



UniSR

Università Vita-Salute
San Raffaele

Academic Regulations

Master's Degree Programme in Medicine and Surgery –

International Medical Doctor Program

In force for students enrolling in the academic year 2026-2027

Issued by Rector's Decree no. 10090 of 9 June 2026

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These Regulations use the masculine form in all circumstances, but this form should be understood as referring inclusively to all persons, irrespective of their gender.

General Part

ART. 1 Admission to the Degree Programme

1.1 Knowledge required for admission

Candidates holding a five-year upper secondary school diploma or an equivalent foreign qualification may be admitted to the Single-Cycle Master's Degree Programme – International MD Program (CLIMDP).

A level of English language proficiency equivalent to C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is also required.

Candidates must also have, or acquire, an adequate initial level of preparation, verified through the admission test, in accordance with applicable regulations.

Students whose first language is not Italian are required to acquire an adequate command of the Italian language. By the end of the second year of the programme, those students will be required to submit a certificate of Italian language proficiency at level B1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). If this requirement is not met, students will not be able to attend the practical professional training activities included in the Study Plan from the third year onwards.

The Degree Programme will provide students with training tools to help them attain the required level of Italian.

1.2 Admission Procedures

Course admission procedures for the Single-Cycle Degree Programme – International MD Program (Class LM-41) and the selection test are set out in the Call for Applications.

The number of students admitted to the CLIMDP is limited, in line with national planning, on the basis of the availability of teaching staff, teaching facilities (classrooms, laboratories) and healthcare facilities that can be used to carry out practical activities, in accordance with the recommendations of the European Union's Advisory Committee on Medical Training, applying the parameters and guidelines laid down by the University and the Faculty.

The limited number of places available for the first year is defined pursuant to Article 3(2) of Italian Law no. 264 of 2 August 1999 (rules on access to university degree programmes).

In addition to its selective function, the admission test also serves as an assessment test to ascertain the initial knowledge required for admission.

Enrolment in the Master's Degree Programme – International MD Program may take place after the academic year has started, provided it is in time for attendance of the courses. In this case,

the student is required to undertake specific catch-up through supplementary teaching activities under the guidance of the integrated course leader or a tutor. The supplementary teaching activities may also be carried out online.

1.3 Definition of Additional Educational Requirements (OFA) for three-year degrees and single-cycle Master's degrees

The Degree Programme Council assesses the answers given by students admitted to the Degree Programme, identifying any specific gaps in the subject areas of Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Biology. In order to address any educational shortfalls, or Additional Educational Requirements (OFA), the CLIMDP establishes supplementary preparatory teaching activities to be completed before the start of the second year. The supplementary teaching activities may also be carried out using digital platforms. Students with an educational debt must attend these activities and pass them. The need to fulfil additional educational requirements in each of the above four areas is determined when the number of correct answers for the admission test questions in the corresponding area falls below 50 per cent.

An assessment test is therefore provided to establish whether the additional educational requirements have been met.

If a student fails to pass the tests assessing the catch-up of the additional educational requirements, their academic career may be blocked at the end of the first year. Any stop to the academic career entails the freezing of any exams already taken and the impossibility to take any new exams until the educational debt has been settled.

ART. 2 Study Plan

Teaching activity is organised in accordance with the Study Plan set out in the following section **“Course Prospectus”**.

2.1 Individual Study Plans

Individual Study Plans may be submitted by requesting approval from the Degree Programme Council (CCdS) by the start of the year of the degree programme; the Council will assess the request taking into account the Programme Specifications for the relevant cohort.

ART. 3 Mobility

The Degree Programme, on the basis of inter-institutional agreements or within the framework of European and international programmes, offers the possibility of carrying out learning activities at foreign Universities, providing support and guidance through its own administrative offices and academic contacts.

The Degree Programme strongly promotes international mobility activities, in particular by establishing mobility agreements with foreign academic institutions, under which students have the opportunity to undertake professional training activities (“Track Rotations”).

In addition, the Degree Programme provides for the entire second semester of the sixth year of the curriculum to be free from lecture-based and interactive teaching activities, during which students may complete part of their thesis project during an internship at another national or international institution (Additional Project).

ART. 4 Repeating student

Students who have obtained attendance certificates for all the course units provided for their year of study may progress to the following year even if they have not sat all the exams scheduled for the year. If students have not obtained attendance certificates for the course units provided for their year of study, they must repeat the year and will be enrolled with the status of repeating students.

In the case of the Professional Training Activities and the Practical Training and Assessment aimed at obtaining the qualification to practise as a medical doctor, any failure to obtain an attendance certificate does not prevent progression to the following year.

