

Islamic Republic of Iran  
Ministry of Health Treatment and Medical Education  
High Council for Medical Sciences Planning

**Educational Regulations for the General Doctorate Course of  
Pharmacy**

Approved by the 61st session of the High Council for Planning of Medical Sciences, dated ۲۰۱۵.۰۹.۲۷

(Sealed by: Ministry of Health and Medical Education of the Supreme Planning Council of Medical Sciences of the Islamic Republic of Iran.)

**Educational regulations of the General Doctorate of Pharmacy  
approved by the 61st session of the High Council for Planning of  
Medical Sciences dated 1394/07/05**

The educational regulations of the General Doctorate of Pharmacy approved by the Secretariat of the Pharmaceutical and Specialized Education Council has been designed in 13 chapters, 85 articles and 85 notes and confirmed in the 61st session of the High Council for Medical Sciences Planning dated ۲۰۱۵.۰۹.۲۷. This regulation is effective from the beginning of the 2016-2017 academic year for those students who enter the university after this date, and from this date, all regulations and directives contrary to it for students covered by this regulation will be canceled.

**It is approved.**

Signed by Dr. Mohammad Abdullahi, Secretary of the Pharmaceutical and Specialized Education Council

**It is approved.**

Signed by Dr. Seyed Mansour Razavi, Secretary of the Supreme Council for Medical Science Planning

**It is approved.**

Signed by Dr. Bagher Larijani, Vice Chancellor for Education

The decision issued in the 61st session of the High Council for Planning of Medical Sciences on ۲۰۱۵.۰۹.۲۷ regarding the educational regulations of the general doctorate course of pharmacy is correct, to be communicated to the implementing credits.

Dr. Seyed Hassan Hashemi

Signed by Minister of Health, Treatment and Medical Education

Chairman of the Supreme Council for Medical Science Planning

(Sealed: Ministry of Health and Medical Education of the Supreme Planning Council of Medical Sciences of the Islamic Republic of Iran)

## **Chapter Twelve: Dissertation**

Article 67) The dissertation is a part of the general doctorate course of pharmacy during which the student is obliged to research in a field related to his / her field of study under the supervision of the supervisor.

Article 68) Students of the General Doctorate of Pharmacy must select and register the subject of their dissertation after passing 140 credits of the General Doctorate of Pharmacy for one year.

**Note:** A student who does not register the subject of his dissertation within the prescribed period, will not be allowed to take a new course until the subject of the dissertation is registered.

Article 69) The supervisor is determined by the student's proposal, approval of the supervisor, approval of the relevant department, and approval of the research council of the relevant faculty.

**Note 1:** The rank of supervisor is at least an assistant professor. In exceptional cases, with the approval of the faculty research council, the instructor faculty members can also be used as a supervisor.

**Note 2:** In special cases and with the approval of the Research Council of the Faculty and in order to conduct interdepartmental research, the student can have more than one supervisor.

Article 70) If necessary, upon the proposal of the supervisor, one of the faculty members with prominent specialists and researchers will be appointed as the advisor professor after the approval of the faculty research council.

**Note:** The maximum number of dissertations in the general doctorate course of pharmacy that are simultaneously supervised by each supervisor is obtained by dividing the total number of incoming students per year by the total number of faculty members of the relevant faculty multiplied by 2. In faculties where the number of faculty members is high and using the above formula would result in a low number of dissertation for each faculty member, each faculty member based on his / her academic rank and with the approval of the faculty research council, can maximumly supervise 3 student dissertations at the same time.

Article 71) Choosing the dissertation topic should be under the guidance of the supervisor.

Article 72) The subject of the dissertation should not be duplicate in the sense that the dissertation with similar or different title but the same content has not been taken in the relevant university in the last 5 years.

**Note:** In special cases and with the proposal of the Faculty Research Council, if there is a need for re-research in some topics in less than the above time interval, obtaining a dissertation with similar title and content is unrestricted.

Article 73) Each student must choose one topic for the dissertation.

**Note:** The selection of the dissertation topic by a group of students (maximum 3 students) after approval of the supervisor and approval of the Faculty Research Council is allowed provided the following conditions:

A: The volume and importance of the research topic should be proportional to the number of students.

B: The subject of the research should be divided in such a way that each of the students can be responsible for doing an independent part of the dissertation.

Article 74) In order to register the dissertation topic, the following steps must be taken:

- A: Selecting the dissertation topic with the guidance of the supervisor
- B: Checking the non-repetition of the dissertation topic by the research deputy of the faculty
- C: Approval of the dissertation proposal in the relevant department
- C: Submission of the dissertation proposal by the department to the Vice Chancellor for Research to be approval by the Faculty Research Council
- E: Communicating the approved decision of the Faculty Research Council to the supervisor to start the dissertation.

**Note:** The interval between the registration time of the dissertation topic and the time of its defense should not be less than one year.

Article 75) Each dissertation must contain the following:

- A: Abstract in Persian and English (Importance and field, materials and methods, results and conclusions).
- B: Introduction (Reasons for significance of the study, general information in the field of the study, and purpose of the study):
- C: Literature Review
- D: Methodology (type of research, context and research materials, sample size and sampling method, data collection method, data analysis procedure, types of statistical tests, and the procedure).
- E: Results (use of statistical tests, tables, figures, and results expression)
- F: Discussion and conclusion (reviewing the results, comparing the results with other studies, investigating the reason for the difference between the research results and other studies, reviewing the shortcomings and limitations of the research, final conclusions and suggestions for further studies).
- G: References

Article 76) Writing the dissertation in English is unrestricted, but in addition to the English abstract, it must also have an abstract in Persian.

Article 77) The jury, which is responsible for the final decision on dissertations is composed of the following members:

- 1- Supervisor
- 2- Advisor (if any)
- 3- Representative of the Faculty Research Council
- 4- Representative of the Education department related to the dissertation
- 5- A member of the faculty or researchers, specialists and experts selected by the relevant department

**Note:** The academic rank of supervisor and faculty members must be at least an assistant professor; in special circumstances after the approval of the faculty research council, it can be an instructor as well. Researchers, specialists and experts are required to have Ph. D. degree.

Article 78) The evaluation of dissertation is done by the jury on a scoring scale from zero to twenty and according to the relevant scores, they are distinguished into four grades as follows:

<b>Excellent</b>	Dissertation ranging score 19-20
<b>Very good</b>	Dissertation ranging score 17-18.99
<b>Good</b>	Dissertation ranging score 14-16.99
<b>Acceptable</b>	Dissertation ranging score under 14

Note: Dissertations can obtain the excellent rank which are research-based and/or being published or accepted in one of the prestigious internal or overseas scientific journals. Obviously, submitting an article or getting acceptance for its publication must be done before defending the dissertation and determining the final score.

Article 79) All students are required to defend their dissertation in the last academic semester and if the student cannot defend his/her dissertation and get a passing score within the authorized academic years, despite passing all the educational courses successfully, he/she will be fired.

Article 80) The number of credits and the score of the dissertations 1 and 2 of the students of the general doctorate course of pharmacy in the

semester in which the unit is taken and the dissertation 3 will be registered in the last semester.

Article 81) The time of graduation of a student is the time when he / she has passed all his / her courses, including the dissertation. (Whichever is later)

Article 82) All rights acquired from the dissertation belong to the university.

Article 83) A copy of the summary of each dissertation must be sent to the Deputy Minister of Research and Technology of the relevant ministry for operation and notifying other centers.