

REGULATIONS OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF THE URV

Approved by the Steering Committee of the Doctoral School on 29 May 2025

Approved by the Governing Council on 19 June 2025

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In the case of any discrepancy between the original and the translation, the Catalan text is regarded as the definitive version.

PREAMBLE

Organic Law 2/2023, of 22 March, on the University System (LOSU) defines the structure of university teaching as having three cycles: bachelor's degree, master's degree and doctoral degree. Doctoral degrees, corresponding to the third cycle, lead to the qualification of doctor, which is official and valid throughout Spain. The main function of the Doctoral School is to organise quality doctoral programmes that are both international and connected to the territory that the URV serves.

According to the URV Statute, the Doctoral School is a basic structure of the University, and is governed by the Statute and its regulations, which stipulate how the School must be organised and must operate. In compliance with the above, the Doctoral School establishes the present regulations, which are approved by the Governing Council.

These Regulations also establish the structure and operation of the Doctoral School, in accordance with Royal Decree 99/2011, of 28 January, which regulates official doctoral studies, amended by Royal Decree 534/2013, by Royal Decree 43/2015, by Royal Decree 195/2016 and by Royal Decree 576/2023, and in accordance with Royal Decree 822/2021, of 28 September, which sets out the way in which university studies are to be organised and defines the quality assurance procedure for university studies, which involves the accreditation of the Doctoral School by the University Quality Agency of Catalonia.

PART 1. PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS**CHAPTER 1. THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL***Article 1. Object*

1. These regulations aim to regulate the organization and operation of the Doctoral School (hereafter ED, as per the initials of its name in Catalan) of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili (hereafter URV), in accordance with the applicable legislation.
2. The ED is the structure that organizes and manages doctoral studies in all branches of knowledge.

Article 2. Regulatory framework

These regulations are governed by the URV Statute, by the URV's Electoral Regulations and, for anything not provided for therein, by the Operating Regulations of the Governing Council, by the Law on Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations and by any applicable other regulations.

Article 3. Functions of the Doctoral School

The basic functions of the ED are to:

- a) Organise and coordinate doctoral studies and to ensure that they are adapted to the University's strategic lines of teaching, research and transfer.
- b) Facilitate the planning, organisation and implementation of doctoral training in research, transfer and transversal skills, and to promote collaboration between the University's structures and with other institutions and universities.
- c) Ensure that doctoral students have access to the URV services and resources that they need to carry out doctoral studies, in accordance with the guidelines established by the URV.
- d) Evaluate and report on proposals to create, modify and abolish doctoral programmes and promote interdisciplinarity and internationalisation.
- e) Promote the recruitment and retention of students and to assist the entry of doctoral degree graduates into the workplace by promoting collaboration with employers.
- f) Manage its own human, material and economic resources and also those obtained through other sources, in accordance with current legislation.
- g) Develop the necessary quality assurance systems for all its activities.
- h) Periodically report on its activities under the terms determined by the Governing Council.
- i) Undertake all the other functions attributed to the ED by the current legislation and by the URV Statute and its regulations.

CHAPTER 2. DEPARTMENTS LINKED TO DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

Article 4. General provisions

1. The URV departments linked to a doctoral programme (DP) are those listed in the respective reports for each programme. This link is periodically reviewed through the monitoring reports of the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS), which take into account the number of teachers involved in the DP and the level of thesis supervision assigned to each of the departments.
2. In the case of interuniversity doctoral programmes, the departments linked to the programme at the URV are those listed in the verification report or in the collaboration agreement.
3. The list of departments linked to DPs is published on the ED website.
4. The administrative management of doctoral programmes is the responsibility of the secretary's office of the department or administrative unit to which the coordinator of the

doctoral programme is attached, unless stipulated otherwise by the interdepartmental agreement.

Article 5. Departmental agreement

1. The departmental council linked to the doctoral programme approves an agreement that, among other points, stipulates:
 - a) The procedure and criteria for proposing the coordinators of the doctoral programme and the duration of their term in office, in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.
 - b) The composition of the academic committee and duration of their term of office, in accordance with the provisions of these regulations, which stipulate that only part of the committee is to be renewed at any one time to ensure its proper functioning.
2. In cases where several departments are linked to one doctoral programme, the heads of department will sign an agreement approved by the corresponding departmental councils that states the issues contained in section 1 and which specifies who will be responsible for the various administrative and economic tasks relating to the doctoral programme.
3. Requests to modify agreements must be made to the ED and require the authorization of the Office of the Vice-Rector responsible for doctoral studies, which must give the reasons for its decision.

