



**UMFT**

Universitatea de  
Medicină și Farmacie  
„Victor Babeș”  
din Timișoara

Regulation code: UMFVBT-REG/CDE/32/2020

Annex to Decision of the Senate no. 6/6022/27.05.2020

Approved by Decision of the Board of Directors no. 5821/21.05.2020

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# **INSTITUTIONAL REGULATION ON THE ORGANISATION AND FUNCTIONING OF DOCTORAL STUDIES WITHIN THE “VICTOR BABEȘ” UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY OF TIMIȘOARA**

	Date	Signature
Drafted by: CDE	19.05.2020	
Endorsed by the Legal Department		
Endorsed by the Standing Committee of the Senate for the Revision of Regulations and the University Charter		
Effective date:	27.05.2020	
Date of withdrawal:		



## **SECTION I.**

### **Institution organising doctoral studies (IODS)**

#### **CHAPTER I. General provisions**

##### **Art.1.**

*The Institutional regulation on the Organisation and Functioning of Doctoral Studies within the “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Timișoara is drafted by the Council for Doctoral Education (CDE), approved by the Board of Directors and endorsed by the University Senate, according to the provisions of the national legislation in force, as follows:*

1. Law no. 1/2011 on national education (LNE), with subsequent amendments and completions;
2. Law no. 53/2011 – The Labour Code;
3. Law no. 288/2004 regarding the organisation of university studies;
4. Law no. 206/2004 on good conduct in scientific research, with subsequent amendments and completions;
5. Government Decision no. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of doctoral studies with subsequent amendments and completions (GD 134/2016);
6. Order of the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sports no. 5691/2011 regarding the National Council for the Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates Regulation for the evaluation of habilitation theses;
7. European Directive no. 36/2005 with the completions from 2011 and 2013;
8. Order of the Minister of National Education no. 4843/01.08.2006 regarding the fields for doctoral studies for Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy;
9. Order of the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sports no. 4478/2011 regarding the national minimum criteria - National Council for the Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates panels P1, P2, P3;
10. Order no. 3482/2016 on the Regulation for the organisation and functioning of the National Council for the Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates with subsequent updates;
11. Order of the Minister of National Education and Scientific Research no. 6153/2016 on the authorisation, accreditation and periodic evaluation of Doctoral Schools;
12. The “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Timișoara Charter;
13. Internal regulations and decisions relevant to this activity.

##### **Art.2.**

- (1) Doctoral studies are upper level university studies whose aim is to develop competent human resources in carrying out original scientific research, and which conclude, after the doctoral thesis is defended, with the award of the doctoral degree, a title corresponding to the level 8 qualification in the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) and National Qualifications Framework (NQF).
- (2) Doctoral studies are organised only in accredited or provisionally authorised doctoral schools that operate within an institution organising doctoral studies (IODS).

##### **Art.3.**

- (1) “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Timișoara (UMFVBT) is accredited by the Ministry of Education and Research (MER) in accordance with the provisions of Law no. 1/2011 on national education, G.D. no. 681/2011 regarding the Code of doctoral studies, and “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Timișoara Charter as an Institution organising doctoral studies (IODS).



(2) The head of the institution that legally represents IODS-UMFVBT is the Rector of the University, and the collective governing body to which IODS-UMFVBT is subordinated is the University Senate.

#### **Art.4.**

IODS-UMFVBT operates according to the provisions of this *Institutional regulation on the organisation and functioning of doctoral studies within the UMFVBT*.

#### **Art.5.**

(1) UMFVBT has the right to organise a competition for admission to the doctoral studies in the fields of Medicine, Pharmacy and Dentistry, in compliance with the university autonomy according to the UMFVBT Charter.

(2) The scientific doctorate organised within IODS-UMFVBT is a mandatory condition for a professional career in higher education and research, and its form of conduct is full-time.

(3) The scientific doctorate is based on advanced innovative scientific research, contributing to the development of knowledge, skills and cognitive abilities.

(4) The general and specialised knowledge, competences and abilities confer graduates of scientific doctoral studies the ability:

- a) to deepen the field of study;
- b) to critically analyse new research directions, and to synthesise complex information;
- c) to design, carry out and complete a research project, using the field-specific research methodology;
- d) to ensure the management of the proposed research project in compliance with professional ethics;
- e) to contribute to the progress of knowledge through original research with national and/or international impact, demonstrated through scientific publications;
- f) to contribute to the promotion of technological, social and cultural development in the context of a knowledge-based society and economy;
- g) to establish connections with the professional community and with civil society, by disseminating the results obtained in the field of research.

#### **Art.6.**

(1) IODS-UMFVBT enrolls doctoral students only in an accredited (or provisionally authorised) doctoral school, as is the case of the Doctoral Schools within UMFVBT.

(2) The doctoral schools promote the interdisciplinary character of the doctoral studies, implementing the good national and international practices in their functioning within IODS-UMFVBT, which represents a premise for the organisation of doctorates in co-supervision with other prestigious Doctoral Schools, from the country and abroad.

(3) The doctoral schools within IODS-UMFVBT ensure an active cooperation with all IODS collaborating institutions, including the Romanian Academy and other research institutions from the country and abroad in order to carry out scientific research programs within the doctoral studies cycle.

#### **Art. 7.**

The Doctoral Schools within IODS-UMFVBT operate in accordance with the provisions of the *Institutional Regulation on the organisation and functioning of doctoral studies within the UMFVBT* and related methodologies, as well as the *Doctoral School Regulation*, documents that are constantly updated and validated in accordance with current legislation.

#### **Art. 8.**



IODS-UMFVBT provides institutional, administrative and logistical support to subordinate doctoral schools, as follows:

- a) initiates and is responsible for the procedures for setting up and/or accrediting new doctoral schools in UMFVBT;
- b) performs internal evaluations, according to the regulations in force;
- c) may make reorganisation proposals according to the provisions of the Code of doctoral studies (based on GD 681/2011) with subsequent amendments and completions, as well as other normative acts in force at the date of reorganisation.

## **CHAPTER II. IODS leadership**

### **Art. 9.**

- (1) IODS-UMFVBT is led by the Council for Doctoral Education, hereinafter referred to as CDE.
- (2) CDE operates based on this Regulation, in accordance with the provisions of the **LNE and of the** Code of doctoral studies (GD no. 681/2011) with the subsequent amendments and completions.

### **Art. 10.**

- (1) CDE is composed of 7-17 members.
- (2) A CDE member is elected by universal, direct, secret and equal vote of the doctoral supervisors from the IODS doctoral schools.
- (3) A CDE member is elected by universal, direct, secret and equal vote of the doctoral students within the IODS doctoral schools.
- (4) The CDE Director is a full member of the CDE.
- (5) At least 50% of CDE members are appointed by the leaders of the IODS institution, namely by the UMFVBT Rector.

