

Sectoral study regulations for the Master of Science in Health¹

Dated 20.11.2025 (as of November 20, 2025)

The Academic Senate having regard to the Cantonal Law (LSU) of October 3, 1995 (Art. 11); the Statute of the Università della Svizzera italiana of March 20, 2020; the General regulations for admission and matriculation at the Università della Svizzera italiana of April 14, 2000,

decrees:

Chapter I – General provisions²

Art. 1 Purpose

- ¹ These sectoral regulations govern the additional admission requirements, assessment and grading procedures for the award of the Master of Science in Health (MH) with a Major in one of the following three areas:
 - a. Digital Public Health awarded by the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences.
 - b. Health Communication awarded by the Faculty of Communication, Culture, and Society.
 - c. Health Economics and Management awarded by the Faculty of Economics.
- ² In addition to these sectoral regulations, the *General regulations for admission and matriculation of the Università della Svizzera italiana* also apply to the conditions for admission to the MH and the payment of the relevant fees.
- ³ For student-athletes who meet the requirements, the special conditions established by the Università della Svizzera italiana's "Elite Sport" program also apply.

Art. 2 Qualifications

- ¹ The Faculty of Biomedical Sciences awards the degree of Master of Science in Health, Major in Digital Public Health.
- ² The Faculty of Communication, Culture, and Society awards the degree of Master of Science in Health, Major in Health Communication.

¹ This document has been written in Italian. This English translation has been provided for information purposes only and is not legally binding. The Italian version shall prevail over the English translation

² The masculine terms used in these Regulations always refer to their feminine counterparts as well.

	³ The Faculty of Economics awards the degree of Master of Science in Health, Major in Health Economics and Management. ⁴ All courses attended and examinations passed are recorded separately in official documents (Transcript, Exam Certificate) together with the corresponding grades and number of ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) points acquired.
Art. 3 ECTS	¹ The Master of Science in Health is considered a specialized degree and is based on the ECTS system, calculated based on the Bologna Directive, according to which one credit point corresponds to 25-30 study hours. ² The MH program accrues a total of 120 ECTS points. ³ The courses and respective exams are in English.
Art. 4 Bodies	¹ The bodies responsible for organizing training and exams are: a. The Scientific Committee. b. The Advisory Board. c. The MH Complaints Commission.
Art. 5 Composition and duties of the Scientific Committee	¹ The Scientific Committee is composed of the Scientific Directors of each Major. Scientific Directors must be full or associate professors with recognized experience in the field of specialization of the respective Major and are appointed by the Faculty Councils of the relevant Major. ² The Scientific Committee is responsible for the management and coordination of the MH program in its entirety. ³ The scientific and educational responsibility for MH is entrusted to the Scientific Committee. ⁴ The Scientific Committee performs the following tasks: a. Agreeing on and defining the strategy for the entire MH program. b. Agreeing on and defining the functioning of the entire MH program. c. Agreeing on and defining a single proposal for the promotion strategy of the MH program. d. Communicating the promotion strategies for the relevant Majors. e. Agreeing on and defining the courses for the semester in common, which will be approved by the Faculty Councils of each faculty. f. Agreeing on and defining the admission criteria for the MH and for the individual Majors. g. Informing and discussing changes to the study programs of the individual Majors and finalizing the proposals to the individual faculties. h. Discussing cases of students who want to change their Major. i. Ensuring compliance with these Regulations.
Art. 6 Composition and duties of the Advisory Board	¹ The Advisory Board is composed of the Deans of the Faculties of Biomedical Sciences, Communication, Culture and Society, and Economics. ² The Advisory Board has the following responsibilities: a. Intervening and deciding in the event of disagreement within the Scientific Committee. b. Giving purely advisory notice to the various Faculty Councils regarding the proposal to replace a Scientific Director by the respective faculty.

	c. Supporting the definition of the entire MH program during the implementation phase. d. Ensuring alignment between all faculties.
Art. 7 Composition and duties of the MH Complaints Committee	¹ The MH Complaints Committee is composed of the members of the Scientific Committee and the Advisory Board. ² The MH Complaints Committee decides on complaints submitted by students participating in the MH against the decisions referred to in Art. 36.
Art. 8 Specific duties	¹ The Vice-Dean for Education for the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, the Delegate for Studies for the Faculty of Communication, Culture and Society, and the Delegate for Examinations for the Faculty of Economics supervise the application of these Regulations in all matters relating to the organization and conduct of examinations.

