Appendix
to Senate Resolution No. 11/III/2026
dated 5 March 2026

GENERAL RULES OF ADMISSION TO THE DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL CULTURE SCIENCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PHYSICAL CULTURE IN KRAKÓW IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027

§ 1

General provisions

1. Candidates to the Doctoral School of Physical Culture Sciences at the University of Physical Culture in Kraków are admitted on a competitive basis, in accordance with these "General Rules of Admission".

2. The Director of the Doctoral School at the University of Physical Culture (hereinafter referred to as the Director) appoints the Admissions Board by 30 June 2026.

3. The Admissions Board consists of: the Chairperson of the Board (the Director), four members of the Doctoral School Board with voting rights, as well as the Secretary and a representative of doctoral students acting as an observer without voting rights.

4. The admission process will take place between 17 August and 18 September 2026.

5. A Candidate eligible for admission to the Doctoral School must hold a magister degree, an equivalent or higher degree, or hold a diploma confirming the completion of higher education abroad and entitling its holder to continue education or pursue a doctoral degree in the country within whose higher education system the issuing institution operates.

6. In the academic year 2026/2027, the Doctoral School at the University of Physical Culture will admit no more than eight candidates who achieve the highest scores in the qualification procedure, provided that their score is not lower than 120 points.

7. Admission to the Doctoral School at the University of Physical Culture requires payment of a one-off, non-refundable application fee, the amount of which is approved and made public by the Rector of the University of Physical Culture.

8. Before registering in the Internet Candidate Registration (IRK) System, and sufficiently in advance to enable the Candidate to meet the deadlines specified in the admission schedule, the Candidate is required to:

a) select a potential supervisor and hold a preliminary discussion with that person concerning the research topic planned to be pursued as part of the doctoral dissertation,

b) obtain consent for supervision of the doctoral dissertation and confirmation that a place and the conditions necessary for conducting scientific work will be provided.

9. During registration in the IRK System, the Candidate submits the following documents between 17 August and 28 August 2026:

a) Completed personal questionnaire (the form is available in the IRK system),

b) A copy of the Candidate's secondary school-leaving certificate (matura certificate) or its equivalent outside Poland,

c) A copy of the Candidate's certificate of magister degree [dyplom ukończenia studiów magisterskich] or its equivalent along with a diploma supplement,

d) A certificate of the weighted average of grades obtained during Master's studies,

e) A medical certificate confirming that there are no health contraindications to undertaking education,

f) A colour photograph as a .jpg file with a resolution of 236 x 295 pixels, +/- 3 pixels; the photograph should be taken in accordance with the requirements applicable to the issue of identity cards,

g) A science-oriented Curriculum Vitae outlining the Candidate's previous scientific development, including relevant lists (publications, conferences, other academic, professional and organisational achievements),

h) A draft of the intended doctoral dissertation,

i) A written consent from a senior research associate specialising in the relevant research area to supervise the Candidate's research and future doctoral dissertation (the form is available in the IRK system),

j) First pages of scientific publications (i.e. articles, monographs, books, chapters in monographs and books) or a statement from a journal editor or publisher confirming acceptance for publication, along with a description of the Candidate's contribution to the publication, signed by the first author,

k) A certificate confirming the Candidate's participation in research projects issued by the project leader, specifying the role and scope of tasks performed by the Candidate (the form is available in the IRK system); additionally, a person applying for admission to the Doctoral School may submit a letter of recommendation from a senior research associate and other non-required documents, such as diplomas, certificates of participation in international and national scientific conferences, scientific courses and training, student research groups, reports, expert opinions, certificates of domestic and international scientific collaboration, research and teaching placements as well as other documents confirming the scientific competencies acquired.

10. Submission of a complete set of documents by the deadline specified in the schedule is a condition for admission to further stages of the admission procedure.

11. The assessment of the Candidate's competencies required to pursue education at the Doctoral School will take place between 29 August and 6 September 2026.

§ 2

Admission procedure

Qualification Stage I - Evaluation of the Documentation Submitted by the Candidate

1. Evaluation of the Research Project.

1.1. The content-related evaluation of the research project will be preceded by an assessment of the project's relevance to the field of physical culture sciences. The Admissions Board will assess to what extent the research project's topic is relevant to the discipline of physical culture sciences. Lack of relevance will result in a negative opinion on the project and will terminate its further content-related processing.

