

### PI NICOLAE TESTEMITANU STATE UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Translation from Romanian into English

#### **APPROVED**

at the meeting of the Senate of Nicolae Testemitanu University minutes no. 01 of January, 24, 2024

### REGULATION

on the organization and conduct of final assessment in bachelor and intergated higher studies at *Nicolae Testemitanu* State University of Medicine and Pharmacy

#### I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1.1. This Regulation sets up the general requirements for organizing and carrying out the final assessment in bachelor studies (cycle I, level 6 ISCED/ CNCRM) and integrated ones (cycle I + cycle II, level 7 ISCED/ CNCRM) at Nicolae Testemtanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy (hereinafter University).
  - 1.2. The regulation is developed in accordance with the following normative acts:
  - ♦ Education Code of the Republic of Moldova no. 152 of 17.06.2014;
  - ♦ Government Decision no. 482 of 28.06.2017 regarding the approval of the Nomenclature of professional training fields and specialties in higher education;
  - ◆ The framework plan for higher studies (cycle I Bachelor, cycle II Master, integrated studies, cycle III Doctorate), MECR Order no. 120 of 10.02.2020;
  - ◆ The regulation on the organization of bachelor (cycle I) and integrated studies, approved by the order of the Minister of Education, Culture and Research no. 1625 of 12.12.2019;
  - ♦ The framework regulation on the organization of the final exam for higher bachelor studies, approved by the Order of the Minister of Education and Research No. 1175 of 19.09.2023;
  - ♦ The regulation on the organization of bachelor (cycle I) and integrated (Bachelor and Master) studies at Nicolae Testemitanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Republic of Moldova, approved at the Senate meeting, minutes no. 2/2 of 27.02.2020;
  - ♦ Regulation on the organization and conduct of academic assessment at Nicolae Testemitanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, minutes no. 7/17 of 30.08.2022 of the Senate meeting;
  - ◆ Regulation on the norming of scientific-didactic activity at Nicolae Testemitanu State University, approved at the Senate meeting, minute no. 3 of 23.03.2023;
  - ♦ Charter of Nicolae Testemitanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, of 29.01.2020;
  - ◆ National Framework of Qualifications, Qualification Standards in the fields 09 HEALTH;
  - ♦ The anti-plagiarism regulation of the public institution Nicolae Testemitanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, approved at the Senate meeting, minutes no. 5/4 of 24.05.2022.
- 1.3. Bachelor studies (cycle I, level 6 ISCED/ CNCRM) are completed by passing the Bachelor's Examination; the integrated higher studies (Cycle I+II, level 7 ISCED/ CNCRM) are completed by taking the Graduation Exam.

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- 1.4. Graduates of the university, on the basis of passing the bachelor/graduation exam, are given the respective titles of the specialties and are issued the diploma of higher education or integrated studies).
- 1.5. The university has the status of the institution organizing the bachelor/graduation exam, being institutionally accredited at international and national level. All bachelor/integrated higher education programs carried out within the University are authorised/accredited.
- 1.6. The monitoring of the organization and conducting of the bachelor/graduation examination within the University is done by the Rector, the Vice-Rector for academic activity, the Head of the Didactic and Academic Management Department, deans of the faculties, in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation.

#### II. DEGREES AWARDED AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED

- 2.1. The bachelor exam ends with the bachelor's degree awarded (for 240-credit programs) in the general field of study, in accordance with the Nomenclature of professional training fields and specialties in higher education, cycle I.
- 2.2. The graduation exam ends with the conferring of the doctor's degree for the study program 0912.1 Medicine; stomatologist for the study program 0911.1 Stomatology and pharmacist for the study program 0916.1 Pharmacy.
- 2.3. Nominated degrees in the general field of study denote the completion of integrated higher education programs and are conferred to graduates who:
- demonstrates knowledge, skills, advanced skills in the field of study;
- can apply the acquired knowledge professionally;
- demonstrates the ability to argue and solve problems in the field of studies;
- ♦ have the ability to collect, analyze and interpret relevant data (as a rule, from their own field of study), as well as to formulate reasoning regarding relevant social, scientific or ethical issues;
- ♦ can communicate information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences;
- ♦ have developed the necessary skills to continue their studies with an increased degree of self-education.
- 2.4. The higher education diploma is issued to the graduate, who has fully completed the higher education program established by the education plan in the field of professional training/specialty and has successfully passed the bachelor/graduation exam. The average grade of the bachelor/graduation exam and the overall average are specified in the diploma.
- 2.5. Bachelor's degree programs are completed with the issuance of the bachelor's diploma, which gives the right to participate in the competition for admission to master's studies (cycle II) and allows employment on the labor market according to the occupational framework
- 2.6. Integrated higher education programs in the medical, dental and pharmaceutical fields are completed with the issuance of a bachelor's diploma in medicine or pharmacy, which gives the right to participate in the admission competition for residency studies, to enroll in doctoral programs and allows employment on the market work according to the occupational framework.