### **Art. 11.**

- (1) CDE members may be:
  - a) persons within IODS-UMFVBT or outside it;
  - b) persons from the country or abroad;
  - c) scientific personalities or personalities from the relevant industrial and socioeconomic sectors;
  - d) representatives of the doctoral students within the IODS Doctoral Schools, strictly during the doctoral studies, namely until the date of the public defence of the doctoral thesis.
- (2) Members of the CDE, formed based on this Regulation, who are university teaching staff or researchers, must have the right to supervise doctorates in the country or abroad, and meet the minimum and mandatory standards for granting the certificate of habilitation at the date of their appointment as CDE members, approved by Order of the MNE, according to Art. 219 (1)(a) of Law no. 1/2011 and in accordance with the legislation in force in the field.
- (3) The methodology for appointing CDE members complies with the provisions of this Regulation, which is sent for endorsement to the UMFVBT management and approved by the University Senate.

### **Art. 12.**

- (1) The term of office of CDE members is 4 years.

### **Art. 13.**

In the event of a vacancy in the CDE, by-elections will be held and the term of office of the new member will automatically expire at the end of the CDE's term of office.



**Art. 14.**

(1) The CDE will meet regularly and whenever necessary, at the request of the CDE Director or at least 1/3 of the members.

**Art. 15.**

(1) The CDE will be headed by a director.

(2) The position of CDE Director is assimilated to the position of Vice-Rector.

(3) The duties of the CDE Director are specified in the *Regulation on the organisation and functioning of the Council for doctoral studies within the UMFVBT*.

**Art. 16.**

(1) The CDE Director is appointed following a public competition organised by the institution that legally represents the IODS, namely UMFVBT.

(2) The methodology for conducting the public competition must comply with the provisions of the Code of doctoral studies (GD 681/2011), is proposed by the UMFVBT management, and approved by the University Senate.

(3) The announcement regarding the organisation of the competition will be published at least two months before the deadline for the registration of the candidates.

(4) Notices will be published in at least the following ways:

- a) in a visible place, on the main page of the UMFVBT website;
- b) on the specialised website, administered by the Ministry of National Education, as provided by Art. 295 (3) of Law no. 1/2011;
- c) in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part III.

(5) IODS and MNE may announce the competitions by any additional means, including publication in the media, in national and international scientific publications, on websites specialised in publishing job offers and the like.

(6) Only persons who have the right to supervise doctorates and who meet the minimum and mandatory standards for granting the certificate of habilitation in force on the date of publication in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part III, of the announcement regarding the competition for the position, approved by Order of the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sports, according to Art. 219 (1)(a) of Law no. 1/2011, may apply for the competition for the position of CDE Director.

**Art. 17.**

(1) The competition committee consists of 5 members, of which at least 3 must be from outside IODS-UMFVBT, from the country or abroad.

(2) At least one member of the competition committee has an employment contract, on the date of publication in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part III, of the announcement regarding the competition for the position, with a higher education and research institution from abroad, which is included on the list approved by the Order of the Minister of National Education drafted according to Art. 216 (2)(f) of Law no. 1/2011.

(3) The members of the competition committee must have the right to supervise doctorates in the country or abroad, and meet the minimum and mandatory standards for granting the certificate of habilitation in force on the date of publication in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part III, of the announcement regarding the competition for the position.

**Art. 18.**

(1) Based on the decision of the competition committee, the head of the institution that legally represents IODS, namely the UMFVBT Rector, concludes a management contract for a period of 4 years with the designated person.



## CHAPTER III. CDE duties

### Art. 19.

(1) CDE's main duties are:

- a) to ensure the institutional, administrative and logistical support of the subordinate Doctoral Schools;
- b) to establish the IODS strategy;
- c) to draft and update the *Institutional Regulation on the organisation and functioning of doctoral studies within the UMFVBT*;
- d) to approve the decisions regarding the establishment and dissolution of doctoral schools within the IODS;
- e) to select doctoral supervisors who are part of a newly established doctoral school;
- f) to coordinate the partnership, in case the IODS consists of a partnership, according to the partnership agreement;
- g) to grant or revoke the status of member of the Doctoral School of some doctoral supervisors;
- h) to enrol and expel doctoral students at the proposal of doctoral supervisors;
- i) to establish the criteria for the drafting of the Curricula of the Doctoral Schools;
- j) to prepare the Organisational chart with regard to the teaching and research staff affiliated to the Doctoral Schools;
- k) to approve doctoral internship interruptions (for good reasons and with the consent of the doctoral supervisor);
- l) to approve withdrawals from the doctoral program;
- m) to approve grace periods for defending doctoral theses;

### Art. 20.

IODS-UMFVBT guarantees the transparency of the organisation and conduct of doctoral study programs in its own Doctoral School, and ensures the publication on the Internet of all the necessary information regarding the doctoral study programs.

### Art. 21.

IODS-UMFVBT has the obligation to provide correct and complete information regarding the doctoral study programs to the candidates for these programs, to the university community, and to other interested natural or legal persons.

### Art. 22.

(1) IODS-UMFVBT together with the Doctoral School will take measures to prevent and sanction deviations from the norms of scientific, professional and academic ethics, according to the UMFVBT Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.

(2) The doctoral supervisor is responsible together with the doctoral student in case of possible academic frauds, violations of academic ethics or deviations from good conduct in scientific research, including plagiarism.

(3) In case of possible academic frauds, violations of academic ethics or deviations from good conduct in scientific research, including plagiarism, the doctoral student and/or the doctoral supervisor are responsible under the law.





## **CHAPTER IV. Acquisition and loss of the IODS status**

### **Art. 23.**

(1) The IODS status is acquired if at least one accredited or provisionally authorised Doctoral School, according to the provisions of Law no. 1/2011 and of the Code of doctoral studies with subsequent amendments and completions, is organised within it.

### **Art. 24.**

(1) The IODS status is lost when the following conditions are cumulatively met:

- a) no Doctoral School within IODS is accredited or provisionally authorised;
- b) all doctoral students who have a contract with that IODS have completed their doctoral studies or have been expelled.

### **Art. 25.**

(1) IODS may enrol new doctoral students only within an accredited or provisionally authorised Doctoral School.

## **SECTION II. Doctoral School**

### **CHAPTER I. Organization of the Doctoral School**

#### **Art. 26.**

- (1) The Doctoral School is an organisational and administrative structure established within IODS-UMFVBT which provides the necessary support for the development of doctoral study programs.
- (2) A Doctoral School may be established only if it includes at least 3 doctoral supervisors.
- (3) One or more doctoral schools may operate within the IODS-UMFVBT.

#### **Art. 27.**

(1) The general framework for the organisation and functioning of the Doctoral Schools is established by the provisions of this *Institutional regulation on the organisation and functioning of doctoral studies within the UMFVBT*, and can be supplemented with the provisions of the regulations of each Doctoral School, in accordance with the law.

#### **Art. 28.**

- (1) The establishment of Doctoral Schools is proposed by the UMFVBT management, is endorsed by the University Senate, and is approved by the CDE.
- (2) Within the structure of a higher education institution, a Doctoral School has a rank equal to that of a department, and may organise research centres or laboratories that operate as income and expenditure units within the higher education institution, according to the provisions of Art. 131, Art. 133 (4) and Art. 134 of Law no. 1/2011.
- (3) The affiliation relations between the Doctoral School and other University structures are established by the *Institutional regulation on the organisation and functioning of doctoral studies within the UMFVBT*.

