

Tbilisi State Medical University

Educational PhD Program – Stomatology

Program Name	Educational PhD Program – Stomatology
Program Leader	Professor Marina Mamaladze
Qualification to be awarded	Academic Doctor of Stomatology
Program volume in credits	180 credits
Language of Instruction	Georgian
Aim of the program, which is focused on developing student competences and defining the sphere of employment	<p>Tbilisi State Medical University has a unified vision of the essence, aims and outcomes of PhD programs. Besides, a separate program envisages specific nature of the field and its needs.</p> <p>The aim of the program is to train the researchers with high academic level, Philosophy Doctors with systemic understanding of the field of stomatology, who will have sufficient knowledge, skills and experience ensuring their professional involvement into academic, research and professional activities of the field of stomatology throughout the world.</p> <p>To train academic (scientific) personnel at TSMU in accordance with the acting legislation and requirements of healthcare of the country/public. It is fully compatible with the declared mission of TSMU.</p> <p>Program study outcomes envisage interests of all the parties involved in the academic process (PhD candidate/student, academic personnel), alumni and potential employers, national and international field-specific standards</p>
Pre-requisites of the program	The rule of admitting to the PhD program/PhD research is defined by the decree of the faculty of stomatology of Tbilisi State Medical University on PhD program, corresponds with

	<p>the law of Georgia on high education and normative acts regulating university activities.</p> <p>Pre-requisites of the educational program: 1) PhD research program, approved by the academic council; 2) for the candidate – diploma of a graduate stomatologist and being the winner of the doctoral program competition.</p> <p>The competition includes:</p> <p>a) Assessment of submitted documentation b) Exam: testing – interview and the foreign language</p> <p>The above-mentioned ensures transparency of being enrolled into the program, equality of the people with respective knowledge, skills and values which is the basis for achieving learning outcomes as declared by the program in case of successfully going through the program.</p>
Learning Outcomes	<p>Program learning outcomes are fully commensurate with the knowledge and skills necessary for the independent researcher as well as the possibility to get employed within the scope of already obtained competency.</p> <p>The PhD candidate carries out research-based work, which will be finalized with the achievement of ten outcomes having original, scientific and methodological value, submission of the dissertation (and respective documentation) at the dissertation board and its public defense.</p> <p>After going through the doctoral program, the doctor of stomatology should possess the following field-specific competencies. S/he should able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage stomatological pathologies adequately (within the scope of the competence) at any stage of the disease and set preventive measures as well as

	<p>manage tem respectively</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independently plan and implement innovative research • Prepare scientific publication (planning the research, searching for the material, putting in into systematic order, processing and finalizing); should possess deep, systemic and most updated scientific knowledge which enables working at the required level commensurate with peer-reviewed publication • Develop innovative research and analytical methods and approaches which are focused on creating new knowledge and reflected in internationally peer-reviewed journals • Adequate understanding of scientific works, critical analysis and assessment of most recent views and approaches which promotes development of new methodology • Taking proper and efficient decisions for problem-solving independently • Establishing communication with colleagues, patients, their acquaintances, wider public • Sharing gained knowledge and practical experience with students and colleagues; active and productive action for implementing the outcomes of one's own research in practical activities • Holding academic position and complying with respective workload • Planning and managing others' learning process
System of Assessing the student's knowledge	<p>The form used for the mid-term assessment of the research component of the doctoral program is annual attestation (reporting) of the PhD candidate with the basic department (s). Final assessment of research is made upon public defense of the dissertation (either granting the doctoral degree or not).</p>

The dissertation submitted for obtaining the doctoral degree should be complete scientific research which solves the hot scientific issue (issues) and theoretical, experimental and clinical results are obtained existing in the respective field.

Pre-requisites of defending the dissertation are to complete the academic component and publish main research outcomes in the peer-reviewed journals of the field, selected works publications, which are published in Georgian and foreign journals and distributed internationally. Minimum amount of published works is four, including, at least one in internationally peer-reviewed journal and another in an impact-factor journal.

The total volume of the dissertation should not exceed 150 printed pages (A4 Format), excluding used literature and appendices.

The dissertation should:

- present full information/data about actuality of the PhD research, its novelty, aim of research and objectives – introduction
- Overview of research literature about the topic of the doctoral research, including – those of recent 10 years
- Description of methodology of scientific literature about the topic, including – those of recent 10 years
- Description of research material and methodology
- Detailed and evidence-based description of personal materials
- Description of criteria verifying validity of the outcomes
- Discussion and analysis of one's own research
- Obtained scientific conclusions
- Scientific theoretical and/or practical importance of the outcomes
- List of scientific references used

- Summary of work in the English language which should include information/data about actuality of the doctoral research, scientific novelty, research aim and objectives, practical and theoretical value of research
- Copies of publications around the PhD thesis - as attachment

The pre-condition of submitting the work at the dissertation board is its preliminary discussion (approbation) in those structural sub-divisions and/or departments where the PhD dissertation was prepared.

The dissertation should be submitted and supported by professional/field-specific associations.

In case of obtaining primary material at training, research or clinical establishments, its reliability is approved in a written form by the head of the respective department/establishment.

Examination commission assesses the dissertation work and related documentation.

Scientific actuality of research carried out, its novelty, originality, theoretical and practical value, adequacy of research design and methodology, objectivity of primary material of research and credibility, dissertation structure, quality of design and linguistic accuracy should be assessed in the experts' report

If the majority of experts gives a positive final assessment, the work is published following the consent of the chairman of the dissertation board

In case of the negative conclusion of the majority of expert commission, the dissertation is returned to the candidate and it can be re-submitted in not later than a year

The dissertation is defended publically on the basis of the rule defined by article 5 of the decree on granting the academic degree of the doctor, creating the dissertation board of the faculty of stomatology and its activities

The European Credits and Transfers System (ECTS) is applied in respect with study components of the program as well as throughout the whole university. Calculation of the credits of the educational program and assessment of students is made in accordance with the decree N 3 of 5.01. 2007 of the Minister of Education and Science.

Principles of assessing knowledge of the PhD candidate as well as the criteria are transparent and known to all subjects involved in the academic process. They correspond with not only the interest of objectively assessing the theoretical knowledge of the student but also the quality of acquiring practical skills. While assessing knowledge and skills both oral and written test exams along with the combined one are used added by presentations and the thesis which is provided in the syllabus.

Indicators of assessing the PhD candidate are openly stated at every stage of the program and its part and known to all subjects involved in the PhD program.

The learning component of the PhD program (45 credits)

Distribution of credits according to the content and the amount (1 credit = 30 academic hours)

Module	Amount of Credits
Main and related specialty	25
Biostatistics and basics of scientific research	4
Higher education pedagogy and psychology	3
Bioethics	3
Foreign language	10