



METHODOLOGY for the admission to doctoral studies – September 2026 session –

Art. 1. At Transilvania University of Braşov, the candidates are admitted to doctoral studies by **competition**, in accordance with the provisions of the Law of Higher Education no. 199/2023, as subsequently amended and supplemented, the Order no. 3020/2024 of the Minister of Education (OME) for the approval of the Framework Regulation on Doctoral Studies, as subsequently amended and supplemented, and the Order of the relevant minister for the approval of the Framework Methodology regarding the Organization of the Admission to Higher Education in the short-term bachelor's, master's and doctoral higher-education cycles.

Art. 2. The admission to doctoral studies is organised for the full-time (FT) and part-time (PT) **forms of education**, both on state-budgeted places and on self-financed places, or based on other legally established sources.

Art. 3. The **doctoral fields** for which the admission competition is organised at Transilvania University of Braşov are the ones approved in accordance with the applicable rules of law.

Art. 4. The **lists of doctoral supervisors**, by fields and faculties, can be consulted on the university's website, at the address: <https://www.unitbv.ro/en/research/doctoral-studies/doctoral-programmes.html>

Art. 5. There are two types of doctoral study programmes:

- a) **scientific doctorate**, which aims to produce original, internationally relevant scientific knowledge, based on scientific methods; the scientific doctorate is a prerequisite for a professional career in higher education and research; **the scientific doctoral study programmes are organised only for the form of full-time education;**
- b) **professional doctorate**, which aims to produce original knowledge based on the application of the scientific method, of the systematic reflection or of the applicative research upon artistic creations, upon great national or international sports performances or upon topics of practical importance, and which serves as a basis for a professional career in higher education and research, in the pursued fields; **the professional doctoral study programmes may be organised both in the form of full-time education and in the form of part-time education.**

Art. 6. The **indicative (general) theme and, where applicable, the themes proposed** for the doctoral admission competition and **the bibliography** for the examination are established by the doctoral supervisors who send them to the coordinators of the doctoral fields for endorsement and centralised transmission to SDI, in electronic format (Romanian and English, or another international language, as applicable) until 20 May 2026. The process of theme analysis and endorsement for the 2026 admission competition will be complete with the display of the themes open for competition, by fields and doctoral supervisors, on the website of SDI, until 31 May 2026, in order to inform the candidates.

The list of themes put up for competition may be completed, in justified cases, until 31 August 2026 (the start of the registrations), with the observance of the same protocol for the endorsement of the proposed themes.

Art. 7. (1) The registration for the admission competition is conditional on the candidate's holding a **Certificate of Language Proficiency** for an international language (English, German, French, Spanish), of minimum B2 level, according to CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). At Transilvania University of Braşov, this certificate can be obtained by passing a language proficiency exam at the Centre for Modern Languages (<http://cilm.ro/>).

(2) The following are **exempted from taking the language proficiency exam**: the candidates who are citizens of a country where the official language is international (English, German, French, Spanish), the candidates who graduated from a bachelor's or master's study programme taught in one of these languages (including the graduates of bachelor's study programmes in the fields of Language and Literature and Applied Modern Languages) and the candidates who hold a language proficiency certificate of minimum B2 level (CEFR), issued by an international institution authorised for this purpose. The certificates of language proficiency issued by Romanian institutions must be validated by the Centre for Modern Languages within Transilvania University of Braşov (to be sent for validation to cilm@unitbv.ro).

Art. 8. Conditions of registration for the competition

(1) The competition of admission to doctoral studies may be taken by:

(a) **graduates with a master's degree** of the master's education cycle organised according to the Law no. 288/2004, with subsequent amendments and completions;

(b) **graduates with a bachelor's degree or the equivalent thereof of long-term university studies** organised under the Law no. 84/1995, republished, with subsequent amendments and completions;

(c) **graduates of the studies completed abroad** and recognised by the specialised directorate within the relevant ministry as at least master's degree studies.

(2) The total cumulative duration of the bachelor's and master's education cycles (for studies according to the Bologna system) must ensure at least 300 transferable credits (ECTS).

(3) Within Transilvania University of Braşov, the candidates who obtained **an average grade of minimum 7 (seven) for the bachelor's study years, and of minimum 7 (seven) for the master's study years**, where applicable, may register for the admission to doctoral studies. Subject to the approval of the Council for Doctoral University Studies (CSUD), the candidates who won awards in prestigious nationally and internally acknowledged/relevant contests or competitions over the last five years may be exempted from the above condition of the minimum average grade. The documentary evidence in this regard, along with the application for approval of the exception, shall be submitted to the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School (SDI), until the 31st of July 2026, at the latest.

