

# UNIVERSITY OF FOGGIA REGULATION

## ON DOCTORATE RESEARCH

*In this Regulation, people of both male and female gender are referred to only using terms in the masculine form in Italian. The choice to not use formulas that respect gender identity was made to preserve the legibility of the text as well as its simple nature*

### PART I GENERAL PRINCIPLES

#### Art. 1

##### Purposes and scope

1. The University of Foggia promotes the organization of Research Doctorate programs in every form, to provide the necessary skills to carry out high-qualification research activities in universities, public or private bodies, also with the aim of entering careers in public administrations and integrating professional paths with high levels of innovation.
2. Doctoral training, consistently with the principles and guidelines shared at European level, enables one to:
  - a) envisage, design, realize and adapt research or innovation programs independently;
  - b) conduct critical analyses, assessments and combinations of new and complex ideas and processes in research institutions, the production system, public administration and the liberal professions;
  - c) contribute, thanks to the acquisition of new scientific and cross-cutting skills, to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals set by the UN General Assembly, the goals identified in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the forms they take in European policies;
  - d) contribute to realizing the European Research and Higher Education Area, while bearing in mind the related Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance.
3. To reach the goals referred to in paragraph 1, based on the “Principles for an Innovative Doctoral Training” approved at a European level, the doctoral training:
  - a) pursues the advancement of knowledge through learning to conduct basic and applied research, as well as excellence based on academic standards set through peer review procedures;
  - b) is carried out in an attractive and critically stimulating institutional environment, in which the doctoral degree student can acquire autonomy and responsibility that are useful for their subsequent career path;
  - c) promotes interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and cross-disciplinary educational opportunities, also within non-academic fields, such as the industrial sector, public administration, services and cultural institutions, involving the relevant experts in educational activities;
  - d) contributes to the enhancement of transnational and international relations in the field of research, also by activating joint doctorates and co-tutorship, and ensures, consistently with the research project developed by the doctoral degree student, mobility periods abroad of a suitable duration in relation to the doctoral project;

e) provides for the acquisition of cross-cutting skills, thus facilitating their transfer and development in the scientific and professional spheres;

f) takes place within the framework of a quality assurance system, separate from that provided for the first and second cycles of university education, aimed at improving the quality of the research environment and identifying transparent and accountable procedures for the admission, supervision, award of the degree and professional development of doctoral degree students.

3. To this end, the University shall set up doctoral programs with an administrative seat at its premises (University doctoral programs); it may also join agreements or consortia aimed at setting up doctoral programs, in compliance with the regulations in force.

4. The present Regulation governs the doctoral programs set up by the University of Foggia, as well as the participation of the University of Foggia in doctoral programs set up by agreement or consortium, in accordance with art. 2 of the present Regulation. The doctoral programs set up by the University of Foggia may adopt their own operating regulations, containing implementing and supplementary rules, in compliance with the present Regulation as well as with the other provisions in force. The Operating Rules are approved by the Academic Senate, upon proposal of the academic staff and after hearing the opinion of the Department to which the doctoral program is administratively related.

5. The regulations of the doctoral programs under agreement or consortium, including the type of qualifications awarded and the admission procedures, as well as the intermediate and final examinations, shall be left to the agreements between the contracting or consortium partners also with regard to the programs with administrative offices at the University of Foggia.

6. Lecturers of another university may join a doctoral program of the University of Foggia, subject to the approval of the program's Academic Board.

7. The teaching activity performed in the framework of doctoral programs activated at the University of Foggia or with its participation may be counted towards the fulfilment of the teaching duties of the professors and researchers of the University. The professors and researchers of the University of Foggia remain free to join, on a personal basis, doctoral programs set up at other universities, including foreign ones, with the prior authorization of the Department to which they are affiliated.

## **Art. 2**

### **Types of Research Doctorate programs**

1. The University's doctoral programs, in the forms allowed by the regulations in force, may belong to a University or inter-University Doctoral School.

2. Universities may apply for the accreditation of the programs and of the related sites also in associated form through the stipulation of agreements or the establishment of consortia, which may be the administrative seat of the programs, with one or more of the following subjects:

a) other Italian or foreign universities, with the possibility of awarding a multiple or joint final degree;

b) public or private, Italian or foreign research bodies, meeting high cultural and scientific qualification requirements and endowed with suitable facilities and scientific equipment;

c) institutions referred to in Article 2, paragraph 1, of Law no. 508 of 21<sup>st</sup> December 1999, accredited pursuant to Article 15 of this regulation, with the possibility of awarding the multiple or joint final degree;

d) enterprises, including foreign ones, carrying out qualified research and development activities;

e) public administrations, major European or international cultural institutions and research facilities, for the realisation of specific research and development or innovation programs.

### **Art. 3**

#### **Requirements for the accreditation of Doctorate programs and partner universities/research centers**

1. The doctoral programs with administrative seat at the University of Foggia require accreditation according to the regulations in force to be activated. Accreditation may also be requested in relation to individual curricula, where provided.
2. Accreditation proposals must in any case comply with the requirements established by the competent evaluation and accreditation bodies, with specific reference to the following aspects:
  - a) compliance with the following criteria relating to the composition of the Academic Board, taking into account, where possible, gender balance:
    - 1a) the Doctoral Council shall consist of a minimum number of members, equal to twelve. At least half of the members of the Doctoral Council shall be tenured university professors, either full or associate professors, and the remainder shall be tenured researchers of universities or public research bodies, or, in the case of doctoral programs in association with public research bodies, also researchers belonging to the ranks of research managers, researchers or senior researchers of the bodies themselves, without prejudice to the minimum number of professors. In any case, the researchers belonging to the Doctoral Council must possess a scientific qualification attested on the basis of the necessary requirements provided by the regulations in force for the access to the functions of associate professor and the professors a scientific qualification attested on the basis of the necessary requirements provided by the regulations in force for the access to the functions their role;
    - 2a) the members of the councils belonging to foreign universities or research institutions must possess at least the minimum requirements provided by the regulations in force for the access to the functions of associate professor;
    - 3a) the Coordinator of the doctoral program must have a high scientific qualification, attested on the basis of the requirements envisaged by the regulations in force for the access to the functions of full professor;
    - 4a) without prejudice to the provisions of paragraphs 1a, 2a and 3a, experts, albeit not members of universities or public research bodies, who possess high and proven scientific or professional qualifications in fields of research consistent with the educational objectives of the doctoral program, may be members of the Doctoral Council, up to a maximum of one-third of the total members thereof;
  - b) number of doctoral scholarships. For this purpose the following is required:
    - 1b) the availability, for each cycle of doctorates to be activated, of an average number of at least four scholarships per activated doctoral program, excluding from the calculation the scholarships allocated to doctorates activated in agreement or consortium, it being understood that for the individual doctoral program this availability cannot be less than three;
    - 2b) in the case of doctoral programs activated by two entities, pursuant to article 3, paragraph 2 of Ministerial Decree no. 226 of 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021, each shall finance at least two scholarships; where there are more than two entities, the entity that is the administrative seat of the program shall finance at least two scholarships and each other entity shall finance at least one scholarship;
  - c) adequate and stable funding for the sustainability of the doctoral program, with specific reference to the availability of scholarships and the support of doctoral students' activities;
  - d) operational and scientific facilities, specific and qualified, for the performance of the study and research activities of the doctoral candidates, adequate for the number of scholarships envisaged, including, in relation to the specific features of the program, healthcare facilities, scientific laboratories, an adequate library, databases and resources for electronic calculation;
  - e) advanced research and advanced training activities, including seminars, or carried out in laboratories