#### **Art. 29.**

- (1) The Doctoral School is headed by the Director of the Doctoral School and by the Doctoral School Council (DSC).
- (2) The Director of the Doctoral School is assimilated to the director of the department.



(3) The Doctoral School Council is assimilated to the Department Council.

(4) The Doctoral School Council is headed by the Director of the Doctoral School, who is appointed by the CDE from among the doctoral supervisors within the Doctoral School, and is a full member of the DSC.

#### **Art. 30.**

(1) The Doctoral School Council includes doctoral supervisors from the Doctoral School in a proportion of maximum 50%, doctoral students in proportion of 20%, rounded up if necessary, the rest being supplemented with members from outside the Doctoral School, elected from among scientific personalities whose scientific activity has a significant international recognition and/or personalities from the relevant industrial and socioeconomic sectors.

(2) The members of the Doctoral School Council formed based on this Regulation who are university teaching staff or researchers must have the right to supervise doctorates in the country or abroad, and meet the minimum and mandatory standards for granting the certificate of habilitation in force at the date of appointment as members of the Doctoral School Council.

(3) The share of doctoral supervisors in the Doctoral School within the Doctoral School Council is established by the CDE.

#### **Art. 31.**

(1) The Doctoral School Council consists of 3-9 members. The members of the DSC are elected by universal, direct, secret and equal vote of the doctoral supervisors from the UMFVBT Doctoral School. The doctoral student is also elected by the universal, direct, secret and equal vote of the doctoral students within the IODS Doctoral Schools.

(2) The term of office of the Doctoral School Council is 5 years.

(3) Doctoral students who are members of the Doctoral School Council who complete their doctoral studies during the term of the Council lose their status of member of the Council at the date of the public defence of the doctoral thesis.

(4) In order to fill vacancies within the Doctoral School Council, partial elections are organised, according to the provisions of para. (1), and the term of office of the new member ends at the expiration of the term of office of the Doctoral School Council.

#### **Art. 32.**

(1) The Doctoral School Council meets at least 3 times a year, at the request of the Director of the Doctoral School or at least 1/3 of its members.

## **CHAPTER II. Duties of the Doctoral School**

#### **Art. 33.**

The main duties of the Doctoral School Council are:

- a) to draft the *Doctoral School Regulation*;
- b) to make decisions regarding the granting or revocation of the Doctoral School member with regard to some doctoral supervisors, as well as to establish the minimum standards of scientific performance in order to objectively apply these procedures;
- c) to enrol and expel doctoral students, at the proposal of doctoral supervisors who are members of the Doctoral School;
- d) to decide on the approval of the Organisational chart with regard to teaching and research staff affiliated to the Doctoral School, as the case may be;
- e) to assist the external evaluator in the evaluation process in order to accredit/re-accredit or provisionally authorise the Doctoral School;





f) other specific duties.

#### **Art. 34.**

(1) The *Doctoral School Regulation* establishes the way in which the doctoral study programs are organised and carried out within that doctoral school.

(2) The *Doctoral School Regulation* is drafted by the DSC in consultation with all the doctoral supervisors who are members of that school, in compliance with the provisions of the *Institutional Regulation on the organisation and functioning of doctoral studies within the UMFVBT*.

(3) The *Doctoral School Regulation* is endorsed by universal, direct, secret and equal vote of the absolute majority of the doctoral supervisors who are members of that school.

(4) The *Doctoral School Regulation* is approved by the CDE.

(5) The *Doctoral School Regulation* establishes mandatory criteria, procedures and standards covering at least the following:

a) the acceptance of new doctoral supervisors who are members, as well as regulations regarding the way in which a doctoral supervisor's status of member of the doctoral school can be withdrawn;

b) the mechanisms by which decisions are made regarding the opportunity, structure and content of the training program based on advanced university studies;

c) the procedures for changing the doctoral supervisor of a certain doctoral student, and the procedures for mediating conflicts;

d) the conditions under which the doctoral program may be interrupted;

e) ways to prevent fraud in scientific research, including plagiarism;

f) ensuring access to research resources;

g) the attendance obligations of doctoral students, according to a methodology developed by the MNE.

(6) The Regulation may also apply to doctoral study programs carried out in co-supervision, if this was decided in the partnership agreement.

#### **Art. 35.**

Doctoral schools have the obligation to provide correct and complete information regarding the doctoral study programs to the candidates for these programs, to the university community, and to other interested natural or legal persons.

#### **Art. 36.**

(1) IODS-UMFVBT guarantees the transparency of the organisation and conduct of doctoral study programs in all its own Doctoral Schools.

(2) Doctoral Schools, with the logistical support of the IODS, will ensure the publication on the Internet of all the necessary information regarding the doctoral study programs, focusing mainly on the following categories:

a) *Doctoral School Regulation*;

b) information on vacancies for doctoral students;

c) information on vacancies for doctoral supervisors;

d) information on the organisation and conduct of doctoral programs;

e) information on the content of doctoral study programs;

f) information regarding the financing of the studies, as well as the costs incurred by the doctoral student;

g) the template of the framework contract for doctoral studies;

h) information on the doctoral supervisors and doctoral students they coordinate, which include at least the list of their publications and patents;

i) information on the results and professional performances of the doctoral supervisors;



j) information on the doctoral theses, and drafting standards, procedures and criteria for their evaluation;

k) the abstracts of the doctoral theses to be defended publicly, as well as the date, time and location related to the public defences;

l) the addresses at which the completed doctoral theses can be accessed, published on a website administered by the MER.

#### **Art. 37.**

(1) The Doctoral School together with the doctoral supervisor have the obligation to inform the doctoral student about the scientific, professional and academic ethics, and to verify its observance, including:

- a) observance of the ethical provisions during the course of the doctoral research;
- b) observance of the ethical provisions regarding the drafting of the doctoral thesis.

(2) The Doctoral School and the IODS, the UMFVBT, respectively, will take measures to prevent and sanction deviations from the norms of scientific, professional and academic ethics, according to the *UMFVBT Code of ethics and professional conduct*.

#### **Art. 38.**

(1) The IODS, through the Doctoral Schools, may provide financial support to doctoral students for conducting research internships in the country or abroad, with the consent of the doctoral supervisor.

(2) The mobility of doctoral students may be facilitated by the Doctoral Schools and by:

- a) concluding institutional agreements or partnerships, approved by the Doctoral School Council;
- b) co-supervised doctoral research;
- c) exchanges of doctoral students and teaching and research staff carried out with internationally recognised partner universities;
- d) participation in international consortia, aiming to include doctoral research topics in international scientific projects.

### **CHAPTER III. Doctoral student**

#### **Art. 39.**

(1) The doctoral student is the student enrolled in the doctoral study program.

(2) The doctoral study program, hereinafter referred to as the doctoral program, represents the totality of the activities in which the doctoral student is involved, relevant from the point of view of the doctoral studies.