The status of repeating student begins at the end of the sixth year if students do not pass the exams in time for the degree sessions scheduled during the academic year.

ART. 5 Final Examination

To be admitted to the final degree examination, students must have passed all the exams, acquired 11 ECTS-credits for student-option activities and obtained credits for all the professional training activities included in the Study Plan.

Students have 18 ECTS-credits (recognised at the time of their final examination) allocated for the preparation of the degree dissertation at the University's facilities or other affiliated facilities.

The dissertation must represent an original contribution to the advancement of knowledge in medicine or surgery and is prepared by the student under the guidance of a supervisor, who may be supported by an assistant supervisor.

The dissertation must make it possible to assess the candidate's theoretical knowledge, methodological skills, technical abilities and command of conceptual and argumentative tools, as well as their ability to engage with the relevant scientific literature. During the defence, the Committee also assesses the student's communication skills.

The final examination also serves as the State Licensing Assessment for the profession of Medical Doctor, provided that the Practical Training and Assessment required by the applicable regulations has been passed.

For formal aspects, one should refer to the guidance provided by the competent offices and the specific operating procedure.

5.1 Calculation of the degree mark

The following parameters contribute to determining the final mark, expressed out of one hundred and ten:

- the arithmetic mean of the marks obtained in the exams included in the Study Plan, where each “with honours” is counted as 0.33;
- a maximum of 14 points, allocated as follows:

Type of research (experimental study; case series presentation; case report; literature-based study)	maximum 4 points		7
Quality of the presentation	maximum 1 point		
Command of the topic	maximum 1 point		
Clarity of presentation and discussion skills	maximum 1 point		
Degree Programme duration	Degree completed on schedule	1 point	1
	Degree completed	0 points	
Number of “with honours”	≥ 9	3 points	3
	6 ≤ no. of “with	2 points	
	3 ≤ no. of “with	1 point	
International Mobility	At least 180 days	3 points	3
	At least 90 days	1 point	
TOTAL			14

The Committee may, unanimously, award “honours” to candidates who achieve a final mark ≥ 113 .

The Committee may, unanimously, award an “honourable mention” to candidates who achieve a final mark ≥ 116 .

The request will in any case be made by the Supervisor, but at the end of the Thesis session, when the marks are decided.

5.2 Final Examination Committee

The Degree Examination Committee is made up of at least 7 members, at least 5 of whom are permanent teaching staff or researchers of Vita-Salute San Raffaele University.

The Committee is chaired by the Chair of the CLIMDP Degree Council or, in their absence, by the teaching staff member with the longest service in the role. For each candidate, the Committee

must include the Supervisor, who must be a professor or Researcher, including on a fixed-term basis, of Vita-Salute San Raffaele University, and the Assistant Supervisor. The Committee may also include the second Assistant Supervisor, if there is one.

The Assistant Supervisor, or the second Assistant Supervisor cannot be a person in training, a PhD student or a specialist trainee: they must have a scientific curriculum at least equivalent to that of a University Researcher.

As provided for by the applicable regulations, a Representative of the relevant professional body will be present, who may verify the proper conduct of the final licensing examination for the purposes of subsequent registration with the professional council, but will not contribute to the assessment of the final mark.

ART. 6 Recognition of credits

6.1 University and course transfers

The recognition of credits deriving from university or course transfers is the responsibility of the Degree Programme Council, which, in the case of university transfers, uses a specifically appointed Committee that conducts an assessment on the basis of criteria (established annually) and in accordance with the relevant Call for Applications.

Applications to transfer to the Degree Programme are subject to approval from the Degree Programme Council, having heard the opinion of the Committee, which:

1. assesses the possibility of full or partial recognition of the course of study undertaken up to that point. In the event of full recognition of individual integrated courses already passed, the Committee will validate the mark obtained at the other institution;
2. the Committee may also recognise a pass of just a single part of an integrated course, leaving the coordinating lecturer the responsibility for defining the completion of the course as well as the calculation of the final mark;
3. then recognises the ECTS-credits acquired up to the same number of credits for the same Academic Discipline(s) envisaged in the Academic Regulations of the Degree Programme. In all cases where the student transfers between Degree Programmes belonging to the same class, the number of ECTS-credits relating to the same Academic Discipline that has been directly recognised for the student may not be lower than the limit laid down by the applicable legislation;
4. identifies the year of study after the first in which the student may enrol;
5. establishes, in a detailed manner, any educational debt that needs to be met.

6.2 Extracurricular activities

Recognition is approved by the Degree Programme Council according to criteria of strict consistency with the educational objectives and expected learning outcomes of the Degree Programme and in line with the provisions of Italian Ministerial Decree no. 931 of 4 July 2024.