Chapter II – Admission to the Master in Health

Art. 9 Admission requirements	¹ Admission to the MH program is open to applicants who meet the requirements set out in the <i>General regulations for admission and matriculation at the Università della Svizzera italiana</i>, as well as, cumulatively, the requirements set out in these Regulations. ² Admission to the MH requires a Bachelor's degree (at least 180 ECTS) from a Swiss university or other Swiss academic institution, or a Bachelor's degree from a foreign university or other equivalent foreign academic institution recognized or accredited in the country of origin. The degree must be obtained in a field related to the chosen Major. The list of disciplines admitted for each Major is available on the respective program's website. ³ In addition to the degree (see Art. 9, para. 2), admission requirements include the evaluation of the following elements: a. The transcript demonstrating the consistency and adequacy of the candidate's academic profile with respect to the objectives and content of the respective Major. b. The grades on the presented Bachelor's degree, which reflect previous academic performance, with particular attention to subjects relevant to the respective Major. c. A letter of motivation expressing the candidate's motivation. d. Adequate knowledge of the language of instruction with reference to the language requirements on the program's website. e. The Scientific Director of the respective Major reserves the right to request an interview with candidates for further information and assessment. ⁴ The final decision on admission is the sole responsibility of the Scientific Director of the respective Major, who will decide based on an overall analysis of the above elements. The Directors also reserve the right to assign a specific weighting to each element for the purposes of ranking candidates, as specified on the Master's website. ⁵ Candidates with a different academic background may be admitted if they demonstrate sufficient skills. In the event of specific gaps, the Director of the Major may admit candidates with shortfall in ECTS credits.
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	⁶ In the case of admission with shortfall in ECTS credits, the number of ECTS credits to be recovered are defined by the respective Major Director. The number depends on the courses of the Bachelor's program as well as on the deadlines for their recovery and need to be in accordance with the provisions of the <i>General regulations for admission and matriculation of the Università della Svizzera italiana</i>. ⁷ Students may request to change their chosen Major within the 10th week of the 1st semester of the MH. Admission to one of the other Majors is subject to compliance with all applicable admission requirements. ⁸ MH studies can only begin in the fall semester.
Art. 10 General structure and award of the degree	¹ The general structure of the MH includes courses, possible additional training activities, a possible internship period and/or field project, and the writing of a Master's thesis. ² The award of the Master's degree in Health is subject to: a. the completion of any outstanding shortfall in ECTS credits. b. passing all exams related to the courses included in the respective study plan. In the case of transfers from another university, the Director of the respective Major will define the procedures for obtaining the Master's degree in Health, considering that enrolment at USI for at least two semesters and the achievement of a minimum of 60 ECTS on campus are required; c. completion of the internship or field project, where required by the study plan of the Major attended by the student. The ECTS value of the internship or field project is defined for each Major as follows: i. BIOMED requires a field project worth 9 ECTS. ii. COM requires a field project or internship worth 9 ECTS. iii. ECO requires a field project or internship worth up to 12 ECTS, to be agreed with the scientific director. d. the successful defence of a Master's thesis worth 12 to 30 ECTS, where the value of the Master's thesis is determined specifically depending on the Major attended by the student. ³ The order in which courses are taken is defined by the study plans in force for the three Majors.
Art. 11 Course attendance	¹ Depending on the teaching methods and the requirements of individual programs, course descriptions may indicate compulsory attendance. They may also indicate additional study requirements for those who do not attend the course regularly. ² Compulsory attendance may not exceed 80% of classroom hours.
Art. 12 Examination requirements for the Master of Science in Health	¹ To be eligible to take second-year exams, students must have earned at least 39 ECTS from those required in the first year of the Master's program in Health. Exceptions occur in cases of personalized study plans for students transfers from other universities. ² First-year exams must be passed by the end of the fourth semester at the latest. In addition, second-year exams and exams for courses that can be attended freely during the first or second year must be passed by the end of the sixth semester at the latest. The deadlines start from the date of enrolment. Failure to meet these deadlines will result in the students'