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- 2.7. The bachelor/integrated higher education diploma is accompanied by the diploma supplement (written in Romanian and English) and the curriculum of the subjects in the language in which the training was carried out, and which are issued to all graduates.
- 2.8. People who did not pass the bachelor/graduation exam (one or more tests, established and approved by the University Senate), are issued with a Certificate of Graduation and the respective academic certificate. It certifies that the holder has completed the education plan in the given specialty.
- 2.9. In case of passing the bachelor/graduation exam in the repeated session, the graduate is issued the diploma of bachelor/integrated education, the previously issued certificate is withdrawn and kept in the personal file of the graduate.

# III. ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE BACHELOR/GRADUATION EXAMINATION

- 3.1. The bachelor/graduation exam represents the final assessment of the bachelor /integrated higher education program carried out in a specialized field. Through the tests of the bachelor/graduation exam, the level of achievement of the goals of the studies is assessed, as well as the skills acquired by the graduates during their studies.
- 3.2. The bachelor /graduation exam is credited in accordance with the provisions of the Framework Plan and the educational plans approved by the University.
- 3.3. Students who have fully completed the education plan and have accumulated the number of credits established by:
- ♦ 360 credits for integrated higher education programs lasting 12 semesters;
- ♦ 300 credits for integrated higher education programs lasting 10 semesters;
- ♦ 240 credits for the licentiate degree programs lasting 8 semesters and received the qualification "admitted" upon for the prior defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis within the department/discipline/chair in which it was carried out, a fact confirmed by the extract from the minutes, are admitted to Bachelor/Graduation Exam.
- 3.4. Graduates of the University take the bachelor /graduation exam in the University, provided that they completed at least the last year of their studies in its premises.
- 3.5. In order to evaluate the set of skills formed within the study program, the bachelor /graduation Exam at the University may include the following evaluation tests:
- a) public presentation and defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis;
- b) computer-assisted testing in the University Management Information System (hereinafter SIMU), which includes 100 tests from the subject and the specialized bibliography;
- c) the oral test, including the assessment of practical skills according to the specifics of the study program.
- 3.6. The contents of the bachelor /graduation exam and the deadlines for taking it are approved annually by the decision of the University Senate. Students are notified at least 6 months before the start of the graduation exam about any changes to the term and contents for the bachelor /graduation Exam.