The maximum limit of recognisable credits is 48 ECTS-credits.

6.3 International Mobility

The Degree Programme promotes international mobility through the organisation of the following activities:

- Erasmus+
- Track rotations abroad
- Additional project

If the Degree Programme Council decides that part of the recognised credits cannot be validated for the purposes of the Study Plan, they may be included as additional extracurricular credits.

ART. 7 Attendance

Attendance is compulsory.

Attendance is recorded through online systems and spot checks may be carried out to confirm the student's presence in the lecture room.

ART. 8 Tutoring model

To ensure support for students, several types of tutoring are used within the degree programme, such as:

1. **Information and guidance tutoring**: a service for incoming students and those already enrolled. Counselling services, assistance for students with disabilities and SLDs and support for international students are provided to accompany them throughout their educational path and facilitate their academic integration.

Information and guidance Tutoring may also be delivered through peer-to-peer tutoring, aimed at supporting students in organising their studies, addressing issues relating to study organisation and individual learning methods. Tutors are students regularly enrolled and attending years after the first.

2. **Academic Tutoring**: a service aimed at supporting students in overcoming learning-related difficulties encountered during their course of study and in promoting effective participation in courses. Academic Tutors (also known as Year Tutors) organise regular meetings with the class to identify any issues and support the management of individual student cases, working with the Faculty Office and the Chair of the Degree Programme Council.

3. **Clinical Tutoring:** a service aimed at supervising students in clinical activities at each internship site, with the support of the medical team and specialised staff, in compliance with the applicable regulations.

The above tutoring roles are appointed annually by resolution of the Faculty Council, following a proposal by the Degree Programme Council.

Special Part

ART. 9 Description of the Educational Programme and of the educational activities

As provided for by the Faculty Regulations, educational activities are delivered as follows:

Lecture-based teaching

Lecture

A lecture is a traditional teaching method in which the lecturer presents topics and content, guiding students' learning through explanations, examples and further insights. Lectures are mainly used to convey theoretical knowledge in a clear and organised way, making it possible to introduce new topics and provide students with a shared foundation.

Seminar

Seminars are teaching activities delivered by one or more speakers, invited by the Course Leader based on specific expertise. However, the Course Leader is required to be present during the seminar, to ensure teaching continuity. Any clinical-pathological conferences that may be established within the clinical courses are also recognised as seminar activities.

Interactive Teaching

Tutoring

As part of teaching activities, tutoring is provided to support students in the learning process, fostering the development of an effective study method and greater awareness of self-assessment processes. These activities complement lecture-based teaching and are aimed at facilitating understanding of subject content and consolidating skills. They may include in-depth sessions and practical sessions, as indicated by the teaching staff.

Tutoring may also make use of digital platforms and teaching aids to support self-learning and self-assessment.

Practical session

Practical sessions are a form of teaching typically aimed at a small group of students. This teaching activity is coordinated by a Lecturer, whose task is to support the students assigned to them in acquiring knowledge, skills, behavioural models i.e. competences useful for practising their profession.

Professional teaching

Professional training activities

During the degree programme, students are required to acquire specific professional skills in the fields of internal medicine, general surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, medical and surgical specialities, as well as in a General Practice clinic. For this purpose, students must

undertake professional training activities for a total of 60 ECTS-credits, including 15 ECTS-credits for Practical Training and Assessment for the purposes of the State Licensing Assessment (referred to in the dedicated paragraph), by attending affiliated facilities in accordance with the instructions provided by the relevant offices.

Professional training activities are a form of teaching activity that requires the student to carry out clinical or lab activities with progressively increasing levels of autonomy and to perform supervised practical activities as a simulation of clinical or lab work; at the end of each academic year these activities are certified in the student's record book.

Professional training activities take place in inpatient wards, day-hospitals, outpatient and laboratory facilities or other healthcare facilities, both in Italy and abroad or in clinical simulation settings.

At every stage of the professional training activities, students are required to work under the direct supervision of a lecturer or a suitably selected and trained clinical tutor. The teaching duties of the lecturer to whom students undertaking this compulsory activity are assigned are the same as those provided for tutor-led activities carried out as part of the courses.

The Faculty Council may identify affiliated non-university healthcare facilities at which the internship or professional training activities may be conducted, in part or in full, after assessing their teaching suitability.

Practical Training and Assessment

The Practical Training and Assessment (Licensing rotation) will take place as set out in the Study Plan. As indicated in Article 3 of Italian Ministerial Decree no. 58 of 2018, the passing of all examinations from the first to the fourth year of the course is to be understood as preparatory and compulsory for access to the Practical Training and Assessment. The Practical Training and Assessment contributes to the acquisition of the 60 ECTS-credits for professional training activities required by the programme specifications.