(3) During the course of the doctoral study program, the doctoral student has the right:

- a) to benefit from the support, guidance and coordination from the doctoral supervisor, as well as the guidance committee;
- b) to participate in the seminars or working meetings of the research and development staff within IODS when topics relevant to doctoral studies are under discussion;
- c) to be represented in the decision-making forums of the Doctoral School;
- d) to benefit from the logistics, documentation centres, libraries and equipment of the Doctoral School and IODS for the development of research projects and the doctoral thesis;
- e) to enrol in the courses and seminars organised by other Doctoral Schools;
- f) to work together with teams of researchers from IODS centres or from research and development units that have concluded agreements or institutional partnerships with IODS;
- g) to benefit from national or international mobilities;
- h) to benefit from institutional support in order to participate in scientific conferences or congresses, workshops, summer or winter schools, and national and international seminars in the field of his/her doctoral thesis;



- i) to participate in the scientific communication sessions organised by the Doctoral School and/or by IODS;
  - j) to be informed about the curriculum of doctoral studies within the Doctoral School.
- (4) The doctoral student has the following obligations:
- a) to observe the meeting schedule established together with the doctoral supervisor, and to fulfil his/her obligations to present the research results and to defend the works;
  - a) to submit activity reports to the doctoral supervisor and the guidance committee whenever he/she is asked for feedback;
  - b) to be in permanent contact with the doctoral supervisor;
  - c) to observe institutional discipline.

## **CHAPTER IV. Doctoral supervisor and guidance committee**

### **Art. 40.**

- (1) The doctoral supervisor is the teacher or researcher with experience in the field of scientific research who coordinates the activity of the doctoral student after he/she has acquired this right in accordance with the provisions of Art. 166 of Law no. 1/2011 on national education, with subsequent amendments and completions.
- (2) The persons who obtained the right to supervise a doctorate before the entry into force of Law no. 1/2011 may also be doctoral supervisors.
- (3) In order to supervise doctorates, teaching staff and researchers who have acquired this right must have an employment contract with IODS-UMFVBT and be members of a Doctoral School.
- (4) A doctoral supervisor may guide doctoral students only in the field for which he/she has obtained this right.
- (5) A teacher and researcher who has the right to supervise doctorates, and who is tenured at a higher education or research institution that is not IODS or part of an IODS may, under the conditions of Art. 166 (3) of Law no. 1/2011, be part of the IODS-UMFVBT Doctoral School.
- (6) A doctoral supervisor from the Doctoral School may simultaneously guide doctoral students only in IODS-UMFVBT, with the exception of co-supervised doctorates.
- (7) A doctoral supervisor may simultaneously guide a maximum of 8 doctoral students in various doctoral study stages.

### **Art. 41.**

- (1) Doctoral studies may also be organised in co-supervision, in which case the doctoral student carries out his/her activity under the concurrent guidance of a doctoral supervisor from Romania and a doctoral supervisor from another country, or under the concurrent guidance of two doctoral supervisors from different institutions in Romania, based on a written agreement between the organising institutions involved. The co-supervised doctorate can also be organised if the doctoral supervisors are from the same IODS, but have different specialisations/fields of study. or one of the doctoral supervisors has reached the age of 65, according to the provisions of Art. 289 (4) of Law no. 1/2011.
- (2) In the case of a co-supervised doctorate, a main doctoral supervisor is defined. The doctoral student is fully monitored by the main doctoral supervisor, including in the standardisation of his/her teaching and research activity.
- (3) The doctoral student who completes his/her doctoral program will defend the doctoral thesis at the IODS institution at which the main doctoral supervisor is affiliated, subject to the rules of defence of IODS's own regulations, and of the Doctoral School within said university, respectively.



#### **Art. 42.**

(1) For the activity they carry out in this capacity, doctoral supervisors are remunerated in accordance with the legislation in force.

#### **Art. 43.**

(1) At the motivated request of the doctoral student, the Doctoral School Council may decide to change the doctoral supervisor if it is found that he/she has failed to meet the legal or contractual obligations assumed or for other reasons related to the guidance relationship between the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral student.

(2) The Doctoral School Council will appoint another doctoral supervisor in the case provided in para. (1), as well as in case the unavailability of the doctoral supervisor is ascertained.

(3) When appointing a new doctoral supervisor, the Doctoral School Council will give priority to the need for the doctoral student to complete the doctoral program.

#### **Art. 44.**

(1) For the development of the doctorate, the doctoral student is supported by a guidance committee consisting of 3 other members who may be part of the research team of the doctoral supervisor, other persons affiliated with the Doctoral School, or teaching and research staff not affiliated to it.

(2) The composition of the guidance committee is established by the doctoral supervisor following a consultation with the doctoral student. The guidance committee provides advice to doctoral students through regular meetings complementary to those set out by the doctoral supervisor.

#### **Art. 45.**

(1) The activity of doctoral supervisors is regulated in accordance with the provisions of the legislation in force.

(2) Reimbursement of transport and accommodation expenses for members of the doctoral committee from other university centres is made in the amount of 2000 RON/committee/doctoral student based on a requisition report and proof (invoices related to transport and accommodation, transport tickets, fuel receipts) submitted to the Doctoral School Secretariat.

#### **Art. 46.**

(1) The rights and obligations of the doctoral supervisor derive from *the LNE, the Institutional regulation on the organisation and conduct of doctoral studies within the UMFVBT, the Doctoral School Regulation*, as well as from his/her employment contract.

(2) The rights of the doctoral supervisor include, among others:

- a) the right to participate in competitions for doctoral grants;
- b) the right to guide and evaluate the activity of the doctoral student within the doctoral study program, according to professional and university autonomy, following the requirements of the doctoral study program and observing the professional interests of the doctoral student;
- c) the right to propose the doctoral committee;
- d) the right to an impartial internal and external evaluation, in accordance with the specific methodology of the evaluation process;
- e) the right to know the methodology in relation to which he/she is evaluated, both in the internal evaluation and in the external evaluation;
- f) the right to know the internal and external evaluation results on one's own activity;
- g) the right to refuse to guide a doctoral student if he/she is involuntarily in a conflict of interests;
- h) the right to request the Doctoral School Council to interrupt the guidance relationship with a doctoral student;



i) the right to select, according to the provisions of the *Methodology for admission to doctoral studies*, the doctoral candidate for a vacant position under his/her guidance, and to propose the enrolment of the doctoral student;

j) the right to request the Doctoral School to organise an admission competition for each vacant doctoral student position under his/her guidance;

k) the right to decide the study elements within the training program based on advanced university studies to which the doctoral student must participate, in compliance with the provisions of the legislation.

(3) The doctoral supervisor has the following obligations:

a) to ensure the scientific, professional and ethical guidance of each doctoral student;

b) to propose the research topics and the composition of the guidance committee;

c) to ensure the conditions and to stimulate the progress of doctoral students in the research they carry out;

d) to monitor the results of the doctoral students' activity according to a meetings' schedule with an established frequency, as well as the objective and rigorous evaluation of the progress of each doctoral student;

e) to support the mobility of doctoral students;

f) to avoid conflicts of interest in guiding doctoral students.

#### **Art. 47.**

The doctoral student and the doctoral supervisor have the obligation to present the correct affiliation to the IODS-UMFVBT Doctoral School in absolutely all national or international publications in which they appear as first authors, main authors or co-authors, regardless of the rating/indexing/recognition level, and in all research contracts and national or international research projects in which they are members and UMFVBT is the coordinator/partner.