or research facilities of European level and interest;

f) activities, including joint activities between multiple doctoral programs, of inter-, multi-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary training, advanced language and computer training, as well as activities in the field of teaching, research management and knowledge of European and international research systems, harnessing and disseminating results, intellectual property and open access to data and research products and fundamental principles of ethics and integrity;

g) a quality assurance system for the design and management of doctoral training that complies with the Standards for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), in accordance with ANVUR guidelines.

The Ministry, following the proposal of ANVUR and taking into account in particular the general guidelines for the university system and the Standards for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), regularly updates the indicators for accreditation and evaluation of doctoral programs and the related guidelines.

## **Art. 4**

### **Accreditation and participation proposals**

1. The accreditation system consists of the initial authorization to activate doctoral programs and the accreditation of the partner universities and research centers where they are held, as well as the periodic verification of the continued meeting of the requirements for these purposes, in accordance with the procedures set out in this regulation.

2. The application for accreditation, submitted to the Ministry and accompanied by documentation proving that the requirements set forth in Article 3 are met, specifies the maximum number of positions for which accreditation is requested. The application for accreditation may also relate to individual curricula of doctoral programs that have already been accredited.

3. The Ministry shall transmit the request for accreditation to ANVUR within twenty days from its receipt. ANVUR shall give its reasoned opinion on the requirements for the accreditation being met, within sixty days from the date of receipt of the application, including the period of ten days within which the applicant may communicate any comments or clarifications, if requested by ANVUR.

A decree of the Minister, adopted on the basis of ANVUR's opinion, is issued on the application for accreditation. The accreditation decree is transmitted to the applicant for accreditation and to the relevant evaluation body.

4. The accreditation of the seats and programs lasts for five years. Without prejudice to the monitoring and periodic evaluation referred to in paragraph 5, accreditation shall be evaluated, for the purposes of its confirmation or withdrawal, in the event of a change in the name of the programs or in the composition of the Academic Board, by more than twenty-five per cent with respect to the initial composition of the reference cycle, or of the coordinator of the doctoral program, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the requirements set forth in Article 3 for each member of the Board.

5. The periodic monitoring and evaluation activities verify that the requirements for the accreditation of doctoral programs set forth in Article 3 continue to be met. These activities are carried out by ANVUR, which, for this purpose, on the basis of the results of the control activity carried out by the internal assessment bodies of the accredited subjects, may also arrange on-site visits by external experts, in order to ascertain the adequacy of the programs' facilities.

6. The ascertainment of the lack of one or more requirements leads to the revocation of the accreditation, ordered by a decree of the Minister, upon the approval of ANVUR. The recipient of the revocation shall stop, with immediate effect, the activation of new cycles of doctoral programs, without prejudice to the completion of the programs already activated.

## **Art. 5**

### **Allocation of doctoral scholarships**

1. The Board of Directors determines the overall amount of the University grants for the awarding of doctoral scholarships and of any further financial contributions in favor of the research activity of doctoral degree students and to cover the operating expenses of the doctoral programs, including programs under agreement or consortium not having an administrative seat at the University of Foggia, within the limits of the available financial resources and taking into account the opinion of the Academic Senate.
2. The costs for the funding of scholarships, including the fees for access and attendance of courses, which are not covered by the funds allocated by the decrees of the Minister, as per Art. 4, paragraph 3 of Law no. 210/98, or in any case deriving from the university budget, may be covered by the University also through agreements with subjects not belonging to the university administration.
3. The available budget is allocated by the Board of Directors to the individual research doctorate programs, upon motivated proposal of the Academic Senate and taking into account the evaluation carried out by the competent evaluation units in relation to the fulfilment of the requirements for accreditation, as per Ministerial Decree 226/2021. In the event of a tie in the assessment, the resources shall be allocated with priority to doctoral programs having their administrative seat at the University of Foggia within the three-year period or providing for the award of a joint degree.

## **Art. 6**

### **Establishment of doctoral programs**

1. The Rector, upon the proposal of the Departments, the subsequent approval by the Scientific Commission and after the deliberation of the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors for the aspects within its competence, following the Ministerial accreditation, establishes and activates the doctoral programs located at the University of Foggia with his/her own decree.
2. The doctoral programs have a minimum duration of three years, with the exception of the provisions of Article 7 of Ministerial Decree no. 226/2021.
3. The University may organize the doctoral programs into Doctoral Schools, to which the coordination of the courses and the management of common activities is entrusted. In the cases referred to in this paragraph, the ownership of the programs and the accreditation of the Doctoral Schools shall remain of the Universities.

## **Art. 7**

### **Doctoral programs with administrative seat at another university**

1. Subject to the approval of the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors for the aspects falling within their competence, the Rector shall enter into agreements and deeds of incorporation of consortia, as per Article 2, par. 2 of this Regulation, aimed at establishing doctoral programs with their administrative seat not located at the University of Foggia.