PART 2. GOVERNING AND REPRESENTATIVE BODIES

CHAPTER 1. ASSOCIATED BODIES

SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISION

Article 6. Definition

The units associated with the Doctoral School are the Steering Committee of the Doctoral School, the management team and the Academic Committees (ACs) of the doctoral programmes.

SECTION 2. STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

Article 7. Definition

The Steering Committee (hereafter CDE, as per the initials of its name in Catalan) of the Doctoral School is the governing body of the ED and is chaired by the director of the ED.

Article 8. Composition and appointment

1. The members of the CDE are as follows:

- a) The director of the ED, who is the chair.
- b) The secretary of the ED, who performs the functions of academic secretary.
- c) The vice-rector or person appointed by the rector with competences in doctoral matters.
- d) The coordinators of the doctoral programmes.
- e) The technical, management, administrative and service personnel with the functions of administrative manager of the ED or the person delegated by them.
- f) A doctoral student who is a member of the trainee predoctoral research staff of the URV, chosen by and from this group.
- g) A doctoral student who is not a member of the trainee predoctoral research staff of the URV, chosen by and from this group.

2. The chair of the CDE may invite any other person it deems of interest to join the SC. Such an individual will be able to participate but not vote.

3. The doctoral students are renewed every two years, although elections may be held at any time if there is a need to fill a vacancy.

Article 9. Functions

The functions of the CDE are to:

- a) Approve the composition of the examination panels and authorise the defence of doctoral theses.
- b) Report periodically on the activity of the ED and its doctoral programmes.
- c) Approve the guidelines, allocation and closure of the budget of the ED.
- d) Obtain the Governing Council's approval of the Regulations governing the ED and of any modifications thereof.
- e) Obtain the Governing Council's approval of amendments to regulations that affect doctoral studies.
- f) Approve the policy and quality objectives of the ED, the quality manual, the process map and the processes of the IQAS, and to ensure that it is in line with that of the University.
- g) Monitor the quality of doctoral programmes and ensure the implementation of periodic improvement plans as established by the IQAS of ED.
- h) Approve proposals for the programming, modification or termination of official doctoral courses.
- i) Define the strategy that governs the grants and scholarships managed by the ED and the strategy governing other training initiatives aimed at doctoral students.
- j) Approve the final record of grades with the evaluation results issued by the different academic committees.

- k) Undertake all the other functions attributed to the ED by the current legislation and by the URV Statute and its regulations.

Article 10. Sessions and meetings

1. The CDE will meet in a regular session on a monthly basis (except for during the month of August and other periods when the University is closed) in accordance with the annually approved calendar. The director of the ED announces the planned calendar of ordinary sessions and this is approved by the CDE itself.
2. The CDE may meet in an extraordinary session if there is an emergency that justifies this. Such a meeting will be convened by the director of the ED or by a third of the members of the SC.
3. The call for the meeting and its agenda must be sent electronically to the members of the CDE at least 48 hours in advance, except in cases of urgency as defined by the chair of the CDE and which must be stated in the call. The call must be accompanied by the relevant documentation so that it can be read and deliberated on and any resolutions may be adopted.
4. Even if the requirements of the call have not been met, the CDE is validly constituted if all the members meet and agree on this unanimously.
5. The members of the CDE can only use the data and information contained in the documentation relating to the items on the agenda, in the agreements discussed and in the development of the CDE session, as established by the current legislation on the protection of personal data and intellectual and industrial property.

Article 11. Constitution

1. In the first call, the presence of the chair and the secretary (or their substitutes) and at least half of the members is necessary.
2. In the second call, the quorum is reached with the attendance of a third of the SC.

