

INTERNAL REGULATORY INACTMENT

APPROVED
at Rīga Stradiņš University
Senate's meeting
of 14.04. 2026,
Minutes No 2-S-1/5/2026

Rīga Stradiņš University Admission Regulations for Doctoral Study Programmes for the Academic Year 2026/2027

Issued in accordance with
Paragraph 3 of the Cabinet Regulation No 846 of 10 October 2006
“Regulations regarding the Requirements, Criteria and Procedures
for Admission to Study Programmes and the State Support to the Citizens
who Have Voluntarily Applied for the National Defence Service and Completed It”

1. General Provisions

- 1.1. Rīga Stradiņš University Admission Regulations for Doctoral Study Programmes for the Academic Year 2026/2027 (hereinafter - the Regulations) shall establish the procedure for admission of applicants to the third cycle study programmes - doctoral study programmes - at Rīga Stradiņš University (hereinafter - the University, abbreviated - RSU).
- 1.2. Admission to studies at the University according to these Regulations is based on the Law on Higher Education Institutions (hereinafter - the LHEI), the Law on Assistance of Ukrainian Civilians, the Cabinet Regulation No 846 of 10 October 2006 “*Regulations regarding the Requirements, Criteria and Procedures for the Admission to Study Programmes and the State Support to the Citizens who Have Voluntarily Applied for the National Defence Service and Completed It*” (hereinafter - CR No 846 of 10.10.2006), *the Agreement among the Government of the Republic of Estonia, the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on the Automatic Academic Recognition of Qualifications Concerning Higher Education* (entered into force on 07.01.2019), *the Treaty on the Automatic Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications among the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands* (entered into force on 01.05.2024), these Regulations, as well as in compliance with other legal acts.

- 1.3. Admission to subsequent stages of studies at the University is based on the Cabinet Regulation No 932 of 16 November 2004 "*Procedure for Starting Studies in Subsequent Study Stages*" and the RSU internal laws and regulations.
- 1.4. Admission of applicants to study programmes implemented in Latvian and English shall be ensured by the RSU Admissions Committee, while admission of international applicants to study programmes implemented in English shall be ensured by the RSU International Admissions Committee, which operates in accordance with the regulation [Paragraph 5 of the CR No 846 of 10.10.2006].
- 1.5. The right to be admitted in accordance with these Regulations and to study at the University shall be equal for citizens of the Republic of Latvia, non-citizens of the Republic of Latvia, citizens of the European Union, citizens of the European Economic Area or citizens of the Swiss Confederation and permanent residents of the European Community holding a valid residence permit [LHEI 45(2), Law on the Status of a Long-term Resident of the European Union in the Republic of Latvia]. The regulations governing the admission in particular study programmes implemented in English shall be approved by the Rector's Decree. Third-country nationals shall have the right to study at the University in accordance with the requirements set in laws and regulations.
- 1.6. Special admission requirements and competition evaluation criteria for admission to each of the doctoral study programmes, as well as other indicators characterising the respective study programme are set out in the Annexes to these Regulations.

2. Documents to be submitted

- 2.1. When registering for studies, the applicant shall fill in the electronic application form in RSU Admissions System <https://uznemsana.rsu.lv> and shall attach the files of documents specified in the Regulations and their respective Annex (hereinafter also - the documents) for admission to the study programme.
- 2.2. If the applicant is unable to submit the application in person, it may be done by another person who attaches a power of attorney (notarised or written power of attorney if the representative is a sworn advocate) or a previously prepared oral authorisation of the applicant in person at the University's Records Management and Archives Department [Section 38, Paragraph 1 of the Administrative Procedure Law], as well as the authorised person shall attach a copy of their valid personal identity document certified in accordance with the procedure established by laws and regulations.