## **CHAPTER V. Contract for doctoral studies**

#### **Art. 48.**

(1) The rights and obligations incumbent on doctoral students, doctoral supervisors, as well as the IODS, through Doctoral Schools, are established by the contract for doctoral studies.

(2) The template of the framework contract for doctoral studies is prepared by the Doctoral School, is endorsed by the Doctoral School Council, and is approved by the CDE.

(3) The contract for doctoral studies is concluded with each doctoral student separately, following a negotiation, and is signed by the doctoral student, the doctoral supervisor and the representative of the institution that legally represents the IODS.

(4) The performance of didactic activities by the doctoral student must not negatively affect the time available for carrying out his/her doctoral program, considering that the doctorate represents first of all a professional research experience.

#### **Art. 49.**

The contract for doctoral studies includes at least the following information:

a) the identification data of the doctoral student and of the doctoral supervisor;

b) data about IODS-UMFVBT and the Doctoral School;

c) the chosen research topic, in agreement with the doctoral supervisor;

d) the monthly amount of the scholarship, as the case may be;

e) the amount of the study fee, as the case may be;

f) the language in which the doctoral thesis is drafted and defended, namely Romanian or an international language, which may be English, French, or German.





- g) the deadline for completing the doctoral thesis;
- h) the conditions for extending the deadline for completing the doctoral thesis;
- i) the number of didactic activities that the doctoral student undertakes to carry out, and the period in which they are carried out, according to Art. 164 (3) of Law no. 1/2011.
- j) the obligation to publish until the completion of the doctoral thesis articles *in extenso* in accordance with the provisions of OMNE No. 5110/2018 regarding the approval of the minimum national standards for granting a doctoral degree in the chosen field and of the *Methodology for completing doctoral studies within the UMFVBT*.

**Art. 50.**

- (1) Conflicts between the doctoral student and the doctoral supervisor will be mediated by the Doctoral School Council, and, if the conflict cannot be settled at this level, they will be mediated by the CDE.
- (2) Conflicts between the doctoral student and the Doctoral School will be mediated by the CDE.

### SECTION III. Organisation and conduct of doctoral studies

#### CHAPTER I. Selection, admission and employment in doctoral study programs

**Art. 51.**

- (1) The procedure for admission to doctoral studies is the process of selecting candidates for each vacant doctoral student position that the doctoral supervisors within the Doctoral School decide to propose for occupancy at a given time.
- (2) The selection of the doctoral candidate for a vacant position is made by the doctoral supervisor who supervises that position.
- (3) Following the proposal of the doctoral supervisor, a doctoral student may be enrolled only after obtaining the favourable endorsement of the Doctoral School Council.
- (4) The organisation and conduct of the admission competition to doctoral study programs within the “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Timișoara is carried out according to its own *Methodology*, proposed by the CDE, approved by the Board of Directors, and endorsed by the UMFVBT Senate.

**Art. 52.**

- (1) The content and form of the admission competition are established by the *Methodology on the organisation and conduct of the admission competition to doctoral studies*.

**Art. 53.**

- (1) Graduates of the bachelor’s degree cycle in sectorally regulated fields, with a minimum of 300 credits, with a bachelor’s degree, as well as holders of a master’s degree or equivalent, from the country and abroad, have the right to participate in the doctoral admission competition, according to Art. 153 (2) of Law no. 1/2011, for the other fields. Graduates of long-term university education with diplomas issued until the year of graduation of the first bachelor’s degree promotion organised in accordance with the provisions of Law no. 288/2004 can participate only with a bachelor’s degree. According to the regulations on transferable ECTS credits, the 300 credits are formed, in the case of graduates of short-term bachelor’s degree studies, from 180 ECTS credits (3 years) and a master’s degree of at least 2 years with 120 associated ECTS (e.g., two master’s degrees of 1 year each = 60 ECTS credits cannot be summed).





(2) Resident physicians have the right to enrol in a doctoral program during the residency, and to have simultaneously the status of research assistant or assistant professor for a fixed period, being remunerated for both activities, according to the law.

**Art. 54.**

Doctoral schools will ensure the transparency of the doctoral selection and admission procedures, evaluation criteria and standards required of candidates, where appropriate, as well as access to this information, including through publication on the Internet.

**Art. 55.**

(1) After the completion of the admission procedure and the signing of the contract for doctoral studies, the person admitted has the status of doctoral student during the doctoral program.

(2) Doctoral students may be employed by any of the IODS component institutions as research assistants or assistant professors, for a fixed period.

(3) The Organisational Charts are drawn up for the Doctoral School, and include teaching staff, researchers and doctoral students working within the Doctoral School. The Doctoral School may employ auxiliary teaching staff, research staff and non-teaching staff.

(4) The Organisational Charts of the Doctoral School may also contain vacancies so that doctoral students who teach more hours than those recorded in the contract for doctoral studies are paid by the hour.

## **CHAPTER II. Structure and duration of doctoral studies**

**Art. 56.**

The doctoral program is carried out only within a Doctoral School under the coordination of a doctoral supervisor, and includes:

- a) a training program based on advanced university studies, within the Doctoral School;
- b) an individual scientific research program.

**Art. 57.**

(1) In the study fields regulated at European level, the duration of doctoral studies will comply with the corresponding legislation.

(2) Within the human medical and pharmaceutical higher education, the duration of the doctoral program is, as a rule, 4 years, according to Art. 174 (3) of Law no. 1/2011.

(3) For good reasons, at the proposal of the doctoral supervisor, the IODS-UMFVBT DSC may propose the extension of the duration of the doctoral program by 1-2 years, with the approval of the University Senate.

(4) Doctoral studies may be interrupted for good reasons, under the conditions established by the Doctoral School Regulation. The maximum interruption may exceed 2 years, and the duration of the doctoral studies is extended with the cumulated periods of the approved interruptions.

(5) The extension provided in para. (3), and the interruption and extension provided in para. (4), respectively, are established by addenda to the contract for doctoral studies.

**Art. 58.**

(2) During the period of interruption or extension of the doctoral studies, the doctoral student cannot benefit from a doctoral scholarship granted from doctoral grants.

**Art. 59.**



After defending the doctoral thesis, IODS-UMFVBT can issue a certificate attesting the period during which the doctoral student studied.

## **CHAPTER III. Sectors and forms of studies**

### **Art. 60.**

IODS-UMFVBT, through its doctoral schools and depending on the field of specialisation, organises scientific doctorates.

### **Art. 61.**

(1) The form of conducting doctoral studies at UMFVBT is full-time, according to Art. 140 (4) of Law no. 1/2011.

(2) The doctoral student must allocate a significant time to the doctoral program, which requires his/her actual presence within one or more IODS component institutions or within research and development units that have concluded institutional agreements or partnerships with IODS, outside the periods related to mobility.

## **CHAPTER IV. Evaluation of the Doctoral School and the doctoral supervisors**

### **Art. 62.**

(1) The establishment of a new doctoral school within IODS-UMFVBT is achieved by going through the process of provisional authorisation and accreditation according to a methodology approved by Order of the Minister of National Education, at the proposal of the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, hereinafter ARACIS, the National Council for Scientific Research, hereinafter referred to as CNCS, and the National Council for the Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates, hereinafter referred to as CNATDCU.