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- 3.7. The calendar for taking the final assessment is indicated in the Education Plan per study program and in the University Calendar. The exam schedule for the licentiate /graduation exam is developed by the Dean's office responsible for the study program, coordinated with the Didactic and Academic Management Department and approved by the rector of the University one month before the first exam and is published on the faculties' web pages.
- 3.8. The licentiate thesis/graduation thesis evaluates the competences of graduates to carry out research in the field of Health, to apply theoretical knowledge in the process of developing practical solutions specific to the field of professional training or carrying out case studies.
- 3.9. For the coordination of activities in the development of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis, the departments/chairs confirm the advisors of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis. University professors, university lecturers, lecturers and university assistants with scientific titles can be appointed advisors of bachelor thesis/graduation thesis.
- 3.10. The theme of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis is developed at the specialized departments/chairs and placed in the Didactic Module UMIS confirmed by the Dean's Office, from where it can be accessed and selected by students. The themes of licentiate thesis/graduation thesiss are updated annually.
- 3.11. The requirements regarding the volume, structure, form of presentation of the bachelor thesis/ graduation thesis are established by the Regulation on the development and defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis at Nicolae Testemitanu State University of Medicine and Pharmacy.
- 3.12. The bachelor thesis is developed during the last 2 years for bachelor studies. The graduation thesis is developed during the last 2-3 years for integrated higher studies. Students select their theme for their bachelor thesis/graduation thesis from the list proposed by the departments, displayed in the UMIS didactic module, as a rule, in the IV semester for licentiate study programs; in the VIII semester of studies for the Medicine study program; in the VII semester for the Stomatology and Pharmacy study programs. The topic selected by the student is included in the annual study contract. The conditions for the subsequent modification of the theme, as well as the limit period for its modification, are determined by the normative acts in force.
- 3.13. The defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis is organized in accordance with the Regulation on the development and defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis. The assessment methodology and algorithm are approved by the University Senate.
- 3.14. The defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis is public and takes place in the open meeting of the Examination Board, with the presence of at least 2/3 of the number of members, in the form of a summary presentation of the work by the author, for which he is given 10-15 minutes.
- 3.15. During the assessment process, bachelor thesis/graduation thesis is assessed according to the following criteria:
- analysis of the methodology used in the study;
- analysis of the results and their argumentation;
- the correspondence of the conclusions with the established objectives;
- compliance with the structure and drafting recommendations of the text;

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- the use of the bibliography and its exposition.
- 3.16. The decision on the grade for the defense of the bachelor's thesis / graduation thesis is taken at closed meeting of the Examination Board in accordance with the Criteria for the final assessment of theses from the Regulation on the development and defense of the bachelor's thesis/graduation thesis Nicolae Testemitanu University:
- ♦ the quality of the drafting of the bachelor's thesis/graduation thesis and compliance with the structuring rules;
- quality of the research carried out;
- quality/up-to-dateness of the bibliography;
- the quality of the oral presentation and the answers to the questions asked by the Board;
- confirmation of publication/presentation of research results (article, thesis, report, poster, proof placed in the Annex to the thesis).
- 3.17. The subjects/items for the written and oral tests of the bachelor/graduation exam are developed by the specialized didactic subdivisions, based on the study programs. The subjects are confirmed at the meeting of the specialized departments/chairs and approved by the head of the subdivision, coordinated with the deans of the Faculties and approved by the vice-rector for didactic activity one month before the prior defense.
- 3.18. The written test consists of a test-control exam based on the topic and the recommended specialized bibliography. The share of the subjects in the structure of the written test in the bachelor /graduation exam is established by the responsible departments/chairs and approved by the deans of the faculties.
- 3.19. The computer-assisted testing stage of the Bachelor /Graduation Examination consists of solving 100 tests in SIMU. The duration of the test stage is set according to the calculation: one minute for one test. The students' knowledge is assessed with marks from 1 to 10. The minimum passing grade is 5. The results of the written test are published by displaying them on the individual pages of the students in UMIS.
- 3.20. The oral test is assessed by the members of the Board. Depending on the specifics of the specialties, the oral test cards may contain topics from the profile fields, clinical cases, diagnostic and treatment algorithms for the assessment of practical skills, etc.
- 3.21. The duration of the oral test is 20-30 minutes for each student. Students' knowledge is assessed with grades from 1 to 10. The final grade is calculated as the average of the grades of all Board members. The minimum passing grade is 5. The results of the oral exam are announced to the students immediately after the exam is completed and are displayed in UMIS.
- 3.22. The final grade of the assessment tests (computer-assisted testing and/or oral test) is determined automatically by the computer (in the case of computer-assisted testing) and/or by calculating the arithmetic mean of the grades awarded by the Board members and is rounded in favor of the student until to 0.5 decimal places. At the mentioned stages of the licentiate/graduation exam, the conversion of grades into the ECTS grading scale is carried out according to the recommendations of the User Guide of the European Credit Transfer System.
  - 3.23. The final grade of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis is determined as the arithmetic

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mean of the grades given by the members of the Board and is calculated with two decimal places.