Article 12. Agreements

1. The CDE must discuss and adopt agreements regarding the items on the agenda. Exceptionally, issues that are not on the agenda may be discussed, provided that they are declared urgent by the vote of the majority of the CDE and that all members are present.
2. Notwithstanding the powers of the chair to control the debate, in the deliberations prior to the vote, members may be given the chance to speak for and against the issue at hand.
3. The types of majorities required to adopt agreements are:



- a) Simple majority: when the number of votes in favour exceeds the number of votes against. In the event of a tie, the chair of the body will have the casting vote.
 - b) Absolute majority: when the number of votes in favour is equal to or greater than 51% of the members of the ED.
- 4. The agreements of the CDE are adopted by a simple majority of votes, except for when agreeing on any modification to these regulations, which will require an absolute majority.
 - 5. For any agreements to be adopted, the minimum quorum must be present.

Article 13. Voting

- 1. Voting can be secret if it affects people and is proposed by the chair of the CDE or a quarter of the members of the CDE in attendance.
- 2. Any members of the CDE who have recorded in the minutes their abstention or vote against an adopted agreement will be exempt from any liability that may arise from it.
- 3. Voting cannot be interrupted for any reason, and while it is taking place members cannot enter or leave the meeting room.

Article 14. Effectiveness of agreements and transparency

- 1. The agreements adopted by the CDE are effective from the moment they are approved, unless the agreement itself states otherwise, or a subsequent procedure is legally required.
- 2. The agreements must be made public on the intranet or website of the ED notwithstanding what is determined by the Governing Council.

Article 15. Minutes

- 1. The secretary must draw up minutes of each meeting convened by the SC, and must record the attendees, the agenda, the place and time in which it was carried out, the main points of deliberation and the content of the agreements adopted.
- 2. The session of the CDE can be filmed and incorporated into the minutes, without the need for the main points of the deliberations to be recorded. In this case, a certificate issued by the secretary of the ED must be attached to the minutes. This certificate will confirm the authenticity and integrity of the recording and also provide the information regarding the digital repository where it is kept.

SECTION 3. MANAGEMENT TEAM OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

Article 16. Composition and functions

- 1. The management team of the ED takes strategic decisions on behalf of the ED and is chaired by the director of the ED.

2. The following are part of the ED management team:

- a) The director of the ED.
- b) The secretary of the ED.
- c) The vice-rector or person appointed by the rector with competences in doctoral matters.

3. The duties of the ED management team are to:

- a) Propose the strategic objectives of the ED and ensure that they are met.
- b) Draw up the policy proposal and quality objectives of the ED.
- c) Develop and implement the necessary quality assurance systems for all ED activities.
- d) Propose criteria for defining the academic offer of the ED.

SECTION 4. THE ACADEMIC COMMITTEE OF THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

Article 17. Definition

- 1. The academic committee (AC) of the doctoral programme is responsible for the doctoral programme. The coordinator of the doctoral programme chairs the AC.
- 2. In the case of interuniversity doctoral programmes not coordinated by the URV, the responsibilities of the AC are carried out at the URV by a coordinator appointed by the URV, either as a member of the interuniversity AC or as president of the AC at the URV.
- 3. In the case of interuniversity programmes, the agreement must establish the composition and functioning of the interuniversity AC, and the ACs at each university, if applicable.

Article 18. Composition

- 1. The academic committees of the doctoral programmes are made up of the programme's teaching staff. The following persons are members:
 - a) The coordinator of the doctoral programme, who is the chair.
 - b) At least one member of the full-time teaching and research staff of each of the departments linked to the programme, proposed by the corresponding departmental council. One of these will be elected secretary of the committee, at the proposal of the coordinator of the doctoral programme.
 - c) The coordinators of the master's degrees linked to the DP, if so provided for in the departmental or interdepartmental agreement.
 - d) One or more representatives of each university, body or institution that participates in the programme may also be part of the academic committee, in accordance with the collaboration agreement.

2. The composition of the AC must be weighted to reflect, as far as possible, each of the departments linked to the doctoral programme.
3. The chair of the AC may invite other members of the teaching staff or students from the programme to the meetings, who may participate but may not vote.
4. The coordinator of the doctoral programme, as chair of the AC, must communicate the proposal and any changes in the composition of the AC to the ED. The CDE approves the proposal.
5. The members of the AC will hold their terms of office for a maximum of four years, renewable for four more years. The duration of the term of office of the members of the AC is intended to ensure that the members of the committee are not all renewed at the same time.