## **Art. 8**

### **Doctorates in agreement with foreign institutions**

1. In order to effectively achieve the coordination of research activities of high international level, the University of Foggia may activate doctoral programs, subject to accreditation, with foreign universities and research institutions of high qualification and recognized international level, in compliance with the principle of reciprocity, on the basis of agreements, also in thesis co-tutorship, which provide for sharing of training and research activities, fair burden sharing, the modalities of regulation of the forms of financial support, the modalities of exchange and mobility of lecturers and doctoral degree students and the awarding of the joint, double or multiple degree.
  2. Thesis co-tutorship enables doctoral students, enrolled at the University of Foggia or at foreign universities, to carry out the preparation of their doctoral thesis by performing alternating periods of research at their home university and at the partner university.
  3. The thesis co-tutorship allows the doctoral student, at the end of the study cycle, to discuss the thesis in a single location and, following the discussion and the favorable report of the Board of Examiners, to obtain a double doctoral degree, recognized in the two countries between which the agreement has been stipulated.
  4. The agreement specifies the terms of the agreement in accordance with the following conditions:
    - enrolment at the home university also entails regular enrolment at the participating university, without additional fees (or as specified in the agreement itself);
    - the participating university provides the doctoral student with the necessary teaching and research facilities and guarantees the services provided to its own doctoral students;
    - the doctoral student carries out his/her study and research activities at the two universities for approximately equivalent periods;
    - the final examination with discussion of the thesis takes place in front of the Board of Examiners, integrated with a member of the faculty of the participating university;
    - each of the two institutions will award the doctoral degree for the same thesis, in compliance with the regulations in force in the respective countries and in accordance with the regulations of the participating universities; the afore-mentioned doctoral degree shall be completed with the wording “thesis in co-tutorship” with the partner university.
  5. In the event that the co-tutorship agreement is signed between the Italian university and one of the following European countries:
    - Spain
    - France
    - Switzerland
    - Germany
- the reference legislation is the legislation relating to the CRUI (Conference of Italian University Rectors) agreements.
6. The doctoral programs of which the University is the administrative seat may accept, even beyond the maximum number of positions available, students from foreign doctoral programs for thesis co-tutorship.
  7. Doctoral students wishing to activate a thesis co-tutorship shall submit, no later than the first semester of the second year, the specific application to the Higher Education and Advanced Studies Area, a copy of which to the Academic Board of the doctoral program, which must decide whether to accept the request.

## **Art. 9**

### **Industrial doctorate and apprenticeship**

1. The University, at the time of initial accreditation or subsequently, may request the recognition of the “industrial doctorate” qualification, also as part of the designation, for doctoral programs activated based on agreements or consortia that also include subjects referred to in Article 2, paragraph 2, letter *d*), which carry out research and development activities.
2. The agreements referred to in paragraph 1 shall regulate:
  - a*) the forms of coordination of the research activities between the parties;
  - b*) the modalities for carrying out the research activities at the enterprise, as well as, with regard to the possible positions covered by employees of the enterprises, the allocation of the total commitment of the employee and the duration of the doctoral program;
  - c*) the incentives to promote technology transfer and the development of the results of the research activity by the partner enterprises.
3. The research areas characterising the doctoral program shall give particular importance to the promotion of economic development and of the production system, facilitating joint planning in relation to the research areas and the activities of the doctoral students.
4. The calls for admission to the industrial doctorate programs, consistently with the guidelines defined at European level and with the development strategies of the national system as well as in compliance with the principles set forth in Article 1, may:
  - a*) indicate specific requirements for the performance of research activities, such as interdisciplinarity, membership of international networks and intersectoriality, with particular reference to the business sector;
  - b*) allocate a portion of the available positions to employees of enterprises or of contracted entities engaged in highly qualified activities, admitted to the doctoral program after having passed the relevant selection.
5. In any case, the possibility set out in Article 45 of Legislative Decree No. 81 of 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015 to activate apprenticeship contracts aimed at industrial doctorate training shall remain unaffected, while ensuring the prevalence of research activity. Such apprenticeship contracts are considered equivalent to doctoral scholarships for the purposes of calculating the minimum number required for the activation of the program.

## **Art. 10**

### **Doctorates of national interest**

1. The Ministry encourages the activation of doctorates of national interest and provides for their co-financing arrangements.
2. A doctoral program is defined as being of national interest if it meets the following requirements:
  - a*) it contributes demonstrably to the advancement of research, including through the achievement of specific objectives of the priority areas of focus of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, including those related to the enhancement of innovative doctoral programs for public administration and cultural heritage, or the National Research Program or related National Plans;
  - b*) it provides, already at the accreditation stage, for the reaching of agreements or the establishment of consortia among multiple universities, as well as with research institutions of high qualification and recognized international level, including foreign ones, which provide for the sharing of training and research, ways of regulating forms of financial support, arrangements for exchange and mobility of faculty and doctoral students and any forms of co-tutorship;
  - c*) it provides, already at the accreditation stage, for the coordination and joint planning of research

activities between at least one university and at least four entities referred to in Article 2, paragraph 2, in order to achieve training courses of high qualification and allow access to research facilities suitable for the realization of doctoral students' research projects;

*d)* it entails, for each doctoral cycle, at least thirty scholarships, each of an amount determined in accordance with the Ministerial Decree, it being understood that the share for the support of the doctoral student's research and training activities is increased, from the ministerial co-financing, by an amount equal to twenty percent of the amount of the scholarship.

3. The entities referred to in paragraph 2, letter *c)*, shall award the doctoral scholarships of national interest, after evaluation of the candidates by a committee formed in such a way as to ensure the participation of foreign components or those external to the entities with which the University has an agreement.

4. For participation in the Doctorates of national interest, the Departments will follow the procedure established in Article 6 Paragraph 1.

## **Art. 11**

### **Scientific Commission of the University. Office of the Student Ombudsman**

1. The Scientific Commission shall exercise the powers provided for in the current General Regulations of the University regarding doctorates.

2. The guarantee functions in favor of those enrolled in the doctoral programs established by the University of Foggia are carried out by the Office of the Student Ombudsman.

## **PART II ADMISSION PROCEDURES**

## **Art. 12**

### **Access to the doctoral program**

1. Admission to the doctoral program is based on an open selection, held at least once a year.

2. The application for participation may be submitted, without any citizenship limitation, by those who hold a university degree of the old Italian university system or postgraduate degree provided for in the call or a suitable equivalent foreign degree, or by those who obtain the degree required by the call by the date of enrollment in the doctoral program, under penalty of forfeiture of admission to the course.

3. The suitability of the foreign qualification is ascertained by the Board of Examiners of the doctoral course, in compliance with the relevant regulations in force in Italy and in the country where the qualification itself was awarded and with international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies.