1.2. Each member of the Admissions Board may award the Candidate from 0 to 10 points for this part of the exam (points awarded by individual members of the Admissions Board are totalled up). The Candidate may receive a maximum of 50 points for the presented research project.

1.3. In the first stage, the Admissions Board evaluates the Candidates' applications based on submitted documentation according to the following criteria:

a) how original the research will be,

b) the value of the research methodology and whether appropriate measurement tools have been selected,

c) how familiar the Candidate is with the current state of knowledge in the chosen research area,

d) how feasible the intended research is,

e) how the research project delivery timeline has been presented,

f) whether it will be possible to ensure academic supervision by a supervisor.

2. Evaluation of the Candidate's Scientific Achievements and Experience.

2.1. The Candidate may receive a maximum of 60 points for documented creative and scientific achievements. Each member of the Admissions Board may award the Candidate from 0 to 12 points for

this part of the qualification procedure (points awarded by individual members of the Admissions Board are totalled up). Points (0 to 35) for scientific publications will be awarded by the members of the Admissions Board after consulting the AKF Library's Department of Collection Sharing and Scientific Information regarding the scientific value of the published content. When evaluating scientific publications, the Admissions Board shall in particular take into account the rank of the journal or publisher, the reach and impact of the publication, the Candidate's role in the creation of the publication, with particular regard to authorship or a leading substantive contribution, and the consistency of the Candidate's output with the declared research interests in the discipline of physical culture sciences. Other forms of scientific activity (other than publications), such as active and passive participation in scientific conferences, participation in scientific training courses/seminars, and science-promoting activities (popular-science publications) will also be evaluated (0 to 25 points).

2.2. Winners of the "Diamond Grant" [Diamentowy Grant] or "Pearls of Science" [Perły Nauki] Schemes will be awarded an additional 30 points for their achievements.

3. Evaluation of the Candidate's Participation in Research Projects and Work in Domestic and International Research Teams.

The Candidate receives from each member of the Admissions Board from 0 to 8 points depending on the importance of the grant, the Candidate's role in completing tasks, and the nature of the tasks in the project, based on the data presented in the form applicable in the IRK system. Points awarded by individual members of the Admissions Board are then totalled up.

4. The overall average grade for the entire course of study.

4.1. The Candidate receives points for the weighted average of grades obtained during the course of studies according to the following scale:

- Grade 4.91 - 5.00: 10 points
- Grade 4.81 - 4.90: 9 points
- Grade 4.71 - 4.80: 8 points
- Grade 4.61 - 4.70: 7 points
- Grade 4.51 - 4.60: 6 points
- Grade 4.41 - 4.50: 5 points
- Grade 4.31 - 4.40: 4 points
- Grade 4.21 - 4.30: 3 points
- Grade 4.11 - 4.20: 2 points
- Grade 4.00 - 4.10: 1 point
- Below 4.00: 0 points

4.2. If a different grading scale is used, points will be recalculated in proportion to the applied scale.

5. As a result of the first stage of the qualification procedure, the Admissions Board selects Candidates who have obtained at least 70 points. These Candidates will be qualified for the next stage of the competition procedure.

§ 3

Admission procedure

Qualification Stage II - Interview with the Candidate

1. The Candidate can obtain a maximum of 50 points for the second stage of qualification. Each member of the Admissions Board may award the Candidate from 0 to 10 points for this part of the exam (points awarded by individual members of the Admissions Board are totalled up).

2. The second stage of the evaluation - the interview - will take place between 7 and 11 September 2026, on the premises of the University of Physical Culture in Kraków. The exact date (time and location) of the interview will be announced on the Doctoral School's website on 1 September 2026.

3. The purpose of the interview with the Candidate is to assess aptitude for scientific work and research interests. The interview will evaluate the Candidates' responses regarding:

a) the submitted research project (its topic, methodology, delivery timeline, etc., as well as the reasoning behind the objectives and theses of the planned doctoral dissertation),

b) the body of the Candidate's scientific achievements,

c) the Candidate's motivation to study at the Doctoral School and individual academic development path,

d) scientific interests and preferences for exploring the researcher's craft,

e) previous experiences related to gaining professional competencies,

f) evaluation of the feasibility of the research to be conducted in connection with the doctoral dissertation,

g) questions related to physical culture sciences,

h) previous research experience,

i) documented contacts and cooperation with other research centres (including international ones).

§ 4

Ensuring Accessibility in the Admission Process for Candidates with Special Needs, Including Disabilities

1. These General Rules of Admission are compliant with Order No. 31/2019 of 3 October 2019 on forms of assistance for students with disabilities at the University of Physical Culture in Kraków.