Article 19. Functions

1. The AC is responsible for:
 - a) Monitoring, improving and modifying the programme.
 - b) Organising and coordinating the doctoral programme.
 - c) Assigning the thesis supervisor, the tutor and the line of research to the doctoral student and for determining whether they are to study full or part time. Provided that there are good reasons, and once it has heard all the parties, the AC can make modifications.
 - d) Evaluating each doctoral student's progress in their research and training, in accordance with the criteria approved by the programme's own AC.
 - e) Ensuring compliance with the commitment agreement signed by the doctoral student, the director and the tutor.
 - f) Authorising periods of temporary leave, extensions, the deposit of the thesis and any other procedure that may be established.
 - g) Approving and publishing the calendar of ordinary meetings of the AC.
 - h) Putting in order of priority and informing the CDE of the people nominated for prizes and grants, in accordance with the terms of the call and its evaluation criteria.
 - i) Undertaking any other competence granted by current legislation, the Governing Council or the SC.

CHAPTER 2. SINGLE-PERSON BODIES

SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISION

Article 20. Single-person bodies

The single-member bodies of the Doctoral School are: the director of the ED, the secretary of the ED and the coordinators of the doctoral programmes.

SECTION 2. DIRECTOR OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

Article 21. Definition

1. The director of the ED is responsible for representing the ED and for directing and carrying out its ordinary management. The director's term of office is a maximum of six years, non-extendable and non-renewable. The director is appointed by the rector.
2. The director of the ED must be a renowned member of the URV's permanent teaching and research staff, who has directed a minimum of three defended doctoral theses and has a minimum of three recognized research periods.
3. In the event of absence, vacancy or illness of the director of the ED, the secretary of the ED will temporarily take on their role.

Article 22. Functions

The functions of the director of the ED are to:

- a) Direct and represent the ED.
- b) Convene and chair the SC.
- c) Convene the ED management team and ensure that the functions of the ED are properly carried out.
- d) Authorise agreements and arrangements that affect the ED and ensure that these are complied with.
- e) Keep the CDE informed of the activities and projects carried out by the ED.
- f) To exercise the functional management of the technical, management and administrative and service personnel assigned to the ED.
- g) Direct the administrative and budgetary management of the ED and keep the office of the vice-rector responsible for doctoral issues informed of the activities and projects carried out by the ED.



- h) Promote compliance with good practices in research, research training, development and innovation among directors, tutors and doctoral students.
- i) Take the necessary measures to solve problems that may arise in the development of doctoral studies.
- j) Propose appointees and replacements for the doctoral programme coordinators, in agreement with the departments linked to the programme.
- k) Undertaking all other functions entrusted to it by the Governing Council or attributed to it by the current regulations.

SECTION 3. SECRETARY OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

Article 23. Definition

1. The secretary is appointed by the rector, at the proposal of the director of the ED, from among the coordinators who are part of the SC.
2. In the event of absence, vacancy or illness of the secretary of the ED, the person designated by the director will take on the role of secretary. In the event that the secretary must temporarily take on the functions of management, they must temporarily designate an accidental secretary.

Article 24. Functions

1. The functions of the secretary of the Doctoral School are to:
 - a) Record the agreements and resolutions of the SC.
 - b) Check to ensure that the CDE's actions are legal, certify the CDE's actions, and ensure compliance with the procedures and rules for the constitution and adoption of agreements.
 - c) Issue the certificates of agreements approved by the CDE and any other certificates regarding matters that fall within the competence of the ED.
 - d) Be responsible for the IQAS of the ED.
 - e) Undertake any other function entrusted to it by the CDE or the director of the ED and the regulations of the university.

SECTION 4. COORDINATOR OF THE DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

Article 25. Definition

1. The coordinator of the doctoral programme at the URV is appointed by the rector at the proposal of the director of the ED, in accordance with the department (s) linked to the programme, and chairs the Academic Committee of the doctoral programme.