## **Art. 13**

### **Notice for admission**

1. The notice for admission, written in Italian and English, is published for at least thirty days on the accredited entity's website, on the European Euraxess website and on the Ministry's website. The notice shall indicate the criteria for admission and evaluation, any written tests, including internationally recognized tests, as well as the way the selection procedure will be carried out, which may also include the presentation and discussion of a research project. Qualifications and all documentation may also be submitted in English or in any other language deemed essential in the specific field of the doctorate, as indicated in the notice.
2. A part of the scholarships and other forms of funding may be reserved for individuals who have obtained the degree required for admission to the doctoral program in foreign universities. If the notice provides for a quota of positions reserved for students who have graduated from foreign universities, or for scholars from foreign states or from specific international mobility programs, the accredited entities may establish differentiated ways of conducting the admission procedure and proceed, in such a case, to the establishment of a separate ranking list. Unallocated reserved positions may be made available for the procedures referred to in paragraph 1.
3. The notice shall contain the indication of the number of scholarships of any other forms of financial support, from research funds or other resources of the University, including research grants, referred to in Article 22 of Law No. 240 of December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010, which may be awarded to one or more candidates who have been successful in the selection procedures, as well as an indication of the fees and contributions charged to doctoral students, also taking into account the provisions of current legislation on the right to study.
4. Doctoral positions may be advertised without a scholarship, within the limit of one position for every three positions with a scholarship.
5. In the case of EU and international collaborative projects, specific admission procedures and organizational arrangements may be provided for, taking into account the characteristics of the individual projects, provided they are activated within the framework of accredited doctoral courses.
6. In the case of scholarships funded by a company or third-party entity on a specific research topic, there may be separate rankings.

## **Art. 14**

### **Appointment and composition of the Board of Examiners**

1. The Selection Committee for the admission examination to the doctoral programs is appointed by the Rector, upon proposal of the Academic Board, and is composed of three members chosen from a shortlist of six professors and researchers, pertaining to the academic disciplines of reference of the doctoral program and of which, as a rule, four in service at the University of Foggia and two in service at other universities; in the case of doctoral programs articulated in at least three curricula, the shortlist of members proposed by the Academic Board may consist of nine university professors and researchers, of whom, as a rule, six in service at the University of Foggia and three in service at other universities, so as to ensure the presence on the board of experts from the various fields in which the doctoral program is articulated. In the case of doctoral programs in collaboration with research institutions, no more than two experts, including foreigners, chosen from within public and private research institutions and facilities, may be added.

2. Permanent members and alternate members are appointed in equal numbers.
3. The chairmanship of the Commission is assumed by the most senior tenured full professor; in case of a tie, by the most senior in terms of age. In the absence of full professors, the chairmanship shall be assumed by the most senior tenured associate professor; in case of a tie, by the most senior in age.
4. Nominations - six or nine in number - must be made by the date set by the Rector and promptly communicated to the relevant office. In the event that the Academic Board fails to make the nominations within the specified time, they will be made by the Rector, after consultation with the Coordinator of the doctoral program.
5. The Commission, appointed by decree of the Rector, shall conclude its work, as a rule, by 30<sup>th</sup> September of each year.
6. The members of the Board of Examiners, before the beginning of the selection procedure and having seen the list of participants, declare under their own responsibility that there are no situations of incompatibility between them and the candidates, in accordance with Articles 51 and 52 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

## **Art. 15**

### **Calendar of the work of the Board of Examiners**

1. The Board of Examiners establishes the calendar of its work in compliance with the terms set forth in Article 14, paragraph 5 of this Regulation and sets the date, place and time of the tests, if any, by giving notice at least 30 days in advance to the relevant Office, which will publish the dates on the University's Online Notice Board and on the University website in the Research Doctorates section.
2. The calendar of the tests may be set in the notice of admission.

## **Art. 16**

### **Selection tests**

1. The selection procedure must ensure a suitable comparative evaluation of the candidates and must take into account the provisions set forth in the notice of competition. The Selection Committee, at its first meeting, shall establish the criteria and procedures for the evaluation of qualifications and competitive tests, noting them in the relevant minutes.
2. The selection may take place, according to the provisions of the notice, on the basis of the evaluation of the qualifications and any written tests, the *curriculum vitae*, a research project, proposed by the candidate and pertaining to one of the academic fields of reference of the doctorate, an interview, which may be held, at the request of individual candidates, in English, and knowledge of English. For foreign candidates, the interview may, at their request, also be held electronically through compatible platforms. Applicants may, if necessary, submit a letter of reference written by highly qualified individuals for documentable activities carried out in the specific field of the proposed research project.
3. The written tests, if any, will be conducted in accordance with the general regulations on access to employment in public administrations and observing the procedures for the conduct of the relevant competitions.
4. In relation to the qualities ascertained, the Board of Examiners shall award each candidate up to 60 points for the qualifications (including, where applicable, the *curriculum vitae*, research project and/or letters of reference) and 60 for the tests (including the interview). In the case of different evaluation by the Commissioners of the outcomes of the tests, each of them awards the candidate

up to 20 points.

5. At the end of the selection procedure, the Board of Examiners shall fill out the general merit ranking list based on the scores obtained by the candidates in the evaluation of the qualifications and the tests.

### **Art. 17**

#### **Approval of the proceedings and admission to the program**

1. The Board of Examiners, at the end of the competition tests, must deliver the relevant minutes of the sessions as well as all the deeds of the work carried out to the Rector, who shall provide by his/her own decree for the approval of the competition acts. The competition deeds are public; access to them is permitted in the manner established by Law No. 241/90. The Rector may postpone access until the conclusion of the competition.
2. Candidates are admitted to the course according to the order of the list of successful candidates, up to the number of available positions.
3. In the case of renunciation of the position by successful candidates, another candidate shall take over according to the order of the ranking list.
4. A candidate who, according to the final ranking list, has been admitted to the program, shall be forfeited if he/she fails to deliver the registration forms within 10 days of the publication of the ranking list on the University's Online Notice Board.
5. In the event that one of the successful candidates incurs the forfeiture or renounces within and not later than three months from the beginning of the course, the provision of paragraph 3 above will be applied.

### **Art. 18**

#### **Assignment of the scholarship**

1. Scholarships are awarded after comparative evaluation of merit and according to the order identified in the relevant ranking list. In case of equal merit, the evaluation of the most disadvantaged economic situation prevails; further situations of equal merit will be regulated in accordance with Article 2 paragraph 9 of Law 16.6.1998, No. 191/1998.
2. The scholarship is provided exclusively to doctoral students who have an annual taxable income not exceeding the annual amount of the scholarship. The income shall refer to the taxable period relating to the calendar year of the scholarship's greatest use. The above requirement is verified annually.
3. One may not benefit from more than one scholarship at the same time, even if provided by different sources, except for those conferred by domestic or foreign institutions useful for supplementing training or research activities with a stay abroad. In such a case, one is not entitled to scholarship increase for periods of stay abroad.
4. Those who have already benefited, even partially, from a scholarship for the attendance of another doctoral program or a course considered equivalent (at the University of Foggia or at another location) cannot benefit from another doctoral scholarship.