	exclusion from the Master's program in Health and from the faculty of the respective Major.
Art. 13 Internships, field projects, and mobility semesters	¹ The completion of an internship in a company or institution, or an equivalent research activity within faculty institutes or laboratories, or a study stay as part of an exchange program with another university (totalling no more than 30 ECTS) is regulated separately for each Major. ² The specific objectives and procedures for the internship or equivalent activity are defined for each Major as follows: a. BIOMED: the fourth semester combines the Master's thesis (18 ECTS) with the field project (9 ECTS). b. COM: the fourth semester offers the possibility of combining the Master's thesis with an internship or field project. It is also possible to combine the Master's thesis, internship, and extra elective courses. c. ECO: the fourth semester offers the possibility of combining the Master's thesis with an internship or field project. It is also possible to combine the Master's thesis, internship, and extra elective courses. ³ Any semester of mobility at another university must be approved, in terms of the choice of location and study program, by the Director of the Major in which the student is enrolled. The Director of the Major is responsible for verification. For organizational aspects, the Director of the Major collaborates with the USI International Relations and Mobility Service. The mobility period is governed by the specific Guidelines for mobility. ⁴ Students who have not earned at least 39 ECTS from those required in the first year of the MH program, as provided for in Art. 12, paragraph 1, are not eligible for internships, field projects, or a semester abroad.
Art. 14 Master's thesis: nature and purpose	¹ The Master's thesis consists of a scientific paper written under the supervision of a professor (excluding doctoral students) teaching in the programs offered by USI. The thesis deals with a topic chosen in agreement with the supervisor and the Director of the respective Major. ² The purpose of the thesis is to present scientific research related to the subject area covered by the Major attended, and it must be characterized by adequate scientific rigor and originality. ³ The faculties regulate the structure of the thesis and the submission procedures separately in specific Guidelines. The Master's thesis is written in the official language of the Master's program, i.e., English. Other languages may also be accepted with the approval of the Director of the relevant Major.
Art. 15 Master's thesis: conditions	¹ The Master's thesis may only be submitted after any shortfall in ECTS has been cleared and the study plan has been completed. ² The title of the Master's thesis may be submitted to the Student Administration of the relevant faculty after obtaining at least 39 ECTS in the first year of the Master's program in Health. ³ The title of the Master's thesis must be submitted to the Student Administration of the relevant faculty at least 6 months before the thesis is submitted and may be specified with the consent of the supervisor up to one month before its defence. ⁴ The Master's thesis must be submitted no later than the end of the eighth semester from enrolment in the Master's program in Health.

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- ⁵ Failure to comply with these deadlines will result in the student's exclusion from the MH program and the relevant faculty.
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Art. 16
Master's thesis:
assessment

- ¹ The commission appointed to evaluate the Master's thesis is made up of the supervisor, a possible co-supervisor and a faculty professor or lecturer (excluding doctoral students) or senior assistant (post-doc) from USI, with the role of co-examiner. The co-examiner is proposed by the supervisor and confirmed by the Director of the relevant Major.
- ² If the commission rejects the Master's thesis, the student is requested to:
- a. either submit a new proposal on a different subject and with a different supervisor within a month of this invitation. In this case the student must hand in the new thesis within six months. Students may ask to submit a new proposal on a different subject and with a different supervisor only once.
 - b. or revise the Master's thesis based on the remarks made by the commission members. In this case the student has three months to hand in the new thesis. If the student fails for a second time, they will be expelled from the respective faculty.
- ³ If the thesis is not approved, the student must repeat the entire process set out in the assessment guidelines.
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Chapter III – Common provisions

Art. 17
Enrolment

- ¹ All students must enrol in the courses they wish to attend at the beginning of each semester.
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Art. 18
Exams

