

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași	Regulations on the organisation and conduct of admissions to doctoral studies for the academic year 2026–2027	Edition 2 Date: 12.12.2024
Council for Doctoral Studies	Code: UAIC CSUD REG 01	Revision 1 Date

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**Regulations
on the organisation and conduct of admissions to doctoral studies
for the academic year 2026-2027**

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Chapter I. Introductory provisions

Art. 1. (1) “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași is an Organising Institution for Doctoral Studies, hereinafter referred to as IOSUD - UAIC. Doctoral studies are organised in Doctoral Schools operating within IOSUD-UAIC.

The admission procedure for doctoral studies includes the selection of candidates for vacant doctoral student positions proposed by the Doctoral Schools.

(2) Admission to doctoral studies is done through a competition, organised in July. Candidates hold the selection examination before the selection committees proposed by the Doctoral School Councils (CSD) and approved by the Doctoral Studies Council (CSUD).

(3) A candidate who has been admitted may receive funding from the budget only once for the doctoral studies cycle. Candidates who have been expelled from doctoral studies are entitled to enrol in a new admission competition only for fee-paying positions, regardless of the form of education. Candidates are required to declare in writing, under signature, at the time of registration, whether they have previously attended doctoral studies. False declarations will result in elimination from the admission competition and the application of the provisions of the Penal Code.

Art. 2. Reference documents. Admission to doctoral studies for the 2026-2027 academic year is carried out in accordance with the following normative acts:

- (1) Law No. 199/2023 on higher education, as amended and supplemented;
- (2) Order of the Ministry of Education 3020/2024 approving *the Framework Regulation* on doctoral studies, as amended and supplemented;
- (3) OM 6072/31.08.2023 on the approval of transitional measures applicable to the national pre-university and higher education system;
- (4) Charter of “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University of Iași;
- (5) Institutional regulations on the organisation and functioning of doctoral studies at UAIC;
- (6) European Union Regulation 679/2016 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation);
- (7) Law No. 448/2006 on the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, republished, with subsequent amendments and additions;
- (8) Emergency Ordinance No. 133/2000 on state university and postgraduate education with fees for positions financed from the state budget, approved with amendments by Law No. 441/2001, as subsequently amended;
- (9) Government Decision No. 367 of 2023 on the approval of the Nomenclature of fields and specialisations/university study programmes and the structure of higher education institutions for the academic year 2023-2024, with subsequent amendments and additions;
- (10) Order of the Ministry of Education No. 3102 of 8 February 2022 approving the Framework Regulation on the organisation of admission to bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programmes, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- (11) Government Emergency Ordinance No. 41/2016 on the establishment of measures to simplify central public administration and to amend and supplement certain normative acts, with subsequent amendments and additions;



(12) Order of the Ministry of Education and Research No. 3018 of 13 January 2025 on the approval of the minimal mandatory national standards required for the award of a doctoral degree.

Art. 3. The number of doctoral positions funded from the state budget for each doctoral field for the academic year 2026-2027 will be allocated to the Doctoral Schools by the Board of Directors, at the proposal of the Rector, based on the number of positions allocated to IOSUD-UAIC by Order of the Minister of Education. The number of fee-paying doctoral positions is established by decision of the UAIC Senate.

In the event of the redistribution of remaining vacant doctoral positions, or the supplementation of the number of doctoral positions from the Ministry of Education, their allocation to doctoral schools shall be made exclusively following the approval of the IOSUD Central Admission Committee.

Art. 4. (1) Citizens of European Union (EU) member states, European Economic Area (EEA) states and the Swiss Confederation (CH) may also apply for admission to doctoral programmes under the same conditions as Romanian citizens, including with regard to tuition fees. The recognition of studies completed by them outside Romania will be carried out by the National Centre for the Recognition and Equivalence of Diplomas (CNRED) within the Ministry of Education. Information on the documents required and the procedure for recognising studies for admission to doctoral studies can be found at www.cnred.edu.ro

(2) Admission to doctoral studies and the enrolment of foreign citizens from non-EU countries shall be based on methodologies specifically developed by the Ministry of Education.