## **Art. 19**

### **Supernumerary admission**

#### **REPEALED**

## **PART III**

### **RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THOSE ENROLLED IN DOCTORAL PROGRAMS**

## **Art. 20**

### **Mandatory attendance**

1. Admission to the doctoral program entails an exclusive, full-time commitment, subject to the provisions of Article 9 paragraph 2 letter b. The doctoral degree student is required to ensure attendance of the doctoral program based on the guidelines established by the Academic Board. The Academic Board, according to procedures defined by the regulations of the University, may authorize the doctoral student to carry out paid activities that allow him/her to acquire skills concerning the educational scope of the Doctorate, after assessing the compatibility of said activities with the profitable performance of the educational, teaching and research activities of the Doctoral program.
2. The performance of research and training activities, consistent with the doctoral project, at institutions abroad of high qualification is ordinarily provided for each doctoral student.
3. Doctoral students may carry out, as an integral part of the training project, with the prior authorization of the Academic Board and without increasing the amount of the scholarship, tutoring activities, including paid ones, of students in the bachelor's and master's degree courses, as well as, within the limit of forty hours per academic year, supplementary teaching activities. For the activities referred to in this paragraph, doctoral students are paid the allowances referred to in Article 1, paragraph 1, letter b), of Decree-Law No. 105 of 9<sup>th</sup> May 2003, converted, with amendments, by Law No. 170 of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2003.
4. Civil servants admitted to doctoral programs enjoy, for the period of the normal duration of the course, the leave of absence or leave without pay provided by collective bargaining or, for employees under public law, extraordinary leave for study purposes, consistent with the needs of the administration, pursuant to Art. 2 of Law no. 476/1984, 13.8.1984, and subsequent amendments, with or without allowances and unless explicitly waived, only if they are enrolled for the first time in a doctoral program, regardless of the academic discipline. The right to the budget for research activity carried out in Italy and abroad, referred to in Article 22, paragraph 3, remains unaffected.
5. Those enrolled in the doctoral program who hold a tenure-track researcher position or a scholarship or a research grant may terminate their training upon renouncement of the doctoral scholarship.
6. Outside the cases referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, if the doctoral student carries out work activities, the assessment of compatibility with the fulfillment of the duties provided for the doctoral training must be carried out by the Academic Board.
7. The exclusion from the doctoral program - with a rectoral measure adopted on the reasoned decision of the Academic Board - shall take place in case of negative judgment on the activity of the student enrolled in the doctoral program in one of the examinations provided for by the

organization of the program. In the event of exclusion from the program, any scholarship awarded ceases to be paid as of the date decided by the Board.

## **Art. 21**

### **Maternity leave and suspension of mandatory attendance**

1. For the protection of parenthood, referred to in the Decree of the Minister of Labor and Social Security 12.7.2007, published on the Gazzetta Ufficiale (Italian Official Journal) No. 247 of 23.10.2007, doctoral degree students on leave without pay retain the right to the scholarship. At the end of the suspension period, the scholarship shall be disbursed upon resumption of course attendance up to the total duration of the scholarship itself.
2. Doctoral students may request, for proven reasons provided by law or doctoral regulations, suspension of the course for a maximum duration of six months. For the duration of the suspension, there is no payment of the scholarship or other equivalent funding.
3. The periods of extension and suspension referred to in paragraph 2, and Article 28 paragraphs 8 and 9 may not exceed a total duration of eighteen months, without prejudice to specific cases provided for by law. The Academic Board, in relation to the duration of the aforementioned periods of suspension, shall determine whether or not the periods need to be made up. In the event of a suspension lasting more than 30 days without justified reason, or exclusion from the course, the scholarship may not be disbursed.

## **Art. 22**

### **Scholarships and contributions**

1. The scholarships, which can also be financed with the participation of several sources of funding, have an overall duration of at least three years and are renewed, annually, with the procedures established by the regulations of the doctoral program, upon positive verification of the completion of the program of activities planned for each year. If the scholarship is not renewed, or if the doctoral student renounces it, the unused amount of the scholarship shall be reinvested by the entity that activated the program for the financing of doctorates.
2. The amount of the scholarship, to be disbursed in monthly installments, shall be determined in an amount not less than that stipulated in the Ministerial Decree.  
The increase of the scholarship, as provided for in Ministerial Decree 226/2021, is set at the amount of 50%, for a total period not exceeding twelve months, for the performance of research activities abroad authorized by the Academic Board. This period may be extended up to an overall maximum of eighteen months for doctoral programs co-tutored with foreign entities or activated pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 2.
3. For the performance of the research activity in Italy and abroad, in addition to the scholarship, the doctoral student is guaranteed a budget, appropriate to the type of doctoral course and in any case not less than ten percent of the amount of the scholarship itself, financed with the resources available in the budget of the accredited entities.
4. For the maintenance of apprenticeship contracts and other forms of financial support, the same principles set for the maintenance of scholarships referred to in paragraph 1 shall apply in the course years following the first year.
5. The principles set forth in this article shall not apply to scholars from foreign states or recipients of financial support under specific mobility programs, based on the provisions by the relevant

regulations.

6. The fee for access and attendance to Doctoral Programs is regulated by the University Fees and Contributions Regulations.

7. The doctoral scholarship is subject to the payment of INPS (Italian National Institute for Social Security) social security contributions under separate management, pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 26 of Law No. 335 of 8.8.1995, and subsequent amendments, in the amount of two-thirds borne by the administration and one-third borne by the scholarship recipient. Doctoral students shall enjoy the protections and rights related thereto.

8. The measures provided for in Legislative Decree No. 68 of 29.3.2012, are extended to doctoral students in the manner regulated therein.

## **Art. 23**

### **Stays abroad**

The University of Foggia encourages the mobility of doctoral students for the performance of research activities, as an essential part of the training process, also through the stipulation of special agreements with universities, research organizations and other institutions, in Italy and abroad.

Doctoral students must carry out at least 100 days, including non-consecutive days, of study and training abroad, at a qualified research facility, identified in agreement with the mentor and authorized by the Academic Board of the doctoral program. The maximum duration of study and training abroad shall not exceed 12 months, also non-consecutively.

