

« Parcours du doctorant »

You enrolled for a PhD degree (Sciences Médicales, Sciences Dentaires, Sciences Vétérinaires, Sciences Biomédicales et Pharmaceutiques). Please find hereby some important information regarding PhD training.

Supervisory committee

A supervisory committee has been appointed and will follow your work throughout your PhD. This committee cannot be modified without agreement of the Faculty Doctoral Commission (Commission Facultaire des Doctorats, CFD). To modify your committee, a written request must be addressed to the Faculty Doctoral Commission.

Research training certificate

If the doctoral candidate successfully completes the doctoral research training (40 ECTS) and the intermediate evaluation (20 ECTS), the University awards him/her a research training certificate (60 ECTS). PhD candidates must pass these two steps before defending their thesis.

Doctoral research training

In Faculty of Medicine, doctoral research training consists of to attend at least 30 hours seminars, conferences, courses, training, congresses (live or online) during the first PhD year (or at least 15 hours per year during two years for PhD enrolment after October 31). You are free to select these seminars, conferences, courses, training, congresses but these must necessarily have a scientific character (language courses for example are not recoverable). Seminars organized by private companies are not accepted. A congress day is worth 4 hours. For clinicians, at least half of the seminars must be related to non-clinical matters.

You must keep a list of these activities and provide proof of your participation (official certificates of attendance or possibly registration).

In June, you will receive a detailed e-mail regarding validation of your doctoral research training. Validation documents must be sent to the administrative office of the Faculty by mid-July.

Intermediate evaluation

During their PhD, doctoral candidates will be subjected to an intermediate evaluation by their supervisory committee, to assess whether their thesis can be completed according to the schedule. The evaluation is held during the first or second year of the PhD process. If the supervisory committee agrees, the evaluation may also be held during the third year for assistants and for doctoral candidates with a parttime research position, and in the fourth year for doctoral candidates with no research position.

The supervisory committee grants a "pass" or a "fail" based on the intermediate evaluation, and informs the Faculty Doctoral Commission of its decision.

Intermediate evaluation needs to be succeeded before the submission of the thesis.

PhD re-enrolment

End of May, you will receive a detailed e-mail regarding re-enrolment for the next academic year. The supervisory committee meets with the doctoral candidate at least once a year to assess scientific progress. Based on this annual evaluation, the result of which is communicated to the doctoral candidate, the supervisory committee informs the Faculty Doctoral Commission regarding re-enrolment. Re-enrolment forms must be sent to the administrative office of the Faculty by mid-September.

Doctoral candidates are required to enrol for both the PhD and doctoral research training every year, until the later has been fully completed. If the doctoral candidates fail to re-enrol within the stated timeframe, then they are considered to have abandoned their thesis and must begin the full admissions procedure again, including payment of full enrolment fees.