(3) Foreign citizens of Romanian ethnicity ("Romanians everywhere") will be admitted following an admission competition organised on the basis of specific methodologies approved by the Ministry of Education. Registration and admission will take place at the Doctoral Schools.

(4) Upon admission to doctoral studies taught in Romanian, foreign citizens who have not completed secondary/undergraduate studies in Romanian, certified by diplomas/diploma supplements, are required to submit a certificate of linguistic competence in Romanian issued by institutions authorised by the Ministry of Education and accepted by UAIC.

(5) Any further provision regarding admission to doctoral studies communicated by the Ministry of Education or approved by the University Senate shall be brought to the attention of the Doctoral Schools.

Chapter II. General provisions. Organisation of admission to doctoral studies

Art. 5. Admission calendar for doctoral studies at IOSUD-UAIC for the academic year 2026-2027.

July 2026 session:

- (a) candidate registration: 13–17 July;
- (b) candidate selection: 20–22 July;
- (c) communication of results: 22 July;
- (d) appeals (only for the written test): 23 July;
- (e) communication of results after the appeals: 24 July;
- (f) publication of the final list of admitted candidates: 24 July;
- (g) confirmation of acceptance of doctoral positions: 27, 28, 29 July.

Art. 6. (1) Doctoral candidates are admitted to doctoral programmes in the approved doctoral fields, in accordance with the legal provisions in force.



(2) IOSUD-UAIC organises doctoral studies in the following doctoral fields: Mathematics, Informatics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geology, Geography, Environmental Science, History, Philosophy, Communication Sciences, Sociology, Political Sciences, Psychology, Education Sciences, Law, Philology, Accounting, Cybernetics and Statistics, Economics, Finance, Management, Marketing, Economics and International Affairs, Economic Informatics, Administrative Sciences, Business Administration, Theology, Sport and Physical Education Science, Social Work.

Art. 7. (1) Doctoral studies are organised in the form of full-time or part-time education, with funding from the state budget (subsidised by doctoral grants) or on a fee-paying basis, the amount of which is set by the UAIC Senate, based on proposals from the Doctoral School Council, with the approval of the Executive Board of the Board of Directors and the Board of Directors.

(2) If, following the admission competition, there remain vacant positions funded from the state budget, the management of IOSUD-UAIC may decide to redistribute these positions. In this case, at each Doctoral School where places have been transferred, candidates who were initially rejected and who meet the minimum admission criteria may be enrolled in descending order of the average score obtained in the competition, until the additional positions are occupied, within the limit of vacant positions assigned to each doctoral supervisor.

(3) If, after the redistribution, there are still available budget-funded doctoral positions, the IOSUD management may decide to organise a second admission session.

Art. 8. (1) By 25 February 2026, a Central Admission Committee shall be appointed at IOSUD level, that will include the Rector of the University as chair and the Director of CSUD. The Central Admission Committee shall maintain communication with the press and all other media.

(2) By 25 February 2025, Admission Committees shall also be appointed at the level of each Doctoral School that will include the Director of the Doctoral School as chair, as well as doctoral supervisors from each field associated with the Doctoral School and a secretary.

(3) The admissions committees shall be responsible for the running of the entire admissions examination and must report any unforeseen situations that arise to the Central Admissions Committee and resolve them in collaboration with the latter. The headquarters of the Central Admissions Committee at the university shall be at the Rector's Office.

(4) The secretariat of the admission and appeals committees is provided by the secretariats of the Doctoral Schools.

(5) Once the admissions committee has been appointed, each Doctoral School shall also appoint an appeals committee, consisting of three members appointed from among the doctoral supervisors of the Doctoral School who are not members of the admissions committee. Where this condition cannot be met, other faculty members with the academic rank of professor or associate professor who have previously been members of doctoral tutoring committees may be appointed.

(6) The committees are proposed by the Doctoral School Councils and approved by the Council for Doctoral Studies.