- ¹ Examinations are based on the course subjects that make up the relevant Study Plan of the respective Major.
- ² An examination is a test designed to assess a candidate's knowledge and skills.
- ³ The lecturer of each course is responsible for assessing the knowledge and skills acquired by a student during the lectures of the latest edition of the course. Possible justified exceptions to this principle are subject to approval of the Director of the respective Major. In cases where it is no longer possible to take an examination of current or previous editions of courses, the Director of the respective Major will indicate the courses to attend and the related examinations to be taken to complete the related study program.
- ⁴ Each lecturer shall inform the Student Administration of their faculty of their assessment method, to ensure that it is compatible with the present Regulations and other MH provisions.
- ⁵ The examiners are the professors who teach the respective courses. In case of impediment, the Scientific Director will appoint a substitute. For written exams, the examiner may be replaced by one or more assistants or professors from the relevant faculty. In oral exams, in addition to the examiner, at least one assistant or another professor from the relevant faculty must be present.
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Art. 19
Examination
sessions

- ¹ There are two exam sessions for each course:
- a. an ordinary or intermediate session.
 - b. a supplementary (or recovery) session.
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- ² An ordinary session is held at the end of each semester (winter session and summer session). A supplementary session takes place prior to the start of the autumn session (autumn session). The ordinary session may be replaced by an intermediate session
 - ³ The ordinary and intermediate sessions comprise examinations on all the courses in the semester that precedes the session. The supplementary session comprises those examinations for which there are candidates registered.
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Art. 20
Exam registration

- ¹ To enrol in examinations, a student must be duly enrolled in their faculty, have paid tuition fees for the semester according to the University's General regulations for admission and matriculation, and satisfy the terms and conditions set out in the present Regulations.
 - ² Students are to enrol with the Student Administration of the relevant faculty, no later than the closing date and in the format required by the Student Administration.
 - ³ The Student Administration of the relevant faculty is responsible for checking the validity of the enrolment and, if need be, informing students of any impediments. Each student is nonetheless personally responsible for meeting the official deadlines indicated in both the current Study Plan and these Regulations.
 - ⁴ If a student has enrolled or has been admitted or taken an examination without being entitled to do so, the examination will be annulled by the Student Administration of the relevant faculty at the time of recording the grades.
 - ⁵ Enrolment for examinations is subject to taking the Academic Integrity Test which is designed to prevent instances of student misconduct under the present Regulations, to be conducted according to the methods communicated by the Student Administration of the relevant faculty.
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Art. 21
Withdrawal from examinations