### **Art. 63.**

(1) The doctoral school within IODS-UMFVBT is subject to periodic external evaluation, at intervals of 5 years, according to Art. 158 (4) and (5) of Law no. 1/2011.

(2) The external evaluation of the doctoral schools is performed based on the performance of the doctoral school and the institutional capacity of the IODS of which the doctoral school is part.

(3) The external evaluation of doctoral schools is made by ARACIS or by another quality assurance agency, from the country or abroad, based on the CNCS reports on the quality of research and the CNATDCU reports on the quality of human resources.

(4) The evaluation criteria of the doctoral school mainly contain elements related to the quality of the scientific results of the groups led by the doctoral supervisors, members of the doctoral school, mainly on the impact and relevance of their scientific activity at international level.

### **Art. 64.**

(1) The doctoral school that after a period of 5 years from the last accreditation has not gone through the external evaluation process and has not been re-accredited loses its accreditation.

(2) A doctoral school that has lost its accreditation can no longer enrol new doctoral students.

### **Art. 65.**

(1) The doctoral students in the course of the doctoral program within a doctoral school that has lost its accreditation will continue their studies according to the contract and the study program until their completion.



- (2) The public defence of the doctoral theses of the doctoral students coming from a doctoral school that has lost its accreditation will be organised by another accredited doctoral school, from the same field or from a similar field.
- (3) The doctoral committee is approved by the accredited Doctoral School Council, and the chairperson of the doctoral committee represents the IODS of which the accredited doctoral school is part.
- (4) The diploma and the doctoral degree are granted by the IODS, of which the accredited Doctoral School that organised the public defence of the thesis is part.

#### **Art. 66.**

- (1) The doctoral school may be liquidated by decision of the CDE, and IODS-UMFVBT is obliged to inform the Ministry of Education and Research about the process and the result of the liquidation.
- (2) The liquidation of the doctoral school is possible only after all the doctoral students within that school have completed their doctoral programs or have been expelled for reasons unrelated to the liquidation.

#### **Art. 67.**

- (1) The doctoral supervisors within IODS-UMFVBT are evaluated periodically, once every 5 years.
- (2) The evaluation procedures are established by Order of the Minister of Education and Research, at the proposal of CNATDCU, and mainly concern aspects related to the quality of scientific results of the group led by the doctoral supervisor, with a focus on the impact and relevance of the scientific activity of this group internationally and nationally, respectively, in the case of Medicine, Pharmacy and Dentistry. The results of the evaluation are public.
- (3) The doctoral school may carry out periodic internal evaluations. Following external or internal evaluations, the doctoral school may decide to extend or terminate the employment contract of a doctoral supervisor, according to the Doctoral School Regulations.

#### **Art. 68.**

- (1) CNATDCU can be notified regarding the non-observance of the quality or professional ethics standards, including regarding the existence of plagiarism within a doctoral thesis, regardless of the date of its defence.
- (2) The National Council on Ethics in Scientific Research, Technological Development and Innovation may be notified regarding the violation of the rules of good conduct in research-development by the research-development staff within IODS, according to the provisions of Art. 323 of Law no. 1/2011.

### **CHAPTER V. Training program based on advanced university studies and the scientific research program**

#### **Art. 69.**

- (1) The doctoral school offers to the doctoral students a training program based on advanced university studies made up of activities carried out in institutionalised study formations, through courses, seminars, laboratories and the like.
- (2) The doctoral school is obliged to ensure the free and unrestricted access to the advanced training program for all doctoral students within that doctoral school or within other doctoral schools.

#### **Art. 70**

- (1) The doctoral training program based on advanced university studies in the field of Health within the IODS-UMFVBT doctoral school totals 60 transferable credits.



- (2) The training program based on advanced university studies must not negatively affect the available time of the doctoral student for the individual scientific research or artistic creation program, and must be relevant to the research topic of the doctoral thesis.
- (3) The credits obtained in a research master's program or the completion of previous doctoral internships and/or scientific research internships, carried out in the country or abroad, in universities or in prestigious research-development units, may be recognised as equivalent to those in a training program based on advanced university studies. The equivalence is proposed by the doctoral supervisor, and is approved by the CDE.
- (4) The participation of a certain doctoral student in a training program based on advanced university studies and the choice of study elements within said program to be followed by the doctoral student are established exclusively and independently by his/her doctoral supervisor. Restriction of this doctoral supervisor option is prohibited.
- (5) The doctoral student may independently opt for the courses within the advanced university studies provided by his/her own Doctoral School or by other Doctoral Schools. Restricting this option is prohibited.
- (6) The cumulated duration of the training program based on advanced university studies is 1 year according to Art. 60 (7) of GD 681/2011.

#### **Art. 71.**

- (1) The training program based on advanced university studies is a tool for enriching the knowledge of the doctoral student, and serves him/her for the conduct of the scientific research program in good conditions and for acquiring advanced competencies specific to the doctoral studies cycle.
- (2) The potential evaluations related to the courses, seminars or laboratories within the training program based on advanced university studies have an exclusively informative role, are not obligatory for doctoral students, and cannot condition the financing of doctoral students or their course within the study program. The evaluation in order to grant the doctoral degree is made based on the doctoral thesis and its public defence.
- (3) IODS-UMFVBT, through the Doctoral Schools, facilitates and guarantees the curricular flexibility of the doctoral study programs.

#### **Art. 72.**

- (1) In order to ensure the necessary knowledge base for the conduct of doctoral studies, doctoral schools may organise research master's degree programs, exclusively in the form of full-time education and mainly oriented towards the formation of scientific research skills.
- (2) The learning within the research master's program can be equivalent to the training program based on advanced university studies.
- (3) The training program based on advanced university studies can be achieved by the participation of doctoral students in the research master's courses organised by the doctoral school if they have not completed these courses, without the doctoral students being obliged to take the graduation examinations within this cycle.

#### **Art. 73.**

- (1) The scientific research program involves the participation of the doctoral student in one or more scientific projects established by the doctoral supervisor.
- (2) The responsibility for the structure, content, conduct and organisation of the scientific research program of the doctoral student rests with the doctoral supervisor.
- (3) The doctoral supervisor is directly responsible for the scientific course of the doctoral student, being obliged to take all necessary measures to ensure the conditions, knowledge and information to maximise the chances of completing the doctoral program.



- (4) Ensuring the necessary resources for the conduct of research projects in which the doctoral student is involved is also a specific obligation of the IODS-UMFVBT, the Doctoral School and the doctoral supervisor.
- (5) In order to ensure a coherent scientific path, the doctoral student submits, at his/her request and at least once every 12 months, a presentation of the progress of his/her scientific research program before the guidance committee and the doctoral supervisor, who have the role to guide, correct and support the scientific path of the doctoral student.