- 2.3. The applicant shall submit the documents in the official language. The documents shall be legalised in accordance with the procedure laid down by laws and regulations [The Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents] and a certified translation into the official language shall be attached thereto in accordance with the procedure prescribed by legal acts [*CR No 291 of 22 August 2000 "Procedures for the Certification of Document Translations in the Official Language"*].
- 2.4. If the applicant has acquired the education document or degree abroad, the applicant shall append to the submission a statement of the Academic Information Centre regarding the education document or degree granted in Latvia to which the education document or degree acquired abroad conforms [Paragraph 7 of the CR No 846 of 10.10.2006]. Information is available on the website of the Academic Information Centre: www.aic.lv. This shall not apply to education documents and degrees acquired in Belgium, Estonia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and the Netherlands as specified under Paragraph 1.2. of these Regulations.
- 2.5. When submitting the application, the applicant shall transfer the application registration fee to the current account of the University. The amount of the fee shall be set by the University and shall not be refunded.
- 2.6. If any of the documents to be submitted contain a different personal name and/or surname and/or personal identification number from that in the passport or identity card, the applicant shall also attach or present a document certifying the change in the relevant personal data.
- 2.7. The RSU Admissions Committee shall store the files submitted by the applicants, who have not been enrolled to studies at the University, in accordance with the RSU File Nomenclature. The files submitted by applicants shall be destroyed after the expiry of the storage period specified in the RSU File Nomenclature. In the event of a legal dispute related to the admission competition, the University shall keep the documents and files until the final ruling in the case enters into force.

3. Deadlines

- 3.1. The deadline for the registration of applicants (submission of the application form) and for the competition of the admission procedure shall be set by the Rector's Decree and announced by the RSU Admissions Committee on the University's website.
- 3.2. The date and time when applicants take the entrance examinations (for admission to the study programmes with such additional requirement) shall be determined by the

Rector's Decree and announced by the RSU Department of Doctoral Studies on the University's website.

4. Competition procedure

- 4.1. The Rector's Decree shall determine the subdivision of the study places per the fields of science [Cabinet Regulation No 595 of 27 September 2022 "*Regulations on the Groups of Science Fields, Science Disciplines, and Sub-disciplines in Latvia*", (<https://likumi.lv/ta/id/335928-noteikumi-par-latvijas-zinatnes-nozaru-grupam-zinatnesnozarem-un-apaksnozarem>)], priority topics and study programmes as well as the types of funding.
- 4.2. In the competition shall not participate (not admitted) those applicants:
 - 4.2.1. whose documents do not meet the requirements of the Regulations;
 - 4.2.2. for whom the RSU Admissions Committee has decided not to validate the education document obtained abroad to continue studies;
 - 4.2.3. who have outstanding tuition fees or other material liabilities against the University.
- 4.3. Applicants, who have received the assessment "fail" in the entrance examination (if provided for by these Regulations for admission to the relevant study programme), shall not also participate further in the competition.
- 4.4. The intended supervisor of the applicant's doctoral thesis (or two supervisors of the doctoral thesis) must have the right of an expert of the Latvian Council of Science in the group of science fields, in which the doctoral thesis will be developed. The right of an expert must be valid throughout the period of the competition for applicants and **at least two months after the planned start of studies.**
- 4.5. Applicants may apply for doctoral studies for state-funded or fee-based places with their own chosen doctoral thesis research topic and a supervisor or apply for the doctoral thesis topics proposed by the University's lecturers, who undertake to supervise the thesis by organising work opportunities for doctoral students and resources for the development of the thesis topic.
- 4.6. The Department of Doctoral Studies shall organise the work of the entrance examination committee in accordance with the requirements of the respective doctoral study programme, shall determine the time and procedure for the oral defence of the planned doctoral thesis abstract, and inform applicants accordingly. The number and composition of the committees is approved by the Council of the Department of Doctoral Studies.