Art. 9. The admission committees at the level of Doctoral Schools have the following responsibilities:

(a) have solid knowledge of and comply with the provisions of this methodology;

(b) manage the distribution of information regarding the admission process (number of available positions and their distribution, type of admission tests) through various means (website, leaflets, e-mail, etc.) and are responsible for their accuracy;



- (c) reply to e-mails received the addresses specifically allocated for admission within two calendar days;
- (d) organises the registration of candidates;
- (e) train the staff involved in admission activities;
- (f) provide all the necessary materials for the admission process;
- (g) certify the conformity of the copies of the identity documents required for registration with the originals, after comparing them with the originals, which are returned to the candidate;
- (h) organises (where applicable) the access of candidates to the examination rooms and their supervision during the tests;
- (i) drafts the final results of the admission competition (lists of results, enrolment decisions, etc.).

Chapter III. Special provisions

Section I: Registration of candidates for the admission competition and conduct of the admission competition

Art. 10. General conditions for candidate registration. (1) The following categories of candidates are eligible for admission to doctoral studies: graduates of higher education with a bachelor's degree or equivalent long-term university studies, graduates with a master's degree from master's degree programmes organised in accordance with Law No. 288/2004, as amended and supplemented, as well as graduates of studies completed abroad and recognised by the relevant department of the Ministry of Education as being at least equivalent to master's degree studies.

(2) Graduates with a bachelor's degree or an equivalent degree (full-time education, duration of programme 5 or 6 years), issued until the year of graduation of the first bachelor's degree series organised in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 288/2004 on the organisation of university studies, as subsequently amended and supplemented (long-term education).

(3) According to the provisions of Law No. 199/2023 on higher education and Address 25/DGIU/25/01/2021 of the Ministry of Education, the bachelor's degree of graduates of long-term higher education from the period prior to the application of the three Bologna cycles is equivalent to a master's degree in the field. Consequently, holders of long-term higher education diplomas have the right to enrol in doctoral studies without having to complete the second cycle of academic study programs, namely the master's studies.

(4) For bachelor's degree specialisations where the duration of studies has not changed after the application of the Bologna cycles, it is not possible to enrol in the third cycle of doctoral studies without completing the second cycle of master's degree studies.

(5) Enrolment in the admission competition for doctoral studies within IOSUD-UAIC in a doctoral field is not conditional on the field in which the bachelor's or master's degree was obtained, except in cases where the Doctoral Schools impose specific admission conditions. The total cumulative duration of the bachelor's and master's degree programmes must correspond to the accumulation of at least 300 transferable credits (ECTS).

Art. 11. (1) The registration of the candidates takes place in specially designated areas provided by each faculty.



(2) Faculties shall establish, in accordance with the law, measures regarding equal opportunities for persons with disabilities, ensuring, where necessary, additional support adapted to the needs of this category of candidates, supporting their access to higher education institutions.

(3) Throughout the entire admission competition period, the admission committees and appeals committees, set up at the level of each Doctoral School, shall be provided with adequately equipped premises. Furthermore, these committees shall be provided with adequate premises for registering candidates for the examination and for conducting the admission tests. The premises where the admission and appeals committees carry out their activities must be suitable for the preparation, reproduction, collection, storage and distribution of the examination tests, as well as for the storage and evaluation of the candidates' written papers, all of which must be carried out in complete security.

(4) Persons who are not involved in the admission competition are strictly prohibited from entering the premises where activities related to the doctoral admission competition are carried out.

(5) The use of mobile devices or other means of communication is strictly prohibited in the rooms where the examination topics are prepared, in the rooms where the examination takes place, and in the rooms where the candidates' theses are evaluated/re-evaluated.

(6) The topics of the oral and/or written competition tests shall remain secret until the tests are taken.

(7) Registration for the admission competition shall be done in person, based on the identity card/passport and other documents required for registration, or on behalf of the candidate by another person based on a notarised power of attorney.

(8) Candidates may also register by email. In this case, candidates shall send scanned copies of the required documents in PDF format to the secretariats of the doctoral schools (the email addresses can be found on the UAIC website), with the bachelor's and master's degrees, as well as the transcripts or diploma supplements, to be brought within a certain period of time after registration, as determined by each doctoral school. Candidates assume responsibility for the authenticity and correspondence between the digital/scanned documents and the originals to be submitted in the candidate's file.