2. They must be a member of the teaching staff on the doctoral programme and a well-known researcher who has directed a minimum of two defended doctoral theses and has a minimum of two recognized research periods. In the event that this evaluation criterion cannot be applied, the researcher must demonstrate comparable merits to those indicated above.
3. In the case of interuniversity doctoral programmes, the coordinator of the doctoral programme is appointed by agreement between the rectors or as indicated in the collaboration agreement.
4. The coordinator of the doctoral programme will be appointed for four years, renewable for a maximum of four more years.

Article 26. Functions

The functions of the doctoral programme coordinator are to:

- a) Preside over the AC of the doctoral programme.
- b) Represent the doctoral programme to the SC.
- c) Ensure compliance with the agreements and arrangements that affect the doctoral programme.
- d) Be responsible for the monitoring, modification and accreditation processes of the doctoral programme.
- e) Direct and coordinate the academic activity of the doctoral programme in order to ensure its quality and academic excellence.
- f) Ensure that the information and regulations of the doctoral programme are kept up-to-date.
- g) Ensure the dissemination of academic and management information among the members of the doctoral programme.
- h) Oversee the management of the budget of the doctoral programme and report on it periodically.
- i) Collaborate with the University's services to disseminate the programme, attract students and obtain external funding.
- j) Undertake all other functions attributed to it by the current regulations, the processes of the IQAS and these Regulations.

CHAPTER 3. ADVISORY BOARDS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVE BODIES

Article 27. Advisory boards

1. The advisory boards collaborate with the ED in a consultative, participatory and strategic guidance capacity.

2. The CDE may constitute advisory boards made up of individuals internal or external to the University and who are competent in the areas of knowledge of the doctoral programmes run by the Doctoral School.

Article 28. Doctoral Student Council

1. The doctoral student council aims to expand and systematize the participation of students in the activities of the ED, collaborate in the development of studies of interest to students and advise the CDE on those projects that have a direct impact on those that they represent.
2. The regulations of the doctoral student council govern its constitution, composition and functions, and are approved by the SC.

CHAPTER 4. MEMBERS OF THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL

Article 29. Definition

The following members of the university community are considered members of the ED:

- a) The management team of the ED.
- b) The doctoral programme coordinators, and the members of the ACs.
- c) Doctoral programme teaching staff, tutors, and thesis supervisors of doctoral programmes.
- d) Currently registered URV doctoral students.
- e) The technical, management and administrative and service personnel assigned to the ED.
- f) Any teaching, research, technical, management, administrative or service staff who have been asked to undertake a strategic project by the management of the ED or the SC.

Article 30. Doctoral programme teaching staff

1. The teaching staff of the doctoral programme can supervise and/or tutor doctoral theses in the programme and participate in the stable and continuous development of the programme by providing training activities, participating in the academic committee or monitoring committees, etc.
2. The teaching staff of the doctoral programme must meet a series of requirements, regardless of the university, centre or institution in which it provides its services. As such, any member of the teaching staff must:
 - a) Have accredited research experience, in accordance with current legislation. In the case of international research personnel or if this evaluation criterion is not applicable, comparable merits to those indicated above must be accredited.

- b) Have research experience in areas specific to and related to the programme.
 - c) Have supervised at least one defended thesis.
3. Doctoral theses may also, on occasion, be supervised by other doctors who do not meet the requirements stipulated in point 2 of article 30, provided that they do so in co-supervision with the doctoral programme's teaching staff and in accordance with the regulations. If such a doctor cannot fulfil the requirement of having supervised a defended thesis, then the doctoral thesis must also be tutored by a member of the doctoral programme's teaching staff.