Doctoral degree students unable to comply with the minimum obligation of 100 days of study and training abroad are required to submit a documented request for exemption to the Academic Board of their doctoral program. The Academic Board may authorize exemption from the period abroad exclusively for the following reasons: serious and documented health problems; maternity; serious and documented family reasons; documented delays in residence permits for foreign students.

Doctoral degree students with a scholarship financed by another University or by research institutions affiliated with the University of Foggia and doctoral degree students without a scholarship pertaining to any curricula in agreement with another University are exempted from the above obligation.

The doctoral degree student without a scholarship from the University of Foggia will be eligible for financial support, including within the framework of specific mobility programs.

## **Art. 24**

### **Consent to the publication of the Doctoral thesis**

1. Upon enrollment in the program, the doctoral degree student must provide his/her written consent for the deposit of his/her doctoral thesis, in electronic format, in the institutional archive of the University, which will guarantee its preservation and public consultation. It will be the responsibility of the University to provide for the deposit of said thesis at the Libraries of Rome and Florence, in compliance with the obligations established by current regulations.

**Art. 25**  
**Representation of**  
**doctoral students**

1. Doctoral students shall elect a representative to the Academic Board of the doctoral program in which they are enrolled to deal with educational and organizational problems.
2. A representative of the doctoral students shall be a member of the Academic Board of the doctoral program, who shall hold office for three years, elected as follows:
  - a) the Coordinator of the doctoral cycle shall call the election of the representatives;
  - b) those with the right to vote and stand are doctoral students regularly enrolled in the doctoral cycle;
  - c) the voting is open and may also be carried out online;
  - d) the voter may express only one preference.The vote will be considered valid if at least 50% of the eligible voters have participated in the vote. For the elections in question, the first-past-the-post electoral system shall be adopted; in application of the aforesaid system, for the purpose of determining the election results, the candidate who has obtained the greatest number of preferences shall be declared elected; in the event of equal preferences, the younger voter shall prevail.  
The proclamation and appointment of those elected shall be formalized by Decree of the Rector.
3. The representation of doctoral degree students in the University Bodies is governed by the Statutes of the University of Foggia.

**Art. 26**

**Connection between doctoral programs and Medical Specialization Schools**

1. The doctoral programs concerned shall govern through their own regulation the modalities of carrying out the joint attendance of the doctoral program and a medical specialization course and the consequent reduction to a minimum of two years of the doctoral program, in compliance with the following general criteria:
  - a) compatibility, also in view of the distance between the locations, of the activities and commitment envisaged by the specialization school and the doctoral course, attested by the board of the medical specialization school and the Doctoral Council;
  - b) incompatibility between the doctoral scholarship and emoluments, however denominated, received in connection with the activities of the school of specialization.
2. In the cases of joint attendance referred to in this article, the application for reduction of doctoral activities is accepted by the Academic Board of the doctoral program, after a positive assessment of the consistency of research activities, already carried out in the medical specialization course, with the doctoral project. For the purpose of accepting the application referred to in this paragraph, the judgment of compatibility, expressed by the Board of the school of specialization, of the doctoral project with the educational purposes of the school of specialization itself is also required. In the case of acceptance of the application referred to in this paragraph, the doctoral program shall in any case last no less than two years.

## PART IV FINAL EXAMINATION AND AWARDING OF THE DEGREE

### Art. 27 Admission to the discussion

1. The degree of *Dottore di Ricerca*, or “PhD” (or “*Dott.Ric.*” in Italian), is awarded following the successful evaluation of a research thesis that contributes to the advancement of knowledge or methodologies in the chosen field of inquiry.
2. The doctoral thesis, accompanied by a summary in Italian or English, must be written in Italian or English or in another foreign language, subject to the approval of the Academic Board.
3. International inter-university cooperation agreements may provide for specific procedures for obtaining the degree.
4. To obtain the title of *Dottore di Ricerca*, the doctoral student, by the end of the third year, must apply to take the final examination.
5. The doctoral thesis is admitted for discussion at the end of the final year of the doctoral program. Until the discussion of the thesis, the doctoral degree student is allowed to attend the facilities of the University for the performance of all activities aimed at the completion of the thesis.
6. The procedure for admission to the discussion is the following:
  - a) the thesis, to which a report by the doctoral student on the activities carried out during the doctorate and any publications is attached, is evaluated with an analytical written judgment by at least two professors (evaluators) within 30 days of its receipt. The evaluators, identified by the Academic Board, must have highly qualified experience, including from foreign or international institutions, external to the subjects competing for the award of the doctoral degree of whom at least one is a university professor;
  - b) regarding the thesis, the evaluators shall propose admission for public discussion or postponement for a period not exceeding six months if they deem significant additions or corrections necessary;
  - c) the Academic Board, also on the basis of the evaluation referred to in the previous paragraph, shall decide on the admission of the thesis and the period of postponement, if any, proposed by the evaluators;in any case, admission to the public discussion takes place after period of postponement, if any; in the case of postponement, the thesis must be accompanied by a new written opinion from the same evaluators, an opinion given in light of any corrections or additions made.
7. The Decree of appointment of the evaluators will be published on the University Online Notice Board and on the University website in the doctorate section. The candidate is required to promptly submit a copy of the thesis to the evaluators, attaching a report on the activities carried out during the doctoral program and any publications.
8. For proven reasons that do not allow the submission of the doctoral thesis in the time frame provided by the duration of the course, the Academic Board may grant, at the request of the doctoral degree student, an extension of a maximum duration of twelve months, without further financial expenses.
9. An extension of the duration of the doctoral course for a period not exceeding twelve months may be proposed by the Academic Board for justified scientific needs. The proposal must indicate the extra funds from the F.F.O.s (Ordinary Financing Fund) which the extension will affect. The Board of Directors will deliberate on said proposals, subject to the opinion of the Academic Senate.



## **Art. 28**

### **Board of Examiners**

1. The public discussion of the thesis shall take place before a Board of Examiners.
2. The Board of Examiners is composed of three members, chosen from among university professors and researchers, Italian or foreign, specifically qualified in the topics covered in the thesis, respecting where possible, gender balance. The Board of Examiners may be supplemented by no more than two experts, belonging to public and private research facilities, including foreign ones, or with particular and documented expertise on the topic of the thesis.
3. The majority of the members of the Board of Examiners must be persons who are not members of the Academic Board and do not serve in one of the institutions that participate in the activation of the program. Under no circumstances may the supervisor of the thesis be part of the Board of Examiners.
4. The Commission is appointed by Decree of the Rector, upon the proposal of the Academic Board. If necessary, the Academic Board may request that the Rector establish more than one Board of Examiners. The Rector's Decree will be published on the University's Online Notice Board and on the University website in the doctorate section.
5. The measure of appointment of the Board of Examiners indicates the procedures and timeframe of the work, ensuring in any case the conclusion of the relevant operations within 90 days from the date of the Rector's decree of appointment. Once this deadline has elapsed, the Board of Examiners that has not concluded its work without a justified reason shall lapse and the Rector shall appoint a new Board, without the members that have been excluded.
6. The Board of Examiners shall notify the relevant Offices of the date set for the discussion, so that the notice can be published on the University Online Notice Board and on the University website in the doctorate section.
7. The members of the afore-mentioned Boards of Examiners shall receive no remuneration; if due, only the reimbursement of mission expenses is paid, according to the provisions of the specific Regulation.