- ¹ A student is entitled to withdraw from an examination (including those prepared to recover a shortfall in ECTS credits) up to 5 days (including holidays) before the date scheduled for that examination. The notification must be made in writing (via online, email or post) and addressed to the Student Administration of the relevant faculty. If notification is by post, the date is that of the postmark, otherwise the date of the electronic transmission. In this case, the enrolment is cancelled and treated as if it had never been made
 - ² Should any examinations have been taken before the notification of withdrawal, the grades already obtained in the same session stand, regardless of the result (positive or negative).
 - ³ A student who fails to attend an examination or leaves the hall while the examination is in progress without a valid reason is considered to have failed that examination. This examination is counted among the maximum number of attempts permitted for passing the exam, as prescribed in the present Regulations.
 - ⁴ For a justification to be considered it must be presented by the student in writing to the Student Administration of the relevant faculty, no later than ten (10) days from the examination. The motive for the absence must be serious (major health problems or other serious impediments, serious illness or death of a close relative) and the student must be able to produce proper evidence. The Vice-Dean for Studies for the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, the Delegate for Studies for the Faculty of
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	Communication, Culture, and Society, or the Delegate for Exams for the Faculty of Economics is entitled to investigate the justification or medical certificate further, and, if necessary, consult a trusted doctor.
Art. 22 Format of examinations and language	¹ Examinations may be written or oral. ² It is the responsibility of the responsible lecturer of each course to define the format of their examination and notify both the students and the Student Administration of the relevant faculty. ³ The duration of an examination must be congruent with the specific course load. ⁴ Exams are held in English.
Art. 23 Accreditation (recognition of examinations)	¹ The lecturers of the various courses evaluate their students' skills and performance during the teaching term through intermediate individual or group tests. The results of these tests may contribute to the final grade. ² At the beginning of the course each professor must inform both the Student Administration of their faculty and the students of the formula used to calculate the overall grade. ³ If an examination consists of the submission of one or more papers, the lecturer and/or Director of the relevant Major will inform the Student Administration of the relevant faculty and the students of the official hand-over date(s) of the paper(s).
Art. 24 Evaluation system	¹ The grading system adopted may be binary (pass or fail) or on a numerical scale. The numerical scale goes from a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 10, including half-points (0.5); 6 is the pass mark. Exam scores assigned a mark lower than 6 (i.e. a fail) can be repeated or ratified according to the provisions of the present Regulations. ² All course examinations and field project assessments are graded on scale of 1 to 10. The assessments relating to courses deemed equivalent by decision of the relevant faculty, and to the internship, are binary. ³ Examinations and term papers that are not accepted or assigned a mark lower than 6 (fail) must be repeated. In the case of repeated exams and resubmitted papers, the last result is the one that counts. ⁴ To earn the ECTS points relating to each course, the student must pass the relative examination with a grade equal or to higher than 6 or obtain formal recognition of a grade. When the evaluation is on a binary basis, a pass is the minimum requisite.
Art. 25 Final grade	¹ The final grade assigned to a degree that the faculty awards at the end of the Master's in Health program is calculated as the weighted average of all the marks obtained in evaluations of course subjects and that of the Master's thesis, when applicable, weighted according to ECTS points, rounded up to the first decimal digit. The Master's in Health transcript states the following: a. summa cum laude for a final average mark higher than 9. b. magna cum laude for a final average mark of between 8 and 9 (8 and 9 included). c. cum laude for a final average mark of between 7 and 8 (7 and 8 excluded). d. legitim for a final average mark of between 6 and 7 (6 and 7 included).

	² Binary evaluations and those obtained during internships and or mobility periods do not affect the calculation of the average.
Art. 26 Resits and validations of examinations and papers	¹ A student who fails an examination may retake it a maximum of two times. If the student fails the third attempt, they will be excluded from the MH program and from the relevant faculty. ² Out of the total ECTS points required for the Master in Health degree award, the student is permitted to ratify 1 (one) final grade of a course that they have failed, provided the grade is not lower than 5 out of 10. The decision to ratify a grade may be notified throughout the entire Master's program but cannot be changed. An examination that has not been ratified and then retaken and consequently failed again may not be ratified retroactively. ³ Candidates cannot retake an examination or an intermediate individual or group test if the overall grade awarded is sufficient or the final grade of the course has been ratified. ⁴ It is the responsibility of the lecturer responsible for the course to establish the assessment procedures for the examination. Thus, the responsible lecturer determines whether passing a course requires obtaining a sufficient grade in all partial assessments of the course, in specific assessments only, or if it counts the weighted average. a. When the evaluation is composed of multiple elements, in the absence of specifications by the lecturer, the course is considered passed if the student achieves an overall sufficient grade, calculated as the weighted average of the partial evaluations. b. If the student must obtain a sufficient evaluation in all the elements that contribute to the final grade of the course, but in one or more of them is evaluated insufficient, they must retake all the assessments that contribute to the final grade, except if the lecturer of the course stated otherwise. c. The intermediate individual or group examinations are valid for a single academic year, unless otherwise stated by the lecturer of the course in question. ⁵ The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article are not applicable to ECTS shortfalls.
Art. 27 Access to exam papers	The relevant faculty grants students access to their exam papers for a period of 30 days after the grades are disclosed.
Art. 28 Misconduct	If, during an examination, reasonable evidence is found to suspect that a student is cheating, or the student is caught in the act, the examiners and/or exam assistants draft a report for the attention of the Vice-Dean for Studies for the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, the Delegate for Studies for the Faculty of Communication, Culture and Society, and the Delegate for Exams for the Faculty of Economic Sciences who, if appropriate, launches a disciplinary investigation.
Art. 29 Disciplinary measures	¹ The faculty to which the student belongs may apply sanctions, through the disciplinary measures set out below in paragraph 2, on the following instances of student misconduct: a. insubordination and breach of the University's internal order. This is without prejudice to the competence of the USI Executive Board to

adopt disciplinary measures and actions in case of violation of the Code of Ethics, in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Implementing Regulation of the Code of Ethics;

