasoned request for an amendment to their educational project to the of doctoral programme coordinator, who will bring it to the attention of the executive committee and the teaching committee.
 4. As an integral part of the educational project, and subject to the authorisation of their named supervisors, students on the doctoral programme may carry out supplementary teaching and tutoring activities on the first- and second-cycle degree programmes activated at partner universities within the maximum limit of forty hours in each academic year.
 5. Doctoral students in clinical subjects are given the possibility of performing up to a maximum of 20 hours of clinical work a week including work covered by special agreements.
 6. Students enrolled in the doctoral programme must appoint their own student representative to deal with teaching and organisational issues that need to be raised with the relevant committees. The student representative holds office for two years and cannot be renewed. The representative may be challenged through a motion signed by an absolute majority of the students in the programme and then submitted to the coordinator.

Article 14 – Quality assurance system

The University uses a quality assurance system to design and manage doctoral training that complies with the Standards for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), according to the guidelines provided by the National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes.

Article 15 – Transitional and final rules

For any matters not expressly covered by these Regulations, reference should be made to the current provisions and to the regulations of the University that is the administrative headquarters for the doctoral programme or of the affiliated structure where the doctoral student carries out their teaching and learning activities.