- 3.24. The grades obtained by the candidate are reflected in the minutes of the Board of the bachelor/graduation examination, in the transcript and in the supplement to the diploma.
- 3.25. The average of the graduation exam (GEA) is determined as the arithmetic mean of the average marks obtained in the samples of the bachelor /graduation exam and the grade obtained in the defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis and is calculated to two decimal places.
- 3.26. The overall grade is determined as the arithmetic average of the graduation exam average and the passing arithmetic averages of the years of study and is calculated to two decimal places, with decimals rounded in the student's favor (written with numbers and letters).
- 3.27. The register of didactic materials and informative materials, allowed to candidates for use in the exam, is drawn up by the examiners and approved by the Bachelor /Graduation Examination Board upon the recommendation of the responsible departments/chairs.
- 3.28. Absence at any stage of the bachelor /graduation exam or at the defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis is qualified as failure to pass it. Obtaining a grade lower than "5" in one of the assessment tests or in the bachelor thesis / graduation thesis is qualified as failure of the graduation exam.
- 3.29. The insufficient grade (1-4) obtained in one of the stages of the bachelor/graduation exam does not deprive the student of the right to take the other stages.
- 3.30. Graduates who have not passed the Bachelor /Graduation Examination may register for a next session of the Bachelor /Graduation Examination at the University, in order to take the compromised test(s). The exam can be taken not more than three times during the first five years after graduation.
- 3.31. If the student, on the basis of valid and duly certified reasons, was unable to take or pass the graduation/ bachelor's degree exam test(s) and/or the bachelor/graduation thesis, he/she is offered the possibility to take the unpassed components, or not taken in the same evaluation session again, with another academic group.
- 3.32. The unpassed bachelor /graduation exam can be repeated for a fee, the amount of which is determined by the decision of the University Senate.
- 3.33. Registration of candidates for the repeated taking of the licentiate/graduation exam is based on the personal application submitted to the University: for the defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis at least six months, and for the submission of oral or written tests at least two months until the bachelor/graduation exam is held.
- 3.34. When taking the bachelor /graduation exam repeatedly, it is recommended to take into account the study program/education plan and the tests proposed for the bachelor /graduation exam in the year when the candidate graduated from the University.

#### IV. WORK OF THE BACHELOR/GRADUATION EXAMINATION BOARD

4.1. For the conduct of the bachelor/graduation exam, Boards for the bachelor /graduation exam (hereinafter Boards) are established.

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- 4.2. The composition of the Boards is determined according to study programs by the Rector's Order, at the proposal of the Faculty Councils, one month before the start of the Bachelor /Graduation Exam.
  - 4.3. The boards for the graduation exam are:
- ♦ the central board;
- the supervision boards of the written exam;
- ♦ the boards for the assessment of the practical test;
- the boards for the defense of bachelor theses/graduation theses;
- the board for analysis and resolution of appeals.
- 4.4. The Board consists of the President, Vice-president, Board members (examiners) and secretaries.
- 4.5. The composition of the Board can include people with scientific and scientific-didactic titles from the specialized departments/chairs from the University. If necessary, a highly qualified practitioner specialist with rich experience and professional authority can be included in the composition of the Board.
- 4.6. The Presidents of the Boards are appointed by the Rector's Order, based on the decision of the University Senate. Specialists in the respective field may be appointed as president of the Licentiate/Graduation Examination Board: university professors, university lecturers, scientific researchers, holders of honorary titles, highly qualified practicing specialists.
- 4.7. The same person can be appointed president of a Board for no more than two consecutive years.
- 4.8. University full staff members can be appointed as Vice-presidents of the Boards: the vice-rector for didactic activity, deans, vice-deans, heads of didactic subdivisions, professors, associate professors.
- 4.9. In case the President of the Board for objective reasons cannot perform his functions, the Vice-President performs his functions until a new President is appointed.
  - 4.10. University teaching staff may be appointed as secretary of the Commission.
- 4.11. The program managers (deans, vice-deans, heads of the coordinating didactic subdivisions) prepare and present to the Board the necessary set of documents, including: the draft Order of the University rector regarding the admission of students to the exam; the set of subjects/tests developed for the assessment of the study objectives/competencies of the graduates with the assessment scales, etc.
  - 4.12. The Bachelor/Graduation Examination Board carries out the following responsibilities:
- ensures the conditions for the qualitative conduct of the final assessment;
- assesses the students' learning results, starting from the goals established for the study program for which the final assessment is organized;
- ♦ decides to suspend from the assessment test candidates who fraud the promotion of the test or who behave in the manner that contravenes the Code of University Ethics;