2. The Doctoral School ensures equal opportunities in the admission process for candidates with special needs, including disabilities.

3. Persons involved in the admission process are required to take measures aimed at creating conditions enabling candidates to participate fully in the admission process, taking into account the candidate's special need, including the type and degree of disability.

4. A candidate may apply for their special needs to be taken into account before the admission process begins or during that process. The candidate submits a documented request to the Admissions Board.

5. The Doctoral School provides the candidate with appropriate conditions adapted to their individual needs by:

a) ensuring the accessibility of the electronic admission system;

b) enabling the Candidate to provide information about special needs before and during admission;

c) enabling the Candidate to use the assistance of an assistant;

d) ensuring architectural accessibility of buildings;

e) enabling the Candidate to use assistive technologies and technical facilities (induction loops, text scanners, software facilitating reading);

f) adapting internal forms and templates.

6. The Chairperson of the Admissions Board, in cooperation with the Rector's Plenipotentiary for Persons with Disabilities, verifies the reported needs and creates an individual support plan for the candidate.

7. The Doctoral School ensures accessible forms of communication regarding admission information, including:

a) publishing information on the General Rules of Admission in a digitally accessible form (compliant with WCAG 2.1 AA standards);

b) making information on the possibility of reporting needs available in a visible and understandable manner on the admission website;

c) enabling contact with the person responsible for accessibility (e.g. the Rector's Plenipotentiary for Persons with Disabilities or a teaching adviser/consultant dedicated to supporting students and doctoral students with disabilities).

8. All information concerning candidates' special needs is processed confidentially and in accordance with personal data protection regulations. These data are used solely to ensure the accessibility of the admission process.

9. If difficulties arise in ensuring accessibility, the Doctoral School at the University of Physical Culture immediately takes remedial action in consultation with the candidate so as to enable the candidate's full participation in the admission process.

10. If a candidate considers that accessibility has not been ensured in the admission process or that their special needs have not been taken into account sufficiently, the candidate has the right to lodge a complaint with the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs of the University of Physical Culture. The complaint may be submitted in writing, electronically or orally for the record. The Vice-Rector, in cooperation with the Rector's Plenipotentiary for Persons with Disabilities, examines the complaint without delay and takes measures aimed at removing the identified irregularities and preventing their recurrence.

§ 5

Announcement of Results

1. The results of admission procedures are public.

2. The Admissions Board will document the course of the admissions procedure by preparing reports on the individual stages of the qualification procedure.

3. The scores obtained for each consecutive stage of the admissions process will be published in the Candidate's individual admissions account in the IRK system.

4. The Candidate's final position on the ranking list will be determined by the total number of points obtained in both stages of the procedure.

5. The outcome of both stages of the procedure will be a Candidate ranking drawn up by the Admissions Board to be presented in the admissions report and later published on the Doctoral School's website and in the Public Information Bulletin on 11 September 2026.

6. Based on the Candidates' ranking order, the Director will make decisions regarding their registration as first-year attendees in the Doctoral School or issue administrative decisions refusing admission to the Doctoral School.

7. Candidates will be notified of the admissions outcomes via the IRK admissions system and by email, with the administrative decision on refusal of admission to the Doctoral School being served as a signed-for registered delivery or via other means indicated in the Code of Administrative Procedure.

8. Candidates may appeal the Director's decision refusing admission to the Doctoral School by submitting a written request to the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs for reconsideration of the case within 14 days of the decision being published in the admissions report.

9. The Vice-Rector for Student Affairs will review the appeal request(s) in consultation with a representative of doctoral students indicated by the University Council of Doctoral Students (URSD) and issue a final written decision on whether to uphold or repeal the Director's original administrative decision. Written notifications of this decision will be sent to the Director and, by signed-for registered delivery, to all interested Candidates who have submitted appeals.

10. Candidates accepted to the Doctoral School must submit the original admission documents to the Doctoral School Office and complete the declaration of intention to pursue education at the Doctoral School by 18 September 2026, and, in the case of admission following a positive review of an appeal - by the date specified in the admission decision.

11. The above admission rules apply to all Candidates, regardless of their citizenship.

12. Candidates who are not citizens of the Republic of Poland are required to provide a service address in Poland or designate a proxy for receipt of correspondence in Poland.

Head of Senate

(-) Prof. dr hab. Anna MARCHEWKA