(4) Only the candidates who obtained **an average grade of minimum 8.50 for the graduation of the bachelor's education cycle** (the arithmetic mean between the average grade of the undergraduate years and the average grade in the bachelor's final exam) are **eligible for state-budgeted places**.

(5) If not all state-budgeted places are occupied, CSUD may approve, at the proposal of SDI, derogations from the above requirement, respectively the (re)distribution of the vacancies to the candidates who opt for state-budgeted places - without a scholarship and who have a minimum average grade of 8.00 for the bachelor's education cycle.

Art. 9. The competition of admission to the doctoral studies may also be taken by:

(a) **citizens of the Member States of the European Union, of the States belonging to the European Economic Area and of the Swiss Confederation, as well as British citizens and members of their families**, under the same conditions laid down by law for the Romanian citizens, including in terms of tuition fees. The studies they completed outside of Romania will be recognised by the specialised directorate of the relevant ministry (<https://cnred.edu.ro/ro/studii-universitare>), before the candidates' registration for the admission competition, and each candidate must submit, upon entering the competition, the certificate for the recognition of the studies. The procedure can be initiated through UNITBV or by the candidate him/herself. The candidates need to consider an about 30-day period of time for the settlement.

(b) **citizens of EU third countries**, on the basis of the methodologies especially developed by the relevant ministry, respectively of the internal regulations developed in accordance therewith.

Art. 10. The candidates who were previously expelled from state-budgeted doctoral studies have the right to register for a new admission competition only on self-financed places.

Art. 11. The candidates who completed a doctoral programme can register for a new doctoral programme, under the law and in compliance therewith, yet taking into account the caveat that they can avail of financing from the state budget for a single doctoral programme. Therefore, **the candidates who hold the doctor's degree obtained upon completion of a state-budgeted programme can only register for self-financed places.**

Art. 12. A candidate may be admitted and enrolled as a student in no more than two study programmes at the same time, regardless of the course of study and the education institutions that offer them.

Art. 13. Documents required for registration:

In order to register for the doctoral admission competition, the candidates will access the online admission platform for registration and will upload the following documents on the electronic platform:

1. the application form and the registration form (standard forms) available on the website of SDI (Appendix 1 and Appendix 2);
2. certificate of language proficiency;
3. identity card;
4. birth certificate;
5. marriage certificate or another act of name change (if applicable);
6. baccalaureate diploma;
7. bachelor's degree diploma or the equivalent thereof and transcript of records*;
8. master's degree diploma and transcript of records* (if applicable);

*By way of exception, the candidates who passed the bachelor's final exam (integrated study programmes) or the dissertation in the sessions of the 2025-2026 academic year may submit, upon registration (instead of diplomas) certificates issued by the higher education institutions they graduated from. These documents must include the average grade of the undergraduate/graduate study years and the average grade in the bachelor's final exam/dissertation, as the case may be.

9. curriculum vitae (Europass), devoid of personal data – assumed by the candidate's signature;
10. list of scientific papers written/ published in the field (if any) - assumed by the candidate's signature;
11. proof of payment of the registration fee (unless the payment was made by card on the admission platform);
12. medical certificate issued by the general physician, which shows that the holder is medically fit to attend the doctoral studies;
13. declaration of conformity with the original for the documents uploaded on the admission platform (Appendix 3).

Art. 14. The registration fee can be paid by card on the admission platform or by bank transfer. In the case of payment via bank transfer, it is necessary to upload documentary evidence to the registration platform. The details on the payment via bank transfer are available on the site.

Art. 15. 1) The active or retired teaching and auxiliary-teaching personnel's children are exempt from paying the registration fee, based on supporting documents. Just the same, the persons at risk of losing their capacity to meet their daily living needs because of illness, disability, poverty are exempt from paying the registration fee, based on a statutory declaration.

(2) The university's employees will pay half of the established fee and will submit a certificate of employment. The same discount also applies to the children of the UNITBV employees (other than teaching and auxiliary-teaching personnel), who will submit their parent's employment certificate.

Art. 16. In order to register for the doctoral admission competition, the future doctoral supervisor's consent is required, expressed by his/her signing the application and the registration form (Appendices 1 and 2).

Art. 17. The number of places open for competition (budgeted and self-financed), their allocation for full-time and part-time doctoral forms, as well as the number of doctoral scholarships allocated by the relevant ministry for the 2026-2027 academic year will be communicated in due time, by display on the website of UNITBV, under the doctoral admission section. The number of self-financed places is set by decision of the Senate of Transilvania University of Braşov.