## **Art. 29**

### **Discussion of the doctoral thesis**

1. The candidate is required to promptly send his/her thesis to the Commissioners, together with the report of the Academic Board.
2. At the end of the discussion of the thesis before the Examination Board, the thesis is approved or rejected by reasoned written joint judgment. In case the thesis is rejected, it will no longer be possible to discuss it.
3. Honors are awarded by a unanimous vote of the Examination Board, if there are results of particular scientific significance.

## **Art. 30**

### **Awarding of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

1. The degree of Doctor of Philosophy is conferred by the Rector, who also issues the original diploma. In the case of courses divided into curricula, the degree shall bear the corresponding indication.
2. The doctoral degree student may request that the Academic Board of the doctorate, within the deadline set for the submission of the application for the final examination, issue the *Doctor Europaeus* certification - in addition to the national title of Doctorate -, in compliance with the

conditions required by the *European University Association*; also within the aforementioned deadline, the doctoral degree student must submit the specific form signed by the Coordinator of the doctoral program to the Higher Education Sector.

3. The additional certification of *Doctor Europaeus* may be granted by the University, upon resolution of the Academic Board of the doctorate, when the following four conditions are met:

- a. positive judgment on the thesis work granted by at least two referees, appointed by the Academic Board of the doctorate, belonging to university institutions of two European countries different from the one in which the thesis is discussed;
- b. presence on the Board of Examiners of at least one member from a university institution in a European country other than the one in which the thesis is discussed;
- c. discussion of the thesis, carried out, at least in part, in an official language of the European Union other than that of the country in which the thesis is submitted;
- d. research, incorporated into the doctoral thesis, conducted in part during a period of study abroad, in a European Union country, for at least 3 months.

### **Art. 31**

#### **Causes of exclusion of candidates from the final examination**

1. A doctoral candidate shall be declared disqualified, by order of the competent Academic Board, when he/she fails, without manifesting any justification, to submit the thesis within the time specified above. He/she is also disqualified when he/she does not, without manifesting any justification, take the final examination on the date scheduled for discussion.

2. In the event that, in the aforementioned cases of exclusion, the doctoral student manifests serious and documented reasons, they will be evaluated by the Academic Board, possibly as an exception to the provisions of the preceding paragraph.

### **Art. 32**

#### **Doctoral registry and database of Doctoral theses**

1. For the purposes of Article 1-bis, paragraph 1, of Decree-Law No. 105 of 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2003, converted, with amendments, by Law No. 170 of 11<sup>th</sup> July 2003, the Ministry takes care of the updating and integration of the national registry of doctoral degree students and doctoral researchers, which contains, in addition to the data identified by the decree of the Minister of Education, University and Research of 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2004, adopted pursuant to paragraph 2 of the same Article 1-bis, specific information on scientific publications made during the doctoral program, including the doctoral thesis and, after the first five years after obtaining the degree, data on employment opportunities. With further decree adopted pursuant to the same Article 1-bis, paragraph 2, after consulting the Guarantor for the protection of personal data, the specific identification of these data, which must be transmitted to the aforementioned Registry by the Universities, and the identification of the technical and organisational measures in compliance with the regulations in force.

2. Within thirty days of the discussion and approval of the thesis, the University shall deposit a copy of it, in electronic format, in the Registry referred to in paragraph 1, in a specific open access section. Subject to the authorization of the Academic Board, parts of the thesis may be made unavailable in connection with the use of data protected under the relevant legislation in force. The requirement that the thesis be deposited at the central national libraries in Rome and Florence remains unaffected.

## **PART V ORGANISATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL RULES**

### **Art. 33**

#### **Bodies of the Doctoral program**

1. The Bodies of the doctoral program are:

- a) the Coordinator;
- b) The Academic Board.

2. The calling of elections of Coordinators with administrative seat at the University of Foggia is promoted by the Rector. The Coordinator is elected, as a rule, following the resolutions of the Department or Departments concerned on the establishment/renewal proposals for new cycles and remains in office for three calendar years, subject, in any case, to compliance with the requirements of the regulations in force; his/her term of office is renewable consecutively once. Elections will be held every 3 years.

3. The election of the Coordinator of a doctoral program whose renewal is to be proposed shall take place in the following manner:

- a) following the submission of proposals for the renewal of a doctoral program, the Rector shall call for the election of the new Coordinator;
- b) the right to stand for this office shall be of full-time full professors who are part of the Academic Board of the course on the date the election is called and who have formalized a special declaration of option to participate in the Board for the following cycle; in the absence of full professor candidates, full-time associate professors who are part of the Academic Board of the course on the date the election is called and who have formalized a special declaration of option to participate in the Board for the following cycle may stand for election. This right shall be reserved for those for whom a number of years of service at least equal to the duration of the office to be filled (3 years) is guaranteed.
- c) the right to vote shall be of all professors and researchers who are members of the Academic Board of the course on the date the election is called;
- d) voting is open and may also be carried out online;
- e) the voter may express only one preference.

The election of the Coordinator of a newly established Doctoral Program shall be conducted as follows:

- f) following the submission of a proposal for the establishment of a Doctoral Program, the Rector shall call the election of the Coordinator;
- g) the electorate is composed of full-time full professors who have formally expressed their willingness to join the course by the date the election is called and have declared that they meet the requirements for positive evaluation by ANVUR; in the absence of full professor candidates, full-time associate professors who have formally expressed their willingness to join the course by the date the election is called may stand. This right shall be understood to be reserved for those for whom a number of years of service at least equal to the duration of the office to be filled (3 years) is assured.
- h) standing shall be the right of all professors and researchers who have formally expressed their willingness to join the course by the date the election is called and have declared that they meet the requirements for positive evaluation by ANVUR;
- i) voting shall be open and may also be carried out online;
- l) the voter may express only one preference.