- 4.7. An applicant's submission for an interdisciplinary doctoral thesis topic shall be reviewed by the committees for the oral defence of the planned doctoral thesis abstract, in accordance with each respective field.
- 4.8. Applicants' applications shall be evaluated according to the following criteria:
- 4.8.1. the committee's assessment for the oral defence of the abstract for the planned doctoral thesis on a scale from 4 to 20 points (**an average score of at least 15 points should be received**).
- 4.8.2. assessment of the scientific work undertaken within the range from 0 to 60 points.
- 4.9. Criteria for the assessment of the scientific work undertaken by the applicant:
- 4.9.1. scientific publications (full article) included in the international databases *Web of Science* or *SCOPUS* on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis, if the applicant **is the first author** (supporting documents: copies of publications or proof of acceptance for publishing, publications of the last five years) – 3 points;
- 4.9.2. scientific publications (full article) included in the international databases *Web of Science* or *SCOPUS* on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis, if the applicant **is a co-author** (supporting documents: copies of publications or proof of acceptance for publishing, publications of the last five years) – 2.5 points;
- 4.9.3. collective monographs on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: confirmation / a copy certifying it) - 2.5 points;
- 4.9.4. collective monographs that are not related to the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: confirmation / a copy certifying it) - 2 points;
- 4.9.5. scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals published in Latvia and abroad on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: copies of publications or proof of acceptance for publication) - 2 points;
- 4.9.6. publications in a non-peer-reviewed scientific journal in Latvia on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: copies of publications or proof of acceptance for publishing) - 1 point;
- 4.9.7. scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals on the topic not related to the planned doctoral thesis - 0.5 points;
- 4.9.8. scientific activity at scientific conferences (points are not cumulative for the activities of identical content, but the highest number of points is awarded in the relevant criterion):

- 4.9.8.1. presentation at scientific conferences with a report on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: a copy of the conference programme) - 1.5 points;
- 4.9.8.2. poster presentations at scientific conferences on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: copies of the poster presentation) - 1 point;
- 4.9.8.3. scientific conference abstracts on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: copies of the abstracts) - 0.5 points;
- 4.9.9. participation in research projects of international, the Latvian Council of Science (LCS), RSU and other research institutions on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: a letter of confirmation from the project manager where the applicant is engaged on the research project at least 0.25 of the time during the entire duration of the project) – 20 points for participation in a current or approved project whose operation is planned within the next 6 months;
- 4.9.10. participation in research projects of international, LCS, RSU and other research institutions not related to the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: a letter of confirmation from the project manager where the applicant has been engaged) - 2 points for 1 full year of participation;
- 4.9.11. the applicant has worked as a member of academic staff at RSU, as evidenced by a CV entry:
 - 4.9.11.1. 1 to 5 years - 1 point;
 - 4.9.11.2. 5 years and more - 2 points.
- 4.9.12. work / traineeship / studies at universities and research institutions abroad related to the topic of the planned doctoral thesis (supporting documents: a statement from the employer, higher education institution, research institution) - 0.1 points per 1 month.
- 4.10. Points are not awarded for attending scientific conferences, seminars, or interest groups.
- 4.11. Evaluation criteria for the oral defence of the abstract of the planned doctoral thesis (full points):
 - 4.11.1. Topicality of the planned research and scientific novelty from 1 to 5 points;
 - 4.11.2. Scientific quality of the research proposal and compliance with the planned doctoral thesis (research aim, objectives, scientific assumptions, research questions and/or hypothesis(es)) from 1 to 5 points;

- 4.11.3. Design and methodology of the planned doctoral research (sample or research participants, data collection (primary, secondary and/or tertiary) methods, data collection procedure) from 1 to 5 points;
- 4.11.4. Applicant's motivation, ethical considerations and work completion options from 1 to 5 points.
- 4.12. The RSU Department of Doctoral Studies shall inform whether the entrance examination is held remotely or in person (for admission to the study programmes with such additional requirement):
- 4.12.1. If the oral defence of the abstract for the planned doctoral thesis and (if applicable) another entrance examination are held remotely, it shall take place via video conference on *Zoom* or *MS Teams* platform, the camera and microphone must be switched on, a personal identity document must be presented to identify the applicant, and no other persons may participate in the entrance examination on behalf of the applicant;
- 4.12.2. If the entrance examination is held in person, applicants must appear in person presenting their passport or an identity card and comply with the epidemiological safety requirements laid down by the Rector's Decree, if appropriate. Entrance examinations shall be held in Latvian. Applicants who do not appear for the entrance examinations at the specified time, have not presented their passport or identity card, do not comply with epidemiological safety requirements or violate other requirements laid down in these Regulations or in their annexes shall be excluded from further participation in the competition;
- 4.12.3. The University shall record the entrance examination held remotely by video recording, while the University shall record the entrance examination held in person by video or audio recording. The University shall keep the record of the entrance examination until the expiry of the term for submitting an appeal or a challenge submission, but in the case of a legal dispute - until the final ruling in the case comes into force. Before the video or audio recording is made, applicants shall be informed about the purpose of the data processing, the terms for the data processing and data storage.
- 4.13. In case of equal total sum of points, the points obtained for scientific activity shall be decisive.
- 4.14. According to the assessment results (in view of the full points obtained and two decimal numbers), the RSU Admissions Committee shall decide on the admission of the applicant for doctoral studies according to the procedure of the competition. The