- b. cheating during an examination.
 - c. plagiarism in the process of preparing a written paper (term paper, internship report or project, final research paper and Master's thesis, etc.); a student is guilty of plagiarism when they submit a piece of written work containing one or more portions copied or closely paraphrased from an unidentified original, without acknowledging the source or formally quoting or when they pass off and/or claims research findings obtained or published by third parties as their own.
- ² In all the cases covered under the first paragraph (1) of this article, the Dean, once an investigation by the Vice-Dean for Studies for the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, the Delegate for Studies for the Faculty of Communication, Culture and Society, and the Delegate for Examinations for the Faculty of Economics and the Dean has been completed and in full respect of the student's right to be heard, may deliver the following sanctions (also cumulatively), taking into account the degree of responsibility of the student and the gravity of the offence:
- a. the student is admonished (written reprimand).
 - b. the offending examination or term paper is declared void; in this case the examination or term paper is registered with a '1' grade, the lowest fail result. If the paper is an integral part of an examination, the entire exam will be declared void.
 - c. the student is suspended for one or more examination sessions; class attendance being nonetheless permitted.
 - d. the student is denied the right to acquire any ECTS credits based on term papers for the duration of one or more semester(s);
 - e. the student is suspended for one or more semester(s), and consequently prevented from sitting any examinations relating to the courses held during that period.
 - f. all the examinations taken by the student during the session in which they were caught cheating are annulled; therefore, all such examinations are assigned the minimum grade ('1') and recorded as failed.
- ³ This does not, as indicated in the USI Statute, rule out the exercise of authority by other official university bodies, who may decide to expel the student or to inform other authorities of the events.
- ⁴ The student has the right to appeal against the Dean's decision by submitting his/her grievance to the MH Complaints Commission who takes a final decision.

Art. 30
Ex-matriculation
request

The student must inform the Student Administration of the relevant faculty of their intention to withdraw from their studies in writing. The notification can be submitted within the time limits established in the General regulations for admission and matriculation of the Università della Svizzera italiana.

Chapter IV – Special provisions

Art. 31 Recognition of previous academic studies	¹ Only the examinations passed during previous academic studies taken no longer than ten years prior to the start of the new study semester are recognized. ² If the student had been assigned a definitive fail in any faculty of USI, or in another Swiss or foreign university or institute of higher education, all the results previously achieved in the study program in which the student has been assigned a definitive fail, including those that the student passed, are not taken into consideration in the study plans of the faculty to which the students belongs. ³ The student may enrol during one of the two years of the Master's program, depending on the number of ECTS credits to be acquired to complete the study program. The student follows the study plan for the year in which he or she was admitted.
Art. 32 Recognition of studies undertaken in other faculties	¹ The faculty may accept the enrolment of students who have studied at another faculty after the first semester of the Master's in Health, on the basis of the equivalence of the courses attended and passed at the given faculty of origin with the courses prescribed in the study plan of the relevant faculty, following the principles of mobility and fair and equal treatment. ² For students coming from another program, the Director of the Major defines the equivalences and the relative assessment of effective equivalence based on the knowledge and skills acquired, the relevant level of studies, and recommends a personalized study plan. ³ This option does not apply to students already enrolled in the Master's in Health at USI.
Art. 33 Application for equivalence	¹ Students may apply for equivalence for the examinations passed at another university or institute of higher education prior or after matriculation, but at the latest within one semester from the start of the chosen MH Major. The application should include the following documents: a. exam certificate (including the name of the course(s) passed, the grades achieved, ECTS credits awarded and the date that the exam(s) was/were passed). b. course descriptions. c. ex-matriculation certificate (in the case of transfer from another university). ² Students may apply for equivalence for previous internships at firms and institutions prior or after matriculation, but at the latest within one semester from the start of the chosen MH Major. The application must contain the employment certificate with a detailed description of the work carried out. ³ The studies and employment for which equivalence is acknowledged are validated in ECTS credits, with any related assessments for the studies undertaken. ⁴ The studies and employment undertaken that have already contributed to the awarding of a diploma cannot be acknowledged for the purposes of the awarding of a new diploma. ⁵ The Director of the Major may request the submission of further original documents at any time.