Article 31. Thesis supervisor

1. The thesis supervisor is ultimately responsible for directing all of the doctoral student's research tasks, for guaranteeing the coherence and suitability of their training activities, and for ensuring the impact and novelty of the doctoral thesis in their field.
2. The thesis supervisor may accept or reject the doctoral student who is assigned to them by the AC.
3. The thesis supervisor may submit a request to the AC in which they ask to be unassigned from managing a doctoral student and give their motives for the request. In such a situation, the thesis supervisor's withdrawal is not effective until the student has been assigned a new thesis supervisor.
4. The academic committee may appoint more than one thesis supervisor to a student. In these circumstances, all of the thesis supervisors have exactly the same status of thesis supervisor. The maximum number of thesis supervisors that can be assigned to a doctoral student is stipulated in the current legislation.
5. Thesis supervision is recognized academically in accordance with the regulations and procedures established by the URV.
6. Thesis supervisors can participate in the training activities offered to them by the ED.
7. The functions of the thesis supervisor are to:
 - a) Sign, in the manner determined by the URV, the commitment agreement that establishes the thesis supervisor's functions, the conflict resolution procedure and the aspects relating to intellectual or industrial property rights that may arise during a doctoral programme.
 - b) Guide and supervise the doctoral student in their research for their doctoral thesis and help to ensure it makes an impact and an original contribution in their field of study.
 - c) Guide the doctoral student in the development of a research plan and personal learning plan, and ensure the consistency and suitability of the activities of the doctoral student that they supervise.

- d) Endorse the doctoral student's research plan and personal learning plan.
- e) Regularly review and issue an annual report on the doctoral student's activity document and the research plan and personal learning plan.
- f) Guide and advise the doctoral student in their acquisition of academic, professional and personal skills.
- g) Ensure that doctoral students carry out safe work placements in accordance with the legislation.
- h) Encourage and endorse doctoral students' stays in other centres, both nationally and internationally.
- i) Inform the academic committee of the doctoral programme about any incident that may have an impact on the development of the doctoral thesis.
- j) Undertake all the other functions attributed to them by the current legislation or the present regulations.

Article 32. Thesis tutor

- 1. The thesis tutor is the person responsible for adapting the doctoral student's training and research activity to the principles of the program and the ED.
- 2. The thesis tutor may be the same person as the thesis supervisor.
- 3. The academic committee of the doctoral programme appoints the thesis tutor from among the full-time teaching staff of the URV, notwithstanding the collaboration agreements with other institutions.
- 4. Each doctoral student may have only one tutor.
- 5. Tutoring activity is recognized academically in accordance with the regulations and procedures established by the URV.
- 6. The functions of the tutor are to:
 - a) Sign, in the manner determined by the URV, the commitment agreement that establishes the thesis tutor's functions, the conflict resolution procedure and the aspects relating to intellectual or industrial property rights that may arise during a doctoral programme.
 - b) Ensure that the doctoral student interacts with the academic committee of the doctoral programme, the ED and the URV.
 - c) Guide and support the doctoral student in the development of a research plan and personal learning plan.
 - d) Endorse the doctoral student's research plan and personal learning plan.
 - e) Regularly review and issue an annual report on the doctoral student's activity document and the research plan and personal learning plan.

- f) Guide and advise the doctoral student in their acquisition of academic, professional and personal skills.
- g) Ensure that doctoral regulations are complied with when the director is external to the URV.
- h) Undertake all the other functions attributed to them by the current legislation or the present regulations.

Article 33. Doctoral student

1. Doctoral students are those individuals who are registered for a doctoral programme at the URV. They are considered to be trainee research staff.
2. Doctoral students must sign a commitment agreement with the university, the thesis tutor and the thesis supervisor.
3. Doctoral students have the right to:
 - a) Receive quality research training that promotes scientific excellence whilst ensuring equity and social responsibility.
 - b) Have a tutor with accredited research experience who guides them in the training process and ensures that the student interacts with the AC of the doctoral programme and that the student's training and research activity are adapted to the principles of the doctoral programme and the ED.
 - c) Have a supervisor or supervisors, with accredited research experience, who will supervise their doctoral thesis and who will accompany and advise the student throughout the thesis in those tasks included in the research plan and in the personal learning plan.
 - d) Join a research environment with the facilities necessary for them to be able to prepare their doctoral thesis.
 - e) Learn about professional opportunities and research career development in the fields of academia and business.
 - f) Participate in programmes and calls for grants for research and mobility training.
 - g) Be recognised as the author and the intellectual property owner of their doctoral thesis results and research work, in accordance with current legislation.
 - h) Request the mediation of the academic committee of the doctoral programme in the event of any academic conflict.