Art. 12. (1) The following categories of candidates are eligible to enrol and participate in the doctoral admission exam:

(a) European citizens who have applied at the National Centre for the Recognition and Equivalence of Diplomas (CNRED) to get their previous studies recognised, but who have not yet received a resolution from the Ministry, provided that they write a sworn statement in this respect;

(b) candidates from third countries who have started the process with the Directorate-General for International Relations and European Affairs (DGRIAE) to get accepted for studies, but have not yet received a resolution from the Ministry, provided that they write a sworn statement in this respect.

(c) These candidates may be declared conditionally admitted upon presentation of the documents issued by CNRED and DGRIAE, respectively, no later than the end of the Advanced University Training Programme (PPUA) in the first semester. If these documents are not presented by the specified date, candidates will lose their conditional admission status.

Art. 13. (1) Contents of the application file:

(a) standard application form indicating the choice of doctoral supervisor;

(b) *curriculum vitae*;

(c) list of the candidate's scientific papers (if applicable);

(d) language proficiency certificate, issued by the Faculty of Letters of "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, no more than two years prior to the date of the admission exam; except for candidates who have graduated from a single or double specialisation that includes a foreign language in the title, from an



accredited faculty, or who have obtained a DALF, TOEFL or other recognised international certificate, as well as certificates issued by specific testing bodies of the universities in the Universitaria consortium, provided that these certificates are valid. The level of foreign language proficiency is determined by each Doctoral School;

- (e) original and certified copy of the birth certificate;
- (f) original and certified copy of identity document;
- (g) original and certified copy of the marriage/name change certificate, if applicable;
- (h) original and certified copy of the baccalaureate diploma or equivalent document;
- (i) original and certified copy of the bachelor's degree and transcript or diploma supplement;
- (j) original and certified copy of the master's degree diploma and transcript or diploma supplement (for master's degree graduates from the current academic year, the graduation certificate and academic record, issued by the faculty secretariats);
- (k) other documents specific to certain doctoral fields (Law, Theology, Sport and Physical Education Science);
- (l) receipt of payment of the registration fee.
- (m) confidentiality agreement - Annex 5.

(2) The original documents shall be returned to the candidate after the copies of the documents have been certified as true copies by the member(s) of the Admissions Committee responsible for the certification of documents.

(3) The application files for the doctoral admission competition will be kept in secure conditions (locked cabinets, with access permitted only to authorised personnel) throughout the competition.

(4) Candidates belonging to the Roma ethnic group shall also submit a written recommendation issued by one of the legally constituted Roma organisations, regardless of its field of activity, certifying that the candidate belongs to the Roma ethnic group and not to the organisation in question.

(5) The amount of the admission registration fees ranges from 50 lei to 500 RON, as proposed by each Doctoral School, with the approval of the Board of Directors and the UAIC Senate. The amount of the fee is posted on the websites of the Doctoral Schools, together with the admission conditions. The registration fee is non-refundable.

(6) Candidates (aged up to 26 years, who are financially dependent on their parents) who are children of active, retired or deceased teaching and auxiliary staff are exempt from paying the registration fee. These candidates are entitled to free accommodation in dormitories.

(7) Exemption from the registration fee is granted only on the basis of supporting documents submitted by candidates to the admissions committee. Approval of the exemption is granted by the admissions committees of each Doctoral School.

(8) False statements or the use of forgeries in connection with any document in the admission file will result in elimination from the admission competition and the application of the provisions of the Penal Code.

Art. 14. (1) The written and/or oral competition tests, as well as the evaluation, selection and ranking criteria, shall be established by the Doctoral School Councils (Annex 6). The topics and bibliography for the competition tests shall be established by the Doctoral School Councils for each doctoral field, based on the proposals submitted by all doctoral supervisors in that field.