Art. 34
Re-admission

- ¹ A student that withdraws from their studies at relevant faculty may submit a new enrolment application to the same faculty according to the methods established in the General regulations for admission and matriculation of the Università della Svizzera italiana. Depending on the circumstances, the Director of the Major will assess which exams previously passed can be accredited.
 - ² The student may enrol during one of the two years of the Master's program in Health, depending on the number of ECTS credits to be acquired to complete the study program. The student follows the study plan for the year in which they have been admitted.
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Art. 35
Leave of absence

- ¹ A student may be granted a leave of absence on grounds of maternity, military or civil service, serious illness or other circumstances that, at the Scientific Committee's discretion, represent a major impediment to the smooth progress of the applicant's studies. A leave of absence may not exceed two semesters. Any exceptions are subject to the authorisation of the Dean of the relevant faculty.
 - ² Students on leave remain enrolled at the University by paying a reduced administrative fee, in accordance with the General regulations for admission and matriculation of the Università della Svizzera italiana, and retain the benefits connected with student status though excluded from attending classes or any other degree-related activity.
 - ³ A student who is on a leave of absence has no right to take examinations or hand in the Master's thesis. Any exceptions are subject to the authorisation of the Dean of the relevant faculty.
 - ⁴ A student who is on leave during the autumn semester may not enrol for the winter examination session. A student who is on leave during the spring semester may not enrol for the summer examination session. Renewal of enrolment for the following autumn semester entitles the student to sit examinations in the autumn session for the courses attended prior to the leave of absence.
 - ⁵ Students absent on grounds of maternity, military or civil service, or for grave and medically justified illness, are nonetheless allowed to sit examinations on course units that they have previously attended.
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Art. 36
Grievances and appeals

- ¹ Any decision that affects a student's rights and expectations, including examination results, must be notified in writing.
 - ² The student has the right to lodge an appeal against these decisions, and so elicit a resolution from the relevant faculty, in whose name the MH Complaints Commission decides. The appeal has a suspensive effect on the decision.
 - ³ Members of the MH Complaints Commission are required to recuse themselves if they have been previously involved in the proceedings or if they have a personal interest or bias in the matter.
 - ⁴ The student may appeal against the decision of the MH Complaints Commission by lodging a formal complaint to the Cantonal Administrative Court, Via Pretorio 16, 6901 Lugano. The decisions of the Complaints Commission are enforceable immediately.
 - ⁵ Formal complaints and appeals must be filed within 30 days of receipt of the notification and must be clearly substantiated in writing. The procedure is analogous to the administrative procedure of the Canton of Ticino (LPAmM). For internal appeals in front of the MH Complaints
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	Commission, it does not apply the interruptions due to legal holidays as for LPAmM.
Art. 37 Exceptions	¹ In exceptional cases, upon written and reasoned request by the student, the Scientific Committee may derogate from these Regulations, but only in favoure of the student (in particular, with regard to the maximum period of leave). ² This is without prejudice to the provisions of these Regulations which, by their nature, cannot be waived (in particular, regarding the maximum number of attempts to pass an exam).
Art. 38 Amendments	¹ The present Regulations or single provisions thereof may be amended by the relevant faculty Councils by the absolute majority of its members. Each amendment proposal must then be approved by the Academic Senate of the Università della Svizzera italiana. ² Each amendment proposal must be put on the agenda and communicated to the members of the relevant faculty Councils at least 10 days before its next meeting
Art. 39 Validity	¹ The present Regulations come into force on 20 November 2025. They apply in their entirety to all students enrolled from the 2026/2027 academic year onwards.