## **CHAPTER VI. Doctoral thesis**

### **Art. 74.**

- (1) The doctoral thesis must demonstrate the advanced scientific knowledge of the approached topic, contain elements of originality in the development and solution of the topic, as well as ways to scientifically validate them with practical applicability.
- (2) The doctoral thesis is drafted in compliance with the *Standards for drafting the doctoral thesis within the UMFVBT* which include elements of structure and graphic formatting according to a standard format indicated on the University website.
- (3) The standard format of the doctoral thesis within the UMFVBT includes: 1/3 Theoretical part (general), 2/3 Special part (original), references and annexes. The graphic formatting will comply with current national and international requirements regarding the form of writing of a scientific text. The doctoral student has the obligation to observe this format.
- (4) The doctoral thesis will be written in the language set out in the contract for doctoral studies.
- (5) The title of the doctoral thesis may be modified at the free choice of the doctoral student until the moment of its completion in order to be publicly defended.
- (6) The doctoral thesis is an original paper, and it is mandatory to mention the source for any material taken for documentation and comparison of results.
- (7) The content of the doctoral thesis is established by the doctoral student in consultation with the doctoral supervisor, and will observe the *Standards for drafting the doctoral thesis within the UMFVBT*.

### **Art. 75.**

- (1) The doctoral student is the author of the doctoral thesis, and assumes the correctness of the data and information presented in the thesis, as well as of the opinions and demonstrations expressed in the thesis.
- (2) The doctoral supervisor is responsible together with the author of the thesis with regard to the observance of the quality or professional ethics standards, including the assurance of the originality of the content, according to the provisions of Art. 170 of Law no. 1/2011.

### **Art. 76.**

- (1) Doctoral theses together with their annexes are public documents, and are written in digital format. The doctoral thesis is submitted both in printed and electronic format (pdf). The doctoral thesis and its annexes are published on a website administered by the Ministry of Education and Research, in compliance with the legislation in force in the field of copyright.
- (3) The protection of the intellectual property rights over the doctoral thesis is ensured in accordance with the provisions of the law.
- (4) The capitalisation of the copyright and/or of the industrial property rights over the original product or creation made within the doctoral study program is made in accordance with the provisions of the legislation in the field.





## **CHAPTER VII. Completion of doctoral studies**

### **Art. 77.**

- (1) Doctoral studies are completed by a defence in public meeting of the doctoral thesis in front of the committee for public defence of the doctoral thesis, hereinafter referred to as the doctoral committee.
- (2) The public defence can take place only after the doctoral supervisor and the guidance committee have given their consent.
- (3) The defence of the doctoral thesis may take place only after its evaluation by all the members of the doctoral committee and in the presence of at least 4 members, with the obligatory participation of the chairman of the committee and of the doctoral supervisor.
- (4) If, during the evaluation of the thesis by the doctoral supervisor or guidance committee, deviations from good conduct in research and development are identified, including plagiarism of results or publications of other authors, manufacture of results or replacement of results with fictitious data, the approval regarding the public defence will not be obtained.

### **Art. 78.**

- (1) The doctoral committee is proposed by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the CDE. The doctoral committee is composed of at least 5 members: the chairperson, as an IODS-UMFVBT representative, the doctoral supervisor, and at least 3 official reviewers, from the country or abroad, specialists in the field of the doctoral thesis, of which at least 2 operate outside the IODS-UMFVBT. The members of the doctoral committee have the title of Doctor, and have at least the teaching position of associate professor or second degree scientific researcher, or have the status of doctoral supervisor, in the country or abroad.
- (2) In the case of doctorates in co-supervision, the committee will comprise a number of 6 members: the chairperson, as an IODS-UMFVBT representative, the doctoral supervisor, the co-supervising doctoral supervisor, and at least 3 official reviewers, from the country or abroad, specialists in the field of the doctoral thesis, of which at least 2 operate outside the IODS-UMFVBT, with one member being mandatorily tenured at the institution at which the co-supervision was carried out. The members of the doctoral committee have the title of Doctor, and have at least the teaching position of associate professor or second degree scientific researcher, or have the status of doctoral supervisor, in the country or abroad.
- (3) Both the IODS-UMFVBT and the Doctoral School may impose minimum standards of scientific performance that the members of the doctoral committee must satisfy in order to be part of that committee, standards communicated in advance to the doctoral supervisors from the IODS-UMFVBT Doctoral School.
- (3) The public defence mandatorily includes a session of questions from the members of the doctoral committee and the public, according to Art. 168 (3) of Law no. 1/2011.
- (4) In exceptional cases (state of alert, state of emergency, state of necessity, state of war), the defence of doctoral theses may be decided to be carried out at national level online based on an *Online Defence Procedure*, developed by the CDE, approved by the Board of Directors, and endorsed by the UMFVBT Senate, in order to ensure the proper functioning of the Doctoral Schools in these situations.
- (5) The doctoral student together with the doctoral supervisor(s) may opt for the online defence of doctoral theses outside the above-mentioned situations as well, with the approval of the members of the doctoral committee, endorsement of the Board of Directors, and in compliance with current legislation on the public defence of the thesis.
- (6) The doctoral student may not offer gifts or other such undue benefits to the members of the doctoral committee, and the doctoral student may not be requested to contribute to the settlement of expenses related to the travel of members of the doctoral committee or the organisation of public defence of the doctoral thesis.





#### **Art. 79.**

(1) Based on the public defence of the doctoral thesis and the reports of the official reviewers, the doctoral committee evaluates and deliberates on the grade to be assigned to the doctoral thesis. The grades that can be assigned are: “Excellent”, “Very good”, “Good”, “Satisfactory”, and “Unsatisfactory”.

(2) If a member of the doctoral committee identifies in the evaluation of the thesis, both before and in the public defence, serious deviations from good conduct in scientific research and academic activity, including plagiarism of results or publications of other authors, manufacture of results or replacement of results with fictitious data, the member of the doctoral committee is obliged to take the following measures:

a) to notify the ethics committee of the higher education institution in which the doctoral student is enrolled and the ethics committee of the institution where the doctoral supervisor is employed to analyse and solve the case, including by expelling the doctoral student, according to Art. 306-310 and 318-322 of Law no. 1/2011 and the provisions of Law no. 206/2004 on good conduct in scientific research, technological development and innovation, with subsequent amendments and completions;

b) to notify all the members of the doctoral committee on the deviations, and to propose the awarding of the grade “Unsatisfactory”.

(3) If the doctoral student has fulfilled all the requirements provided in the scientific research program and the evaluation of the doctoral thesis allow the awarding of the grade “Excellent”, “Very good”, “Good” or “Satisfactory”, the doctoral committee will propose to award the doctoral degree. The proposal is submitted to CNATDCU for validation. CNATDCU, following the evaluation of the file, proposes to the Minister of Education and Research the awarding or non-awarding of the doctoral degree.

(4) In case of awarding the grade “Unsatisfactory”, the doctoral committee will specify the content elements to be remade or completed in the doctoral thesis, and request a new public defence of the thesis. The second public defence of the thesis takes place before the same doctoral committee as in the case of the first defence. If the grade “Unsatisfactory” is awarded for the second public defence, the doctoral degree is not granted, and the doctoral student is expelled.