(2) The selection committees are made up of doctoral supervisors in the field who have candidates enrolled in the competition. For fields with a large number of doctoral supervisors, with the approval of



the CSD and CSUD, competition committees may be set up for subfields, with a corresponding distribution of the doctoral positions, based on the criteria for the distribution used at the UAIC level.

(3) The minimum admission average for doctoral studies is 8 (eight). In each competition test, candidates must obtain at least an average grade of 7 (seven). Doctoral schools may impose conditions regarding an admission average higher than 8 (eight). The average is calculated to two decimal places, without rounding.

(4) In the case of equal averages, candidates shall be ranked based on the ranking criteria established by each Doctoral School. The criteria must be established before the registration of candidates; at least 3 criteria are mandatory (master's dissertation grade, bachelor's exam grade, average master's degree grade, etc.). Whenever ranking candidates based on their dissertation grade and/or master's degree grade is not possible, ranking will be based on bachelor's exam grade and/or bachelor's degree grade.

(5) Any appeals must be submitted within 24 hours from the publication of the results. Appeals are not allowed for oral, sports or artistic aptitude tests. The decision of the appeals committee is final.

Art. 15. (1) For doctoral studies organised in a foreign language, the language proficiency certificate can be issued by the Faculty of Letters of "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, no more than two years prior to taking the admission examination. An exception is made for candidates who have graduated from a single or double specialisation at an accredited faculty, the title of which contains the respective foreign language. Other recognised international certificates, as well as certificates issued by universities belonging to the Universitaria Consortium, are also valid for the application.

(2) Doctoral schools shall ensure the transparency of the candidate assessment and selection procedures and guarantee access to this information, by publishing it on the institution's website.

(3) The chairpersons of the committees are responsible for the proper conduct of the admission competition, compliance with quality standards, academic ethics and the legislation in force.

(4) Information about admission specific to each Doctoral School shall be published by each Doctoral School on its individual website and displayed on the notice board of the Doctoral School.

Section II: Final admission results and enrolment of doctoral students

Art. 16. (1) Candidates declared admitted based on the admission results shall be enrolled for the 2026-2027 academic year by Decision of the UAIC Rector.

(2) The ranking order resulting from the admission will also be used for the allocation of doctoral positions financed from the state budget, which will be awarded to the highest-ranked candidates in each field, according to the decisions of the admission committees of each Doctoral School.

(3) The results of the admission competition shall be displayed in several stages, generating at least two types of lists:

(a) provisional lists – with the ranking of candidates, generated after the admission exam proper;

(b) final lists – with the ranking of candidates, generated after the resolution of appeals, containing the final results.

(4) The lists of admitted and enrolled candidates by field of study and the lists of rejected candidates shall be displayed by each Doctoral School on the notice board and individual website.

(5) The list of displayed admission results will bear the following titles:

A **"List of candidates ADMITTED on doctoral positions funded from the state BUDGET"**, within the limit of the number of positions allocated;



B "List of candidates ADMITTED on FEE-BASED doctoral positions", within the limit of the number of positions allocated;

C "List of REJECTED candidates", if applicable.

(6) The final lists of admitted candidates and rejected candidates shall be displayed both at the premises and on the individual websites of each Doctoral School, specifying the date and time of display; the lists are signed by the director of the Doctoral School and the management of IOSUD. A copy of these lists shall be submitted to the Department for Doctoral Studies.

(7) When displaying the lists, the candidates' agreement/option expressed in the Registration Form regarding the display of their names on the admission results lists shall be considered.

Art. 17. (1) During the period announced for the confirmation of enrolment, candidates admitted to state budget-funded positions shall confirm their enrolment by submitting their original diplomas to the Doctoral School; candidates who have passed the dissertation exam during the 2025-2026 academic year shall submit their original graduation certificate.

(2) After enrolment has been approved, doctoral students are registered in the Single Matriculation Register (RMU) being assigned a unique matriculation number valid for the entire period of study in the programme to which they have been admitted.

(3) The doctoral students' data will be entered into the university's E-sims programme, a study management system, which will record, throughout the doctoral studies, the doctoral student's academic status, interruptions or extensions of their activity, etc.