RSU Admissions Committee shall announce the results of the competition no later than within three working days from the closing date of the competition [Paragraph 14 of the CR No 846 of 10.10.2006; Section 9, Paragraph 3 of the Notification Law] by publishing them in the RSU Admissions System, as well as on the RSU website, where the applicant can learn the results by entering the ID number of their application.

- 4.15. Applicants who have not passed the competition for state-funded study places in doctoral study programmes may apply for fee-based study places in the relevant study programme, if such study places are provided, in accordance with the procedure and within the deadline set by the RSU Admissions Committee.

5. Signing of the Study Contract and Enrolment

- 5.1. Applicants, who have passed the competition, shall sign the study contract with the University within the deadline set by the RSU Admissions Committee.
- 5.2. If the applicant does not sign the study contract within the deadline set by the RSU Admissions Committee, the RSU Admissions Committee shall offer the next applicant on the competition list to conclude the study contract, whose topic of the doctoral thesis corresponds to the University's strategy.
- 5.3. The applicant shall be enrolled for the state-funded study places after the study contract is signed with the University.
- 5.4. The applicant shall be enrolled for the fee-based study places after the study contract is signed with the University and the contract provisions fulfilled on the payment of the first tuition fee instalment.
- 5.5. The applicant shall be enrolled at the University by a decree document.
- 5.6. The University may postpone or refuse enrolment, enrol conditionally, or cancel enrolment for a state-funded study place if the applicant or doctoral student is already studying in another state-funded study place at the same time. The University may also postpone or refuse signing of a study contract or enrolment, or cancel enrolment in a study programme, if the number of applicants who have passed the competition, concluded study contracts, or been enrolled is lower than the minimum required number of students in the respective study programme group.
- 5.7. The Department of Doctoral Studies shall prepare a decree approving supervisors of doctoral thesis for enrolled doctoral students.
- 5.8. Supervisors of doctoral thesis, for whom the total number of supervised doctoral students exceeds the number specified in the RSU internal laws and regulations, may

not be nominated for approval. In such a case, the director of the doctoral study programme shall nominate another supervisor of the doctoral thesis for the applicant according to the topic of the planned doctoral thesis.

6. Rights and Obligations of the Applicant and the University

- 6.1. The applicant shall have the following obligations during the admission process:
 - 6.1.1. to register electronically in the RSU Admissions System <https://uznemsana.rsu.lv>, provide only true information to the University;
 - 6.1.2. submit and present, in specific situations, the documents indicated in these Regulations and their respective Annex;
 - 6.1.3. to get acquainted and comply with these Regulations, as well as external laws and regulations governing admission;
 - 6.1.4. to comply with the deadlines set out in legal acts, in these Regulations and by RSU;
 - 6.1.5. to appear in person for the oral defence of the abstract for the planned doctoral thesis at the time set by the Department of Doctoral Studies, having a personal identity document alongside;
 - 6.1.6. to settle financial obligations with the University;
 - 6.1.7. to fulfil other obligations specified in laws and regulations.
- 6.2. The University shall have the following obligations in the admission process:
 - 6.2.1. to ensure fair admission in accordance with laws and regulations;
 - 6.2.2. to provide applicants with information about study opportunities at the University, as well as their rights and obligations;
 - 6.2.3. to inform about the number of state-funded study places at the University and the number of fee-based study places financed by natural and legal persons;
 - 6.2.4. to accept documents submitted by applicants;
 - 6.2.5. to announce the results of the competition;
 - 6.2.6. to organise the signing of study contracts with the applicants who have passed the competition;
 - 6.2.7. to organise enrolment of the applicants who have passed the competition and signed study contracts;
 - 6.2.8. to prevent discriminatory treatment of applicants;
 - 6.2.9. to fulfil other obligations specified in laws and regulations.
- 6.3. The obligations of the applicant and the University shall correspond to the relevant rights of the other party.