Where the Practical Training and Assessment is conducted outside University facilities, it is organised on the basis of memoranda of understanding between the University and the Regional Government. In implementation of the above memoranda of understanding, the University enters into agreements with facilities affiliated with the National Health Service, to ensure students have access to the Practical Training and Assessment.

The Practical Training and Assessment is divided into three periods, which need not be consecutive, of 100 hours (5 ECTS-credits) each:

- surgical area (Licensing rotation in surgery);
- medical area (Licensing rotation in internal medicine);
- General Practice area (Licensing rotation in community medicine), to be carried out at the clinic of a General Practitioner on the basis of agreements entered into between the University and the professional bodies of Medical Surgeons.

The certification of attendance and the assessment of the periods are performed under the direct responsibility and care of the University lecturer or medical director responsible for the facility attended by the intern, and of the General Practitioner, who each issue the formal confirmation of attendance, for the part within their remit, together with the assessment of results relating to the competences demonstrated, and, where positive, express the student's suitability. Confirmation of each student's attendance, the assessment of the activity carried out by both the internship tutor and the person responsible for the unit attended or the coordinating lecturer, as well as the final assessment of suitability, are fulfilled by completing the electronic internship record book. This digitally generated record book is divided into a descriptive section of the activities carried out and an assessment section of the competences demonstrated.

The Practical Training and Assessment is passed only if a judgement of suitability is obtained in all three periods.

Thesis internship

"Thesis internship" (*Elective rotations*) means a period carried out in an operating unit, a service, a clinical or research lab of IRCCS OSR and/or UniSR, under the supervision of a Supervisor and an Assistant Supervisor, aimed at writing the degree dissertation for the award of the qualifying Master's Degree in Medicine and Surgery (International MD Program). The thesis internship, or part of it, may also be carried out at an external body, subject to approval by the Degree Programme Council, authorisation from the Supervisor and the signing of the relevant agreement.

After identifying their scientific area of interest and checking the possibility of performing the thesis internship, the student shall contact the tenured member of the Faculty academic staff to confirm their availability to act as Supervisor.

The passing of all examinations from the first to the fourth year of the course is to be understood as preparatory and compulsory for access to the thesis internship.

Each year, the Degree Programme Council approves the guidelines defining the operating arrangements and the timeframes for starting and completing the thesis internship.

Independent learning

Over the six years, the Degree Programme guarantees students the opportunity to undertake independent learning to the extent set out in the table in the Course Prospectus.

Extracurricular activities

After verifying consistency with the educational objectives of the Degree Programme, the Degree Programme Council may recognise the extracurricular activities not provided for in the Study Plan.

The Degree Programme Council may recognise such activities, in accordance with the criteria established annually, as additional extracurricular credits, distinct from the ECTS-credits recognised for extracurricular activities referred to in Article 6.2 above.

In accordance with the applicable regulations, lessons may be delivered online.

ART. 10 Specific provisions relating to academic planning

As provided for by Article 21(10) of the University Academic Regulations, there is a single examination session.

By annual resolution, the Degree Programme Council sets the dates of at least six suitably distributed examination sittings.

The degree examination takes place in the periods indicated by the academic calendar, as established in the University Academic Regulations, Article 21(14 and 15).

Professional training activities and Practical Training and Assessments are organised across all 12 months of the year, with no exclusions of periods or days of the week, including public holidays.

Course Prospectus

TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY	HOURS/ECTS	ECTS AS PER SPECIFICATIONS	TOTAL HOURS	TYPE OF TEACHING ACTIVITY
BASIC	12.5	68	850	LECTURE-BASED INTERACTIVE +
CORE	12.5	184	2300	LECTURE-BASED INTERACTIVE +
RELATED AND SUPPLEMENTARY	12.5	19	237.5	LECTURE-BASED INTERACTIVE +
STUDENT-OPTION	25	11	275	LECTURE-BASED INTERACTIVE +
FINAL EXAMINATION	25	18	450	INTERACTIVE
TRAINING AND GUIDANCE INTERNSHIPS	25	45	1125	PROFESSIONAL TEACHING
PRACTICAL TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT INTERNSHIP TPV	25	15	375	PROFESSIONAL TEACHING
TOTAL		360	5612.5	

During the annual phase of academic planning, a different proportion of the workload reserved for individual study may be established, which in any case may not be less than 50% of the total workload in terms of hours. This is without prejudice to cases where learning activities with a high experiential or practical content are envisaged.

The Italian version of this Regulations is the only legal means of communication of the relative contents and in case of dispute, the Italian version shall prevail.