(4) The doctoral programme is based on an agreement concluded between the doctoral student and IOSUD-UAIC.

(5) Upon signing the study agreement, admitted candidates are required to submit a bank statement that will be used to carry out bank transfers that might occur during the academic year (scholarships, fee refunds, awards, etc.). The bank account number listed in the bank statement submitted to the file will be included in the study agreement. The doctoral student shall notify the Doctoral School secretariat within 5 working days about any changes regarding the above-mentioned data and submit a new bank statement. In exceptional cases, the bank statement may be submitted before the start of the academic year.

(6) For candidates funded from the state budget, scholarships awarded by the Ministry of Education will be distributed, in descending order of admission averages, only to candidates declared admitted to full-time studies who have signed the study agreement.

(7) Candidates declared admitted to state budget-funded positions shall pay a registration fee of 100 RON.

(8) Candidates admitted to fee-paying places are required to pay, according to the schedule set by each faculty, at least 30% of the tuition fee for the first semester of the academic year 2026-2027 and to sign the study agreement. After this deadline, candidates who have not fulfilled these obligations will be declared rejected. The places vacated by these candidates will be filled by the next candidates who meet the admission requirements, or will be put up for competition in a new session.

Art. 18. Tuition fees shall be refunded in the event of withdrawal as follows:

(a) Candidates admitted on a fee-paying position who withdraw from their studies within 5 (five) days of signing the Study Agreement will be charged 10% of the tuition fee for the first semester. If the withdrawal request is made after the 5 (five) day period following the signing of the Study Agreement,



but before the start of the academic year, 15% of the tuition fee for the first semester will be retained. After the start of the academic year, fees are no longer refundable.

(b) The tuition fee paid by candidates admitted to fee-paying positions shall be refunded in full if the student admitted on a fee-paying basis has, following redistribution, been allocated a state budget-funded place.

Chapter IV. Final provisions

Art. 19. (1) Doctoral studies are conducted in Romanian or, with the approval of the Doctoral School Council and the management of IOSUD, in an international language.

(2) For doctoral students whose research topics require guidance from several doctoral supervisors from different fields or in the case of conducting the research project in another institution, a joint doctoral programme shall be organised. In this case, in addition to the supervisor from the Doctoral School where the doctoral student is enrolled, guidance shall be provided by one or more doctoral supervisors, based on a joint supervision agreement concluded between the parties.

(3) Both the files of admitted candidates and those of rejected candidates shall be kept in secure conditions (cabinets, metal filing cabinets), equipped with locks and accessible only to authorised personnel (members of the committees, staff of the university's general secretariat, staff of the faculty secretariats, staff of the Department for Doctoral Studies – Rector's Office within the university). The gradebooks and grading or assessment records, as well as other documents issued by the admission committees, shall be kept under the same security conditions. The security of the computer systems used in the processing of data and information related to the admission competition shall also be ensured.

(4) If there are special conditions during the admission period (state of emergency, state of alert, restrictions on the movement of persons, localities in quarantine, etc.), the registration of candidates and the admission tests at IOSUD may also be carried out using electronic means and the institutional platforms of UAIC. The results of the online tests (specialised theoretical knowledge, interview) will be recorded by the admission committees and archived by the faculties for a period of 5 years. Candidates will be informed that the admission tests will be recorded and their consent will be requested for this purpose. Refusal to consent to recording will result in elimination from the admission competition for doctoral studies.

(5) Any further provision sent by the Ministry of Education or approved by the University Senate regarding admission to doctoral studies shall be brought to the attention of the Doctoral Schools;

Art. 20. These Regulations for the organisation and conduct of admissions to doctoral studies were approved by the Senate of Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași on 11.12.2025 and apply to the academic year 2026-2027.

RECTOR

Professor Liviu-George MAHA, PhD



LIST OF ANNEXES:

Annex 1. Registration form

Annex 2. Doctoral admission test and selection criteria

Annex 3. Registration and tuition fees for doctoral studies

Annex 4. Information on the processing of personal data

Annex 5. Confidentiality agreement