7. Appeals and Challenges against Admission-Related Decisions

- 7.1. Within three working days from the announcement of the competition results, the applicant shall be entitled to submit a written appeal to the RSU Admissions Committee.
- 7.2. Within three working days after receiving the appeal, the RSU Admissions Committee shall convene the Appeals Commission, which reviews the contested assessment procedure and shall immediately notify the applicant of its decision by e-mail.
- 7.3. The Appeals Commission shall invite the applicant to the review of appeals and, at its discretion, shall be entitled to invite other persons such as other applicants or other RSU staff. The absence of the applicant shall not be the basis for postponing the meeting of the Appeals Commission.
- 7.4. The applicant may contest the results of the applicant competition approved by the RSU Admissions Committee (together with the decision by the Appeals Commission, if any) by filing submission to the RSU Rector within one month from the date of notification of the results or the date of notification of the written decision on refusal to enrol this person in accordance with the procedure established by the Administrative Procedure Law. The decision made by the RSU Rector may be appealed before the court according to the procedure established by the Administrative Procedure Law.

8. Final Provisions

- 8.1. All issues related to the admission to the University which are not regulated by the existing laws and regulations of the Republic of Latvia or by these Regulations, shall be reviewed and decisions shall be taken by the RSU Admissions Committee.
- 8.2. The University shall post information on study opportunities and admission on its website: www.rsu.lv. The applicant may also obtain information on the admission process with the RSU Admissions Committee, telephone: 67321321, e-mail: uk@rsu.lv and at the Department of Doctoral Studies, telephone: 67409120; e-mail: dn@rsu.lv.
- 8.3. The name of the type of the study programme and the degree to be awarded may be specified during the re-accreditation of the study field.
- 8.4. The processing of applicants' personal data shall be carried out in accordance with the RSU Privacy Policy (see RSU website: <https://www.rsu.lv/rigas-stradina->

[universitates-privatuma-politika](#)), in accordance with the requirements of the regulations on the processing of personal data and in compliance with the requirements of laws and regulations.

8.5. The following Annexes are attached to the Regulations:

8.5.1. Annex No 1. “Requirements for Admission to the Doctoral Study Programme “Healthcare” and Documents to be Submitted”;

8.5.2. Annex No 2. “Requirements for Admission to the Doctoral Study Programme “Social Sciences” and Documents to be Submitted”;

8.5.3. Annex No 3. “Abstract” (sample);

8.5.4. Annex No 4. “Scientific Work Undertaken by the Applicant” (sample).

Chair of the Senate

J.Gardovskis

I. Treija
T. 29428837

D. Bandere
T. 67409120

AGREED
at the Rīga Stradiņš University
Council of Deans meeting
on 09.02.2026.,
Minutes No 4-SD.1-2/3/2026

AGREED
at the Rīga Stradiņš University
Rector’s Office meeting
on 02.03.2026.,
Minutes No 1-PB-1/15/2026

**THIS DOCUMENT IS ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED WITH A SECURE ELECTRONIC
SIGNATURE AND CONTAINS A TIME STAMP**

Requirements for Admission to the Doctoral Study Programme “Healthcare” and Documents to be Submitted