For both types of elections, the vote will be considered valid if at least 50% of the eligible voters participated in the vote.

For the elections in question, the first-past-the-post electoral system shall be adopted; in application of the afore-mentioned system, for the purpose of determining the election results, the candidate who has obtained the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected; in the event of a tie in votes, the greatest seniority in office shall prevail; secondarily, the greatest seniority in terms of age shall prevail.

The proclamation and appointment of the elected candidate shall be formalized by decree of the Rector.

4. In no case may professors and researchers in service at the University of Foggia become members of more than one Board related to courses to the establishment of which the University has contributed, even if under a convention or consortium system, regardless of the administrative seat of the course.

5. The following may become members of the Academic Board, in the manner established by the Board itself and with prior notification to the Department of affiliation, except in cases where prior authorization is required:

- a) full and associate professors;
- b) university researchers (within the limits provided for in current regulations);
- c) senior researchers and research managers or similar positions in public research institutions;
- d) experts with proven qualifications, including those not belonging to the roles of the accredited entities, in a number not exceeding, however, the total number of members belonging to the roles of the accredited entities.

6. The Academic Board shall also include a representative of the course members, elected in the manner set forth in Article 25 of this Regulation.

## **Art. 34**

### **Responsibilities of the Academic**

#### **Board**

1. The Academic Board is in charge of the planning and implementation of the doctoral program. The Academic Board also:

- a) issues the general directives of the doctoral program;
- b) indicates to the Rector a shortlist of lecturers for the constitution of the Board for the admission examination and final evaluation;
- c) indicates to the Rector the names of the evaluators;
- d) approves the Course Regulations;
- e) carries out the assignment of each doctoral degree student to a supervisor and one or more co-supervisors, at least one of whom must be from an academic background, chosen by the Board also from outside the Board, provided that at least one meets the requirements for members of the Board.
- f) annually, verify the training plan and define the allocation of any assignments for teaching courses, seminar cycles, etc.;
- g) at the end of each year, evaluates the diligence, profit and progress of research (documented by a written report and oral presentation, if any) of each student in the course, admitting him/her to the continuation of studies or proposing to the Rector that he/she be excluded. A student who fails the annual test may be admitted to the continuation with reservations, to be dissolved within the following three months;
- h) deliberates on the recognition of any studies completed abroad and, in any case, previously authorized;
- i) after consultation with the supervisor, proceeds to the assignment of the subject matter of the

doctoral thesis and draws up the final report for the admission of each doctoral degree student to the final examination or for his or her exclusion;

l) may authorize doctoral degree students, without this entailing any increase in the scholarship, to carry out tutoring activities, including paid tutoring, of students in bachelor's and master's degree programs, as well as, within the limit of forty hours per academic year, supplementary teaching activities.

m) adopts the additional resolutions attributed to its competence by this Regulation;

n) elects the Coordinator of the Doctoral Program whose renewal is to be proposed for the next cycle.

2. Each member of the Board may participate in only one Board at the national level. It is possible to participate in an additional Board only where it relates to a doctoral programs organized in an associated form, including industrial doctoral programs under Article 9 and doctoral programs of national interest under Article 11. In the case of doctorates activated by institutions of higher education with special status, participation in two Boards relating to doctoral programs organized by the same institution is possible.

3. The participation of professors and researchers of universities and public research institutions in the Academic Board of a doctoral program activated by an entity other than their own is subject to the authorization of the institution to which they are affiliated.

4. Representatives of those enrolled in the program may not take part in the discussion and deliberations referred to in b), c), e), h), i), l), n) above, and in any case in the deliberations concerning individual persons.

## **Art. 35**

### **Rules of the meetings of the Academic Board**

1. The Coordinator shall summon and chair the Academic Board at least twice a year and whenever he/she deems it advisable or a majority of the members of the Board so request. If unable to do so, the Coordinator may delegate to another member of the Board the functions of chair.

2. The chair of the meeting is assisted by a secretary, chosen by the chair from among those present.

3. Unless otherwise provided for in the Course Regulations, the summoning shall take place as a rule at least five days before the meeting and shall indicate the matters to be discussed; the notice of summoning may be communicated by any means that ensures timely receipt, including e-mail.

4. Meetings of the Academic Board may also be held online; in the event that the chosen means does not permit immediate interaction among those deemed to be in attendance, all members must be sent the proposed resolution in order to collect the votes, within the time limit assigned by the Coordinator.

5. In any case, minutes shall be taken of the operations carried out, signed by the Coordinator or the person replacing him/her in the functions of chairing the meeting and the secretary.

6. For the meeting to be valid, the attendance of more than half of those entitled to attend is required. Decisions shall be adopted by those present by majority vote; in case of a tie vote, the chair's vote shall prevail.

**Art. 36**  
**Responsibilities of the Coordinator**

1. The Coordinator ensures the smooth running of the program and implements the decisions of the Academic Board.
2. The Coordinator shall exercise the powers vested in him/her by this Regulation, as well as any additional powers to which the Academic Board delegates him/her or which are provided for in the Course Operating Rules.
3. The Coordinator may designate a deputy for cases of absence or impediment.

**PART VI**  
**TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL RULES**

**Art. 37**

**Entry into force. Transitional rules**

1. This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following its publication.
2. For doctoral degree students enrolled in cycles prior to the XXXVIII cycle, by way of derogation from this Regulation, Article 23, paragraph 5 of the previous Regulation on Doctoral Studies, approved by R.D. 567-2020 of 04/05/2020, shall continue to apply.  
In the case of a stay abroad:

- a) the doctoral degree student with a scholarship is entitled to an increase in the relevant pro-rata amount equal to:
  - 70%, for scholarships funded by the University of Foggia or by universities, research organizations or other institutions, which expressly provide for this in the relevant agreement stipulated with the University of Foggia;
  - 50%, for scholarships funded by universities, research organizations or other institutions, according to the agreement with the University of Foggia without the provision of an additional 20% increase.
- b) the doctoral degree student without a scholarship from the University of Foggia will be eligible for financial support, including within the framework of specific mobility programs.

**Art. 38**  
**Amendments to the Regulation**

1. Amendments to this Regulation shall be approved by the Academic Senate and the Board of Directors, also upon the proposal of one or more of the Academic Boards.
2. This Regulation may be amended for the purpose of adjustment to the general criteria established by the Ministry of University and Research and ANVUR.

## **Art. 39**

### **Referral**

1. For anything not expressly provided for in this Regulation, please refer to M.D. No. 226/2021 and other current provisions on doctorates.