- i) Submit a reasoned request to the academic committee to change their thesis supervisor, tutor or line of research, to change their study status from full time to part time or to ask for temporary leave of absence from the doctoral programme.
 - j) Be considered for a representative post, in accordance with the provisions of the URV Statute.
 - k) Participate in the monitoring of doctoral programmes and in the institutional evaluation processes, under the terms provided for in the current regulations.
 - l) Exercise all those rights recognized by the University Student Statute and other current legislation.
4. Doctoral students have the obligation to:
- a) Register each academic year and pay the corresponding fees within the deadlines established in the calendar.
 - b) Comply with the commitment agreement that they have made to the university, the thesis tutor and the thesis supervisor.
 - c) Prepare and submit for annual evaluation, in accordance with the established procedure, their research plan, their personal learning plan and their doctoral activities document carried out, and pass the annual evaluation within the established deadlines.
 - d) Carry out the training activities established in their personal learning plan and include them in the doctoral activities document within the deadline established for the annual evaluation.
 - e) Carry out their research tasks with the necessary dedication and engagement.
 - f) Commit to having an active and co-responsible presence at the university, to knowing the university, the ED and the doctoral programme, and to respecting the URV Statute, the code of ethics and good practices in research, these regulations and all other rules.
 - g) Know and comply with internal rules on health and safety, especially those that refer to the use of laboratories and research environments.
 - h) Take care and make appropriate use of the assets, equipment, facilities and premises of the university and any collaborating entities.
 - i) Carry out all the duties established in the University Student Statute and other current regulations.

Article 34. Doctoral Professionalisation Group

1. The Doctoral School has a team of URV teaching and research staff specialised in doctoral supervision, who carry out research on this subject and provide training to members of the ED and members of other universities and institutions.
2. The CDE approves its connection with the ED and validates its proposals.

PART 3. RESOURCES AND ACCOUNTABILITY*Article 35. Resources of the Doctoral School and the doctoral programmes*

The ED has the human, material and economic resources that are assigned to it or that it obtains through other sources, in accordance with current legislation.

The resources of the doctoral programmes are those distributed by the ED in accordance with the criteria approved by the SC, and those that can be obtained through other sources.

Article 36. Accountability

The SG must periodically report on the academic and economic activity of the ED and doctoral programmes, in accordance with the criteria established by the Governing Council of the URV.

PART 4. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATIONS*Article 37. Interpretation of the Regulations*

These regulations are to be interpreted primarily by the SC, notwithstanding the interpretative faculties of other bodies of the University.

Article 38. Initiative and procedure

1. These regulations may be amended at the initiative of the director of the Doctoral School, or at the request of at least 25 percent of the members of the SC.
2. Any proposed amendment of these regulations must be made in writing and must include a justification for the amendment and the text of the proposed amendment.
3. Any proposed amendment to these regulations requires the favourable vote of an absolute majority of the CDE in order to be approved. Once the proposal is approved, it will be submitted to the Governing Council for approval.

FIRST TRANSITIONAL PROVISION

Within a maximum period of six months after the entry into force of these regulations, the CDE must be constituted.

Doctoral students elected under the previous Regulation will continue to form part of the CDE until new doctoral student elections are held.

SECOND TRANSITIONAL PROVISION

When these new Regulations enter into force, the director of the ED may end their term of office and be appointed by the rector for a non-extendable and non-renewable period of six years.

THIRD TRANSITIONAL PROVISION

When these new Regulations enter into force, doctoral coordinators may have a new non-extendable term of four years. Other members of the academic committee can hold a new term of office for a maximum of four years (non-extendable), thus preventing the renewal of the entire academic committee at the same time.

FOURTH TRANSITIONAL PROVISION

Doctoral programmes have four years from the entry into force of these regulations to ensure that all doctoral programme teaching staff on the programme meet the requirement of having supervised a defended thesis.

FIFTH TRANSITIONAL PROVISION

Doctoral programme coordinators must submit to the Doctoral School the departmental or interdepartmental agreements stipulated in Article 4 no later than 22 December 2025. The appointments of new coordinators will be effective from 1 September 2026. All terminations and appointments of new members of the academic committees must be made, at the latest, by 1 March 2026.

DEROGATORY PROVISION

When these Regulations enter into force, the Regulations of the Postgraduate and Doctorate School, approved at the session of the Governing Council of 11 July 2013, are repealed.

FINAL PROVISION

These regulations enter into force the day after they are approved by the Governing Council of the URV.