1.	Study programme	<i>Healthcare</i>
2.	Qualification to be awarded	Doctor of Science (<i>PhD</i>) in medical and health sciences, or Doctor of Science (<i>PhD</i>) in social sciences, or evidence of successful completion of the doctoral study programme
3.	Duration of studies	4 years (8 semesters)
4.	Type of studies	Full-time regular studies
5.	Admission requirements	<p>1. <u>“Medicine”</u>: a master's degree in healthcare or an equivalent degree in medicine, dentistry, biology, biomedicine, life sciences or pharmacy;</p> <p>2. <u>“Pharmacy”</u>: a master’s degree or an equivalent degree in pharmacy, chemistry, medicine, dentistry or biology, or a master’s degree in materials science and engineering;</p> <p>3. <u>“Sports Science”</u>: a master’s degree in sports science or medical and health sciences, or in their subfields, or in other related fields or a master’s degree in education sciences, social sciences, natural sciences (biology) or an equivalent qualification, and one year of work experience related to the topic of the doctoral thesis, or one year of work experience in the field of education and/or sports. 3.1. An applicant who has not obtained a master’s or bachelor’s degree in sports science or medical and health sciences, or other related fields must additionally take an entrance examination.</p> <p>4. <u>“Psychology”</u>: a master’s degree in psychology or a corresponding higher education diploma in social and behavioural sciences, or healthcare, or social welfare, or teacher education and education sciences, or in the humanities. 4.1. An applicant who has not obtained a master’s or bachelor’s degree in psychology, must additionally pass an entrance examination in the basic branches of psychology: general (cognitive) psychology; developmental psychology; personality psychology; social psychology; clinical psychology, health psychology. For studies in English - a minimum B2 level of proficiency in English required.</p>
6.	Additional requirements for admission	If the applicant holds a master's degree or an equivalent degree in another field or if the topic of the planned doctoral thesis is interdisciplinary with the fields of medicine, pharmacy, sports sciences or psychology, the decision on the relevance of the education and the topic for admission to the study programme shall be taken by the director of the study programme on the basis of the education documents or the abstract for the planned doctoral thesis.
7.	Competition evaluation criteria	Applicants shall be enrolled according to the results of the competition, which consist of the sum of the following criteria: 1. Assessment of the scientific work undertaken;

		2. Assessment of the oral defence of the abstract for the planned doctoral thesis by the Defence Committee.
8.	Documents to be attached to the applicant's application in the RSU Admissions System https://uznemsana.rsu.lv	<p>The applicant's application must be filled in on the RSU Admissions System https://uznemsana.rsu.lv, and the information required therein should be completed, and the following electronic document files must be attached:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Passport or personal identity card (both sides of the eID). 2. Photograph (for the student ID). 3. Master's Diploma or the equivalent Diploma and Diploma Supplement. 4. A signed applicant's curriculum vitae (CV), including ORCID number, a list of scientific publications, traineeships in universities abroad, research institutions and employment relationship related to doctoral studies. 5. A signed curriculum vitae (CV) of the supervisor (supervisors) of the doctoral thesis, indicating the number of scientific publications for the last 5 years, the number of doctoral students who have obtained an academic degree, the status and term of the rights of the LCS expert and ORCID number - required only for supervisors who have no employment relationship with RSU. 6. Scientific work undertaken (<u>completed Annex No 4</u>) and attached files of <u>supporting documents</u>. 7. The payment of the registration fee must be made electronically using the bank link provided in the system. 8. The abstract of the planned doctoral thesis with the signatures of the applicant and the supervisor/supervisors of the doctoral thesis must be prepared according to the sample abstract attached (Annex No 3).

Note: In some study courses of the study programme implemented in Latvian, lectures and communication with visiting lecturers and completion of independent assignments are conducted in English.