#### **Art. 80.**

(1) If CNATDCU invalidates the doctoral thesis, IODS-UMFVBT will receive from the Ministry of Education a written motivation for the invalidation, drafted based on CNATDCU’s observations. The doctoral thesis can be retransmitted to CNATDCU within one year from the date of the first invalidation. If the doctoral thesis is invalidated a second time, the doctoral degree will not be granted, and the doctoral student will be expelled.

#### **Art. 81.**

(1) The doctoral degree is awarded by order of the Minister of Education, Research, Youth and Sports, after the validation of the doctoral thesis by CNATDCU.

(2) In case of non-compliance with quality or professional ethics standards, including in case of plagiarism, based on reports prepared by CNATDCU, CNCS or the National Council on Ethics in Scientific Research, Technological Development and Innovation, the Minister of Education and Research may revoke, by order, the award of the doctoral degree.

#### **Art. 82.**

(1) The diploma awarded after completing a doctoral study program is called the doctoral diploma. The diploma certifying the obtaining and holding of the doctoral degree will expressly mention the disciplinary or interdisciplinary field of the doctorate for the scientific doctorate.

(2) Following the completion of the scientific doctoral studies, IODS-UMFVBT awards the doctoral diploma and degree in sciences, corresponding to the acronym “PhD” (Dr. in Romanian).



(3) The doctoral diploma will include the grade obtained by the doctoral student, namely “Excellent”, “Very good”, “Good”, or “Satisfactory”. Also, a mention in Latin will be included on the doctoral diploma, as follows:

- a) for the grade “Excellent”, the entry “Summa cum laude” will be entered;
- b) for the grade “Very good”, the entry “Magna cum laude” will be entered;
- c) for the grade “Good”, the entry “Cum laude” will be entered.

## **CHAPTER VI. Financing of doctoral studies**

### **Art. 83.**

- (1) The financing of doctoral studies is made according to the provisions of Art. 160 of Law no. 1/2011.
- (2) The Ministry of Education and Research establishes, at 3-year intervals, the list of doctoral study fields for which financing from public funds is ensured. Doctoral schools can finance doctoral study programs and research and development projects funded from other sources, public or private.

### **Art. 84.**

- (1) In order to participate in the doctoral grants national competition between doctoral supervisors who are members of some Doctoral Schools, they will send project proposals that will contain at least the following information:
  - a) curriculum vitae and list of scientific papers of the doctoral supervisor;
  - b) information regarding the number, stage and research topics of the doctoral students under the coordination of the doctoral supervisor at the date of submitting the project;
  - c) the number of doctoral grants requested;
  - d) the doctoral topic for each individual doctoral grant requested or for a set of requested doctoral grants, in the form of a description of the scientific project in which the doctoral student(s) will be involved; the scientific project can be part of a research project that the doctoral supervisor has in progress.
- (2) In order to participate in the national competition for doctoral grants between doctoral schools, they will send project proposals that will obligatorily contain the information specified in para. (1) for each doctoral supervisor of the doctoral school for which funding will be granted in the event of winning the grant.
- (3) In case of the extension of the doctoral program according to the provisions of Art. 41 (3), the doctoral supervisor or the doctoral school may propose the extension of the doctoral grant. The methodology for conducting project competitions for doctoral grants provides instruments for extending the doctoral grant, through national competition.

### **Art. 85.**

- (1) IODS-UMFVBT or the doctoral supervisor may use the funds of doctoral grants only for the activities related to the conduct of the doctoral study program for the doctoral student positions for which the funds have been allocated.
- (2) The doctoral supervisor has the obligation to present to the doctoral student, once every 6 months, the way in which the funds from the doctoral grant were used.
- (3) It is prohibited to use the funds or parts thereof allocated through doctoral grants to a doctoral student position to support the activities of a doctoral student from another position.

### **Art. 86.**

The payment and the rights of the doctoral student are made according to Art. 164 of Law no. 1/2011, without excluding other forms of remuneration provided by the legal provisions in force.



**Art. 87.**

(1) Persons who have the corresponding financial resources, either from their own sources or from scholarships granted by natural or legal persons, may be admitted, at their request, as doctoral students in a fee-based regimen, under the conditions of the legislation in force.

## **SECTION IV.**

### **Competences provided by completing doctoral studies**

**Art. 88.**

(1) The doctoral study programs ensure the formation of professional competencies (content, cognitive and research) in the specialised fields of Medicine, Pharmacy and Dentistry, as well as cross-competencies.

**Art. 89.**

(1) For the purposes of this Regulation, the following field-specific competencies will be qualified as professional competences:

- a) acquiring advanced knowledge in the medical field;
- b) the ability to identify, formulate and solve research problems;
- c) mastery of advanced research methods and techniques;
- d) knowledge regarding the management of research projects;
- e) mastery of new procedures and solutions in research;
- f) skills related to the documentation, drafting and capitalisation of scientific works;
- g) language skills at academic level in international languages necessary for the documentation and drafting of scientific papers;
- h) understanding and capacity to apply the principles and values of scientific research ethics in the field.

2. For the purposes of this Regulation, the following will be considered as cross-competences:

- a) communication skills, written and oral, in the field of science and culture
- b) advanced language skills in international languages;
- c) use of information and communications technology;
- d) interrelationship and teamwork skills;
- e) knowledge regarding human, material and financial resources management;
- f) leadership qualities;
- g) knowledge regarding career management, as well as the acquisition of techniques for job searches and creating jobs for others;
- h) knowledge regarding risk, crisis and failure management;
- i) knowledge regarding the use of legislation in the field of intellectual property rights;
- j) economic, technological and social entrepreneurship abilities.

## **SECTION V.**

### **Final and transitional provisions**

**Art. 90.**

(1) Doctoral students who started their doctoral study program before the entry into force of Law no. 1/2011 with a form of education other than full-time may continue their studies within this form of education until their completion.



**Art. 91.**

(1) Doctoral students whose doctoral studies are interrupted or extended are not counted for the respective interruption periods. The number of doctoral students reported to the number of doctoral supervisors is a criterion for evaluating the quality of the IODS-UMFVBT and the Doctoral Schools.

**Art. 92.**

The doctoral schools within the IODS - UMFVBT that no longer obtain an accreditation will finalise the doctoral study program of the doctoral students according to the legislation in force. The institution is obliged to ensure the conditions for completing the studies. After the loss of accreditation, the Doctoral Schools can no longer enrol new students.

**Art. 93.**

This Regulation will be supplemented by the following related documents:

- *Methodology on the organisation and conduct of the admission competition for doctoral studies*, approved annually by the Board of Directors and endorsed by the University Senate;
- *Methodology for completing doctoral studies*;
- *Standards on drafting the doctoral thesis within the UMFVBT*;
- *Contract for doctoral studies*, drafted at the proposal of the Doctoral School and approved by the CDE, and addenda for interruption, extension of doctoral studies.

**Art. 94.**

The Senate of the “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Timișoara approved this Regulation in the meeting of 27.05.2020, the date on which it enters into force.

**Rector,**

**Prof. Octavian Marius CREȚU, MD, PhD.**

**CDE Director**

**Prof. Cristina Adriana DEHELEAN, MD, PhD.**

**Approved by the Legal Department,**

**Legal Advisor Codrina LEVAI, PhD.**