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- suspends the candidate from the bachelor/graduation exam, without the right to pass it the second time, in the case of detection of actions/attempts of corruption, including influence peddling or the manifestation by the graduate of a behavior that contravenes generally accepted ethical and moral norms;
- approves by open vote the final grades given to students for the test. Secret voting, abstention or transfer of the right to vote are inadmissible;
- ♦ decides based on the average of the assessment tests of higher studies, on the conferring of the title and the issuance of the diploma;
- ♦ decides on keeping or changing the research theme in the case of the licentiate thesis/graduation thesis, that was assessed with a grade lower than "5" and that is to be repeated in a subsequent assessment session;
- communicates the final assessment results to the students, responsible deans and DAMD;
- prepares and presents the Report on the results of the bachelor/graduation exam at the first ordinary meeting of the Faculty Council and the University Senate, after the completion of the last stage of the exam.
- 4.13. The final report will include information on the composition of the Board; the characteristics of the subjects/tests proposed at the licentiate/graduation exam in terms of the study objectives and the skills expected for the respective training program; a comparative analysis of the final assessment with the current assessments; the characteristic of the general level of training of the graduates; the analysis of the results of the defense of the licentiate theses/graduation thesis and proposals regarding the improvement of the initial university training process in the respective specialties.
- 4.14. The activity of the Bachelor /Graduation Board is recorded, for each assessment stage, in a minute, which is signed by the Board members and is kept in the University archive.
- 4.15. The expenses related to the activity of the Board are borne by the University. President and members of the Bachelor/Graduation Examination Boards from other institutions are remunerated in the established manner, depending on the number of hours actually worked.
- 4.16. The taking of the bachelor/graduation exam is held in the open meeting of the respective Boards in the presence of at least 2/3 of its members.
- 4.17. The Board's decisions on the final grades given for the examination tests and the defense of the bachelor thesis/graduation thesis are approved by open vote, with a simple majority of votes. Secret voting, abstention or transfer of voting rights are not permitted. In the event of a tie, the vote of the President of the Board is decisive.
- 4.18. All decisions taken by the Boards in their activities will be recorded in the minutes and the final report of the Board.
- 4.19. Students have the right to challenge the Board's decision. Requests for appeals are submitted within one working day of the announcement of the results of each stage of the bachelor/graduation exam and are registered by the Secretary of the Board in the Appeals Register. Any of the bachelor/graduation exam tests may be challenged.
  - 4.20. The composition of the Appeals Examination Board is established by the Rector's Order.



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President and members of the Bachelor/Graduation Examination Board cannot be members of the Appeals Examination Board.

- 4.21. Appeals will be examined by the Board within one working day from the submission of the application. The commission reviews and notes the contested evidence. The change of the challenged grade with the grade given after the examination of the appeal will be done by increasing or decreasing, remaining definitive. The board operates the changes that occurred as a result of appeals, recalculates, as appropriate, the overall average of the graduation exam and corrects the exam result accordingly.
- 4.22. The results of the examination of appeals are recorded in Minutes signed by the members of the Appeals Examination Board.

#### V. FINAL PROVISIONS

- 5.1. This Regulation enters into force after approval by the University Senate and is fully applied to graduates admitted to bachelor and integrated studies.
- 5.2. The specific regulations at study program level regarding the organization and conduct of the bachelor/graduation exam will be coordinated with the first vice-rector, the vice-rector for didactic activity; Didactic and Academic Management Department and approved by the Faculty Councils.
- 5.3. The amendments to the Regulation on the organization and conduct final assessment in bachelor and integrated studies in the University is carried out by the decision of the Senate.

### Signed by:

First Vice-rector.

Vice-rector for Academic activity Olga Cernetchi

Head of Didactic and

Academic Management Department Silvia Stratulat

Head of Academic Quality

Management Unit Virginia Salaru