Requirements for Admission to the Doctoral Study Programme “Social Sciences” and Documents to be Submitted

1.	Study programme	<i>Social Sciences</i>
2.	Qualification to be awarded	Doctor of Science (<i>PhD</i>) in social sciences, or evidence of successful completion of the doctoral study programme
	Duration of studies	4 years (8 semesters in full-time studies) 4 years and 6 months (9 semesters in part-time studies)
4.	Type of studies	Full-time regular studies, part-time distance learning
5.	Admission requirements	<p>1. “<u>Law</u>”: an academic or professional master’s degree in law or equivalent higher education.</p> <p>2. “<u>Political Science</u>”: an academic or professional master’s degree in political science or equivalent higher education.</p> <p>3. “<u>Social Anthropology, Sociology, Social Work</u>”: an academic or professional master’s degree in social anthropology, sociology, social work or equivalent higher education.</p> <p>4. “<u>Communication Culture and Multimedia</u>”: an academic or professional master’s degree in mass media and communication or equivalent higher education.</p> <p>5. “<u>Health Management</u>”: an academic or professional master’s degree in healthcare, health management or equivalent degree.</p> <p>6. “<u>Business Management and Economics</u>”: an academic or professional master’s degree in social sciences, economics, business studies, management science, occupational health and safety or equivalent degree.</p> <p>For studies in English - a minimum B2 level of proficiency in English required.</p>
6.	Additional requirements for admission	<p>If the previous education was obtained in another science field, in another group of science fields than those specified in Paragraph 5 of this Annex, including if the topic of the planned doctoral thesis is interdisciplinary, the applicant must take an entrance examination - an interview. The entrance examination shall be organised in the form of an interview. The examination shall test the applicant’s knowledge of social science methodology and research methods, as well as current issues and research directions in the relevant field of science.</p> <p>The decision on the relevance of the education or the topic for admission to the study programme shall be taken by the director of the study programme on the basis of the education documents and the abstract of the topic for the planned doctoral thesis, as well as after the applicant has passed the examination.</p>
7.	Competition evaluation criteria	<p>Applicants shall be enrolled according to the results of the competition, which consist of the sum of the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment of the scientific work undertaken; 2. Assessment of the oral defence of the abstract for the planned doctoral thesis by the Defence Committee.

8.	Documents to be attached to the applicant's application in the RSU Admissions System https://uznemsana.rsu.lv	<p>The applicant's application must be filled in on the RSU Admission System https://uznemsana.rsu.lv, and the information required therein should be completed, and the following electronic document files must be attached:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Passport or personal identity card (both sides of the eID). 2. Photograph (for the student ID). 3. Master's Diploma or the equivalent Diploma and Diploma Supplement. 4. A signed applicant's curriculum vitae (CV), including ORCID number, a list of scientific publications, traineeships in universities abroad, research institutions and employment relationship related to doctoral studies. 5. A signed curriculum vitae (CV) of the supervisor (supervisors) of the doctoral thesis, indicating the number of scientific publications for the last 5 years, the number of doctoral students who have obtained an academic degree, the status and term of the rights of the LCS expert and ORCID number - required only for supervisors who have no employment relationship with RSU. 6. Scientific work undertaken (<u>completed Annex No 4</u>) and attached files of supporting documents titled accordingly. 7. The payment of the registration fee must be made electronically using the bank link provided in the system. 8. The abstract of the planned doctoral thesis with the signatures of the applicant and the supervisor/supervisors of the doctoral thesis must be prepared according to the sample abstract attached (Annex No 3).
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Note: In some study courses of the study programme implemented in Latvian, lectures and communication with visiting lecturers and completion of independent assignments are conducted in English.

Abstract/ Individual study plan with progress indicators to be achieved
(sample)

<i>Title of the planned doctoral thesis:</i>	
<i>Title of the planned doctoral thesis in English:</i>	
<i>Field of science and sub-field:</i>	
<i>Applicant's name and surname:</i>	
<i>ORCID number of the applicant:</i>	
<i>Supervisor of the planned doctoral thesis; second supervisor of the doctoral thesis:</i>	
<i>Scientific advisor, if any:</i>	
<i>All places for conducting the research (hospitals, institutes, companies or other places of employment of the applicant):</i>	
<i>Justification for the choice and topicality of the research topic:</i>	
<i>Novelty of the research:</i>	
<i>Aim for the research work:</i>	
<i>Objectives for the research work:</i>	
<i>Scientific assumptions, research questions and / or research hypothesis/-es:</i>	
<i>Research design and methodology for the planned doctoral research:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>sample or research participants,</i> • <i>data collection (primary, secondary and / or tertiary) methods,</i> • <i>data collection procedure</i> 	
<i>Data analysis methods, justification for their choice:</i>	
<i>Ethical considerations on the topic of the planned research</i>	
<i>Research completion deadlines by years*:</i>	1 st year of study:

	2 nd year of study: 3 rd year of study: 4 th year of study:
<i>Cooperation partners of the research project - (specialists, institutions, international researchers):</i>	
<i>Material and technical provision for the research work:</i>	
<i>Scientific work undertaken (scientific publications <u>on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis</u>; poster presentations at scientific conferences, conference abstracts; participation in international, the LCS, RSU, other higher education institutions research projects <u>on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis</u> or in relation to the employment at RSU; traineeships or studies at universities and research institutions abroad):</i>	
<i>A list of references:</i>	

*Time schedule with the results to be achieved: deadlines for writing the sections of the doctoral thesis (Introduction; Sections (chapters, sub-chapters); Results; Discussion; Conclusions; Proposals); planned conferences, publications, deadlines for material and data collection, etc. Information on the tasks that will be planned for each academic year, with the aim to submit the doctoral thesis for the doctoral process in the last semester of the 4th academic year. The abstract shall be attached to the study contract as an individual study plan with progress indicators to be achieved.

(The text of the abstract for the planned doctoral thesis (excluding the reference list) should preferably be up to six pages, *Times New Roman* font size 12 pt, 1.5 spacing).

Applicant

(signature)

Supervisor of the doctoral thesis

(signature)

Supervisor of the doctoral thesis

(signature)

SCIENTIFIC WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE APPLICANT

Criteria		Supporting documents
Work undertaken	Scientific publications (full article) included in international databases <i>Web of Science</i> or <i>SCOPUS</i> on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis, if the applicant is <u>the first author</u>	Copies of publications or proof of acceptance for publishing (publications of the last five years)
	Scientific publications (full article) included in international databases <i>Web of Science</i> or <i>SCOPUS</i> on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis, if the applicant is a co-author	Copies of publications or proof of acceptance for publishing (publications of the last five years)
	Collective monographs on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis	Confirmation / a copy certifying it

Criteria		Supporting documents
	Collective monographs that are not related to the topic of the planned doctoral thesis	Confirmation / a copy certifying it
	Scientific articles (full article) on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis in peer-reviewed journals in Latvia and abroad	Copies of publications or proof of acceptance for publishing (articles of the last five years)
	Publications (full article) on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis in a non-peer-reviewed scientific journal in Latvia	Copies of publications or proof of acceptance for publishing (publications of the last five years)
	Scientific publications (full article) in peer-reviewed journals on the topic not related to the planned doctoral thesis	Copies of publications or proof of acceptance for publishing (publications of the last five years)

Criteria		Supporting documents
	Presentation at scientific conferences with a report on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis ¹	Copies of the conference programme (for the last five years)
	Poster presentations at scientific conferences on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis ¹	Copies of poster presentations (for the last five years)
	Scientific conference abstracts on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis ¹	Copies of abstracts (for the last five years)
Experience	Participation in international, the LCS, RSU and other higher education institution research projects on the topic of the planned doctoral thesis – at least 0.25 time within the duration of the entire project where the applicant has been engaged	A letter of confirmation by the project manager
	Participation in international, the LCS, RSU and other higher education institution research projects on the topic not related to the planned doctoral thesis where the applicant has been engaged	A letter of confirmation by the project manager

¹ Points are not cumulative for the activities of identical content, but the highest number of points is awarded in the relevant criterion.

Criteria		Supporting documents
	Works as academic staff at RSU	CV entry
	Work / traineeships / studies at universities and research institutions abroad related to the topic of the planned doctoral thesis	A statement from the employer, higher education institution, research institution

Applicant

(signature)