CONDUCT OF THE ADMISSION COMPETITION

Art. 18. The admission competition takes the form of a specialised exam (one or more tests specific to the doctoral field), which compulsorily includes an interview with the candidate. This evaluation of knowledge is organised for each doctoral theme (indicated by the candidate in his/her application and the registration form) and is taken in front of an admission committee. The admission committee consists of the doctoral supervisor, as chairperson, and three other members, doctoral supervisors or specialists in the field who hold the degree of Doctor. The committees are formed separately for each doctoral theme, and require the doctoral supervisors to fill out a sheet. The sheets with the proposals of committees are acknowledged by the coordinator of the doctoral field, and are submitted to SDI for endorsement, according to the admission calendar. By way of exception, for duly justified reasons, the specialised exam may be taken online.

Art. 19. At the specialised exam, each member of the committee assesses with grades from 1 to 10 the candidate's level of knowledge (based on his/her consultation of the literature) in the relevant specialization, as well as his/her level of knowledge of the latest research in relation to the theme of the doctoral thesis. The interview will also include the evaluation of the candidate's capability to take theoretical, experimental and methodological initiatives related to the proposed research theme. The evaluation method, through one or more tests in the specialised knowledge, as well as through their specificity, will be agreed upon by the doctoral supervisors in that field, and will be sent by the coordinators of the doctoral fields to SDI, until 20 May 2026, with a view to being published on the website.

Art. 20. As regards the candidates who hold a bachelor's degree in another branch of science than the one in which the doctoral studies are to be conducted, the admission committee verifies the extent to which the specialised knowledge enables the doctoral training activity, as well as whether the candidate's pursuits justify his/her orientation towards the newly chosen branch of science.

Art. 21. (1) The candidates from other countries may take the specialised exam/interview in video-conference system, at the doctoral supervisor's proposal.

(2) The candidates coming from Romania may take the specialised exam/interview in video-conference system only in exceptional, well-justified situations (states of alert, necessity or emergency, medical cases, etc.), at the doctoral supervisor's proposal.

Art. 22. For the proper conduct of the specialised exam, the registered candidates' files are taken under signature, by the doctoral supervisors/ a delegate empowered by the department under which the examination takes place.

Art. 23. The result of the specialised exam is recorded in a minutes (according to the model provided by SDI), which, together with each candidate's registration file and online test recording (if applicable), is submitted to SDI on the day of the competition or the very next day.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Art. 24. The average grade of admission to the doctorate is obtained as the arithmetic mean between:

- a) the average grade in the specialised exam (the arithmetic mean of the grades given by the admission committee members);
- b) the average grade in the dissertation exam (where applicable);
- c) the average grade for the bachelor's education cycle.

Art. 25. The admission average grade is a criterion for the candidates' admission and ranking, in order to distribute the places open for competition (budgeted and self-paid) and the doctoral scholarships, according to the specific criteria. The candidates who obtain an average grade lower than 8 (eight) in the specialised exam are declared rejected.

Art. 26. (1) At Transilvania University of Braşov, a doctoral supervisor can simultaneously guide a maximum of 8 PhD students in various stages of the doctoral studies.

(2) The reasoned exceptions to this rule are approved by the University Senate. The procedure must be completed with the decision of the Senate prior to the beginning of the admission session, respectively according to the time limit provided for in the national regulations if the derogation is requested in order to coordinate non-EU doctoral students.

(3) The applications that do not meet the time limit will be lawfully rejected. The **number of PhD students per doctoral supervisor from the beginning of the admission session** will be taken into account, including the doctoral students in the procedure of public defence of the doctoral thesis, until the actual public defence.

I. Allocation of state-budgeted places

Art 27. The eligible candidates for state-budgeted places are ranked by doctoral fields, in descending order of the admission average grade. The candidates with an equal average grade are ordered in descending order of the average grade for the undergraduate study years.

Art 28. Criteria for the allocation of the state-budgeted places:

Criterion I.1 Out of the candidates eligible for a state-budgeted place, the first-ranked in each doctoral field receives a state-budgeted place. In the event of an equal admission average grade, the budgeted place is assigned to the candidate with the higher average grade for the undergraduate years; and, in case this average grade is also equal, the candidates are differentiated according to the average grade in the specialised exam.

Criterion I.2. The available state-budgeted places after the application of Criterion I.1. are distributed according to the ranking of the candidates on the second position within each field where there are eligible candidates. If the number of state-budgeted places to be allocated is lower than the number of doctoral fields, the allocation will follow the candidates' admission average grade. In the event of an equal admission average grade, the differentiation criteria provided for in Criterion I.1 apply. In the event of unallocated state-budgeted places even after the second distribution, the ranking will be made for the candidates on the third position in all doctoral fields for which there are eligible candidates, and so forth.

