



## **Regulation of Elective Student Academic Activities (ADE)**

### **Master's Degree Course in Medicine and Surgery**

#### **Article 1 - Purpose**

This Regulation governs the “Academic activities autonomously chosen by the student” (art. 10, paragraph 5, letter a, D.M. 270/04) for students of the Master's Degree Program in Medicine and Surgery (CdLM-MS) class LM-41.

#### **Article 2 - Definition**

The “Academic activities autonomously chosen by the student” constitute an integral part of the educational curriculum. To be eligible to take the final examination, the student must have acquired the number of ECTS credits (i.e., CFU) specified in their Study Plan for the autonomously chosen academic activities or elective didactic activities (ADE). ADE is aimed at deepening specific knowledge that enhances the education of graduates in Medicine and Surgery, catering to the individual inclinations of the student and covering topics that are not included in the “core curriculum” of the courses offered.

#### **Article 3 – Type and Requirement**

The “academic activities autonomously chosen by the student” or ADE may include:

- Monographic courses
- Seminar courses
- Interactive courses or practical activities in small groups
- Case discussions
- Conferences and congresses
- Elective internships in laboratories and/or clinical care or research departments in accredited university or research institutions in Italy and abroad
- Attendance of courses and/or integrated courses in other degree programs within the same university or at other universities.

Such activities, chosen freely by the student within the educational offerings provided by CdLM-MS or outside of it, must meet the following criteria:

- Be congruent with the educational path
- Enable the achievement of specific educational objectives
- Include an assessment to confirm the attainment of the educational objectives

## **Article 4 - Educational Duties of Teachers**

In accordance with Article 1, paragraph 4 of the Regulation for the Assignment of Educational and Student Service Duties to Professors and Researchers (D.R. 2924 dated 02/09/2022), the additional elective educational and didactic activities, defined in terms of ECTS credits, are considered as additional didactic activities for the delivery of teaching in the various prescribed forms. Reference is made to the specific regulations for reporting the teacher's workload.

## **Article 5 - Organization of Activities**

The “Academic activities autonomously chosen by the student” can be proposed:

- By the instructors, within the ADE educational offerings of the CdLM-MS.
- Directly by the student, outside of the ADE educational offerings of the CdLM-MS.
- In both cases, the requirements specified in Article 3 must be adhered to.

### ADE Educational Offerings of the CdLM-MS

To facilitate student choice, the President of the CdLM-MS can compile a list of ADE based on proposals submitted by CdLM-MS instructors that meet the requirements outlined in Article 3 of this Regulation. These activities, approved by the Coordination Office, are typically published at the beginning of the academic year or semester, along with the schedule of mandatory educational activities, on the CdLM-MS website in the dedicated section.

Proposals must be submitted by instructors using the provided form (“Instructor's ADE Proposal”) to the email address [medicineandsurgery@unict.it](mailto:medicineandsurgery@unict.it).

Proposals can also be submitted by instructors affiliated with other departments of the university and must be received in a timely manner for approval by the Coordination Office and inclusion in the educational offerings.

### Individually Activities Proposed by the Student

In cases where there are students who intend to undertake elective academic activities not covered by the annual offering of the CdLM-MS, it is necessary for interested students to submit a prior request using the “Individual ADE Proposal” or “Group ADE proposal” forms to the email address [medicineandsurgery@unict.it](mailto:medicineandsurgery@unict.it).

Individual and group requests must be submitted at least 30 days before the start of the activity. After evaluating the consistency with the educational plan and determining the ECTS credits to be assigned, the Coordinator of the Degree Course will seek approval from the CHIRMED Department. If the convening of the relevant educational body occurs after the expected start of the activities, the Coordinator of the Degree Course may authorize the student's participation and confirm its completion at the subsequent CHIRMED Department meeting.

### Activities at Facilities Unaffiliated with the University

In the case of elective internships or other activities to be conducted at facilities that are not affiliated with the CdLM-MS or the University of Catania, it is necessary for a designated instructor to prearrange the feasibility of these activities with the person in

charge of the respective facility and to confirm the existence of the necessary administrative and insurance conditions. The approval of the activities is contingent upon this verification and the submission of any insurance coverage by the student, which should be sent along with the individual activity proposal to the CdLM-MS Administration Office.

All proposals must include the following information:

- Name of the activity
- Type of activity
- Number of students who can enroll and reservation procedure
- Date(s) and times of the activity
- Total duration in hours
- Responsible instructor, any collaborators, and tutors
- Location of the facility where the activity takes place and its address
- Educational objectives
- Teaching methods employed
- Reference scientific-disciplinary sectors
- Minimum knowledge required to optimize student participation in the proposed activity and any prerequisites
- Assessment methods

## Article 6 - Workload and Course Attendance

Over the course of 6 years, the student exercises their personal choice until they attain a total number of ECTS credits equal to or greater than that specified by the educational regulations of the CdLM-MS and the Study Plan. The allocation of ECTS credits is determined based on the duration of the activities, taking into account the hours allocated for “student-choice activities” in the Study Plan and the type of activity.

Seminars or lectures with a duration below the minimum requirement may be combined with others in the same cultural domain to reach the necessary number of hours for the allocation of 1 ECTS credit, following this scheme:

<b>Type of Activity</b>	<b>Conversion</b>
Monographic Course, Seminars, Conferences, and Similar Activities	15 hours = 1 ECTS credits 2 hours = 0.1 ECTS credits
Elective Clinical or Laboratory Internships	25 hours = 1 ECTS credits

Attendance is mandatory for 100% of the chosen activity and is recorded by the responsible instructors or tutors. Admission to the assessment of progress and the acquisition of the corresponding ECTS credits is contingent upon attendance.

## Article 7 - Assessment Methods and Recordkeeping

For the purpose of assigning ECTS credits, each “Academic activity autonomously chosen by the student” must undergo an assessment by the responsible instructor or tutor, who will provide a positive evaluation expressed as “excellent”, “good”, “satisfactory”, or a negative evaluation expressed as “unsatisfactory”.

The responsible instructor or tutor must issue a certification to the student, attesting to their attendance in the activity, successful completion of the assessment, and the corresponding evaluation. ECTS credits will be acquired only if the student passes the assessment.

Student-choice activities are considered in the count of exams or final assessments as equivalent to a course and, as such, will be the subject of a single record. To this end, prior to graduation and in accordance with specific deadlines published on the CdLM-MS website, the student must submit appropriate documentation to the email address [medicineandsurgery@unict.it](mailto:medicineandsurgery@unict.it) using the provided form. After verifying the completeness and regularity of the submitted documentation, the record will be carried out by the Administrative Office.

### **Article 8 – Evaluation for Graduation Grade**

Within the bonus point system based on quantifiable parameters, a portion may be assigned to specific individual student-choice activities identified by the CdLM-MS Coordination Office within the framework of the annual educational offerings, provided that the student has received an “excellent” evaluation.