Art. 29. In case the number of state-budgeted places is supplemented:

- the additional state-budgeted places are distributed by applying the Criteria I.1 and I.2;
- in the absence of candidates for the state-budgeted places, the remaining places are offered to the candidates who opted for self-financed places, in descending order of the admission average grade.

II. Allocation of doctoral scholarships

Art. 30. The rankings of the candidates admitted on state-budgeted places are made by doctoral fields in

descending order of the admission average grade (for the fields in which state-budgeted places were allocated according to the Criteria I). The candidates with an equal admission average grade are ranked in descending order of their average grade for the undergraduate study years; and, if this average grade is equal as well, the average grade in the specialised exam will be taken into account.

Art 31. Scholarship award criteria:

Criterion II.1. The first-ranked in each doctoral field receives a scholarship from the state budget. In the event of equal admission average grades, the scholarship is attributed to the candidate with the highest average grade for the undergraduate study years; and, if this average is equal as well, the average grade in the specialized exam will be conclusive in deciding between the candidates.

Criterion II.2. The unallocated scholarships will be distributed to the candidates declared admitted on state-budgeted places, but who did not receive a scholarship following the application of the Criterion II.1, according to the ranking of the candidates on the second position in each field for which there are eligible candidates. If the number of scholarships to be allocated is lower than the number of doctoral fields, their allocation will follow the candidates' admission average grade. In the event of unallocated scholarships even after the second distribution, the relevant ranking will be made for the candidates on the third place in all doctoral fields where there are eligible candidates, and so forth. In the event of equal average grades, the scholarship is awarded to the candidate with the highest average for the undergraduate study years; and, if this average is equal as well, the average grade in the specialised exam will be conclusive in deciding between the candidates.

Art. 32. The state-budgeted places without scholarship will be allocated to the candidates admitted on state-budgeted places who remain after the allocation of the scholarships.

Art. 33. In case the number of scholarships is supplemented, the Criterion II.2 will apply.

III. Allocation of self-financed places

Art. 34. For the distribution of the self-financed places, if the number of candidates is higher than the number of available places set by the University Senate, the rankings of the candidates who have (also) opted for paid places are made by doctoral fields, in descending order of the admission average grade. The candidates with an equal average grade are ranked in descending order of the average grade for the undergraduate study years.

Criterion III.1. The first-ranked in each doctoral field receives the self-financed place. In the event of equal average grades, the place is given to the candidate with the highest average grade for the undergraduate study years.

Criterion III.2. The unallocated places will be distributed to the remaining candidates after the application of Criterion III.1. The available self-financed places are distributed in descending order of the admission average (regardless of the doctoral field). In the event of equal average grades, the place is awarded to the candidate with the highest average grade for the undergraduate study years.

Art. 35. Calendar of the 2026 doctoral admission session:

- 1 - 8 September 2026: registrations; the platform will close on the 8th of September 2026, at 12:00 m.

* as regards the candidates in the field of medicine who graduate in the September 2026 session, the registration requires a statutory declaration that they will submit the certificate on the graduation of the bachelor's education cycle no later than on the day of the specialised exam.

- 9-11 September 2026: verification and centralization of the registered candidates' data; display of the list with registered candidates on the webpage of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School (SDI), under the admission section;

- 14 September 2026: centralization of the proposals for the admission committees, endorsement of these committees;
- 15-18 September 2026: conduct of the specialised exams (admission), for all fields and forms of doctoral studies;
- *in the field of medicine, the graduates in the class of 2026, September session, may take the specialised exams until the 21st of September 2026, at 12:00 m.
- 21 September 2026, 2:00 p.m.: time-limit for submitting the minutes of the specialised exams to SDI;
- 22-24 September 2026: data centralization and processing;
- 24 September 2026: display of the results on the webpage of SDI, under the 2026 admission section – initial lists;
- 25 September 2026, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 m: time-limit for filing the appeals to the email address: secretariat-sdi@unitbv.ro or on the premises of SDI (Rectorate building, second floor, room 210);
- 25 September 2026: analysis and settlement of the appeals, and display of the results – interim lists with admitted candidates;
- 28 and 30 September 2026: signing of the contracts of doctoral studies for the purposes of enrolment;
- 1 October 2026: the admitted candidates' enrolment, by the UNITBV Rector's decision, and display of the final lists with admitted and enrolled candidates.

Art. 36. The final admission lists are the ones generated after the enrollment phase, by decision of the Rector of Transilvania University of Braşov.

Art. 37. The results of the admission to doctoral studies are validated by the Council of the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School (C-SDI) and the Council for Academic Doctoral Studies (CSUD).

Art. 38. Any changes to the calendar will be communicated in due time. CSUD will approve the exceptions to the calendar of the admission to doctoral studies.

Art. 39. The doctoral admission competition is only valid for the field, institution, form of doctorate and year in which it was taken.

Art. 40. The amount of the registration fees for the admission competition and of the tuition fees for the doctoral students admitted to the self-financed doctoral forms, for the 2026-2027 academic year, is set by decision of the Senate of Transilvania University of Brasov, and it is displayed on the website.

This Methodology was discussed and approved in the meeting of the Senate of Transilvania University of Braşov on 25.02.2026.

Prof. Eng. Mircea Horia Țierean, PhD
President of the University Senate



TO THE RECTOR OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV

MR. RECTOR,

I, the undersigned _____

SSN																			
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graduate of the higher-education institution _____

Faculty of _____, study programme _____

field _____, year _____, duration of studies _____

and of the master's studies within the institution _____

Faculty of _____, study programme _____

field _____, year _____, duration of studies _____

I kindly ask you to approve my registration for the doctoral admission competition, in the session _____

for the field _____

scientific supervisor _____,

doctoral theme _____,

in the form of education (choose scientific doctorate AND/OR professional doctorate):

- **scientific doctorate** (only full-time)
 - full-time with scholarship (state-budgeted) – CFB-S: _____
 - full-time with self-financing – CFT-S: _____
- **professional doctorate**
 - full-time with scholarship (state-budgeted) – CFB-P: _____
 - part-time without scholarship (state-budgeted) – FRB-P: _____
 - full-time with self-financing – CFT-P: _____
 - part-time with self-financing – FRT-P: _____

(in case you want to express more options, they will be numbered in order of preference)

Average grade obtained in the bachelor's final exam (1): _____

Average grade in the dissertation exam (master's degree) (2) – if applicable: _____

Do you ask for accommodation in the UNITBV dormitories? YES

NO

(Only the doctoral students admitted to the form of full-time education can apply for accommodation)

Doctoral Supervisor
Signature _____

Candidate
Signature _____

Date _____

TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV

ENDORSED,
 Doctoral Supervisor,

REGISTRATION FORM
 for the doctoral admission competition

Field: -----

Scientific Supervisor: -----

Doctoral theme: -----

-
- scientific doctorate (only full-time)
 - professional doctorate

Priority field of development ¹ (according to the National Strategy for Research, Development and Innovation 2014-2020) which the doctoral topic comes under (if applicable): -----

1. Candidate's name and surname, with the middle initial: -----

2. Permanent residence (full address): -----

mobile phone ----- landline ----- email address -----

3. Nationality: ----- ethnicity ----- citizenship -----

4. Date of birth (year, month, day): -----

5. Place of birth: county ----- city / town / village -----

6. Gender: M F

7. Identity card ----- issued by ----- validity -----

8. Marital status: -----

9. Main profession: -----

10. Workplace: -----

11. Position: -----

12. Studies: higher-education institution, faculty, graduated study programme, year, field:

Bachelor's degree:

Master's degree:

13. Foreign languages: -----

14. Candidate who comes under the category of persons with disabilities (to be filled out only by persons in this situation, on the basis of documentary evidence)

By signing this registration form, given his/her completion of the online registration procedure and acquisition of the UNIVERSITY'S information on personal data processing, through the consent expressed when accessing the registration platform, the CANDIDATE gives his/her consent for Transilvania University

¹ Priority fields: Bioeconomy; Information and communication technology, Space and security; Energy, environment and climate change; Eco-nano-technologies and advanced materials; Health

of Braşov, as a personal data controller for the purpose of *higher education* to process his/her personal data within the admission and enrollment procedure, in agreement with the UNIVERSITY's activity and in compliance with the applicable law.

Date,

Signature,

**Declaration of conformity with the original for the documents scanned and uploaded
to the admission platform**

The undersigned,, citizen, born on,
in, residing in, identified with ID card /
Passport, series, no., issued by, on,
SSN, email address, as a candidate in the competition of
admission to the doctoral studies for the 2025-2026 academic year, I declare on my own responsibility that
all the documents scanned and uploaded to the platform of registration for the admission to doctoral studies
at Transilvania University of Braşov are compliant with the original documents in my possession.

In the event of ascertainment of forgery or falsification thereof, I accept to be expelled from the competition
or from the doctoral study programme to which I was admitted, and to bear the rigours of law for the
committed crimes (forgery, use of forgery, material forgery in official documents), according to Art. 326 of the
Criminal Code, as subsequently amended and completed.

Date,

Candidate's signature