

**Doctorate Regulations (Statutes) of the Medicine Section
of the University of Lübeck**

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amended by:

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Part one: Doctorate

§ 1 Academic degree

(1) The Medicine Section of the University of Lübeck awards the academic degrees of Doctor of Medicine (Dr. med., doctor medicinae), Doctor of Dentistry (Dr. med. dent., doctor medicinae dentariae) and Doctor of Human Biology (Dr. rer. hum. biol., doctor rerum humanae biologiae).

(2) The academic degree is awarded on the basis of special aptitude for independent scientific work, which has been demonstrated by a scientific dissertation, any publications resulting from this and an oral examination.

(3) There is the possibility of a cumulative doctorate. The details are governed by § 11.

§ 2

Honorary doctorate

(1) The Medicine Section may confer the degree and distinction of honorary doctor (Dr. h.c.) as a rare recognition for outstanding scientific achievements or personal services to the sciences represented by the Medicine Section.

(2) The President of the University of Lübeck proposes the award of an honorary doctorate to the professors of the Medicine Section together with the chairperson of the senate committee for medicine. Provided that at least one third of the professors of the Medicine Section agree with the proposal, the senate committee for medicine deliberates on the award of the honorary doctorate upon application by the President. Applications must be submitted in writing to the chairperson of the committee, stating the reasons for the application. The senate committee for medicine prepares the decision and forwards the proposal to the senate in the event of a resolution with a majority of 4/5 of the voting members. The senate decides on the proposal of the senate committee for medicine with a majority of 4/5 of the voting members.

(3) The honorary doctorate is awarded by presenting a certificate that highlights the merits of the doctoral candidate.

(4) Each honorary doctorate is notified to the competent ministry of the State of Schleswig-Holstein by sending a copy of the certificate.

(5) An honorary doctorate may be withdrawn if it is subsequently established that the requirements of (1) have not been met or that the honoured person has not proven to be worthy of the award. The senate committee for medicine advises on the withdrawal of the award at the request of one third of the professors of the Medicine Section and communicates the recommended decision to the senate. (2) and (4) apply accordingly. If the doctorate is revoked, the certificate awarded in accordance with (3) must be returned.

§ 3

Joint award of a doctorate

The Medicine Section may also award the degrees mentioned under § 1 jointly with another foreign faculty if there is a corresponding cooperation agreement between the faculties. In particular, the agreement must regulate the admission requirements, the scope of the examination, the invalidity

and the revocation of the doctorate in such a way that it does not fall short of the rules set out in these examination regulations.

§ 4

Admission and supervision of doctoral students

(1) The admission and supervision of doctoral students is carried out collaboratively on the basis of a supervision agreement by a two-member supervision team, one of whom is appointed as the primary supervisor and one as the co-supervisor.

(2) As a rule, the primary supervisor can only be someone who is a professor, junior professor, habilitated research assistant or, through another equally ranked selection process, a full-time member of the Medicine Section of the University of Lübeck. In exceptional cases, primary supervision can also be provided by a member of other sections of the University of Lübeck.

(3) The primary and co-supervisors should come from different institutes/clinics. Only in justified exceptional cases may they come from the same institute/clinic. The co-supervisor is proposed by the primary supervisor and confirmed or rejected by the doctorate commission. If the primary supervision is provided by a habilitated supervisor who has already supervised more than five doctoral studies, the co-supervision can also be provided by an academically active person who has published at least five publications in peer-reviewed journals and whose own doctorate dates back at least four years. The doctorate commission decides on the qualification to be a co-supervisor upon application. Co-supervision may also be provided by

- a member of the computer science/technology or natural science sections,
- a member of another university, provided that he or she holds a habilitation or has demonstrated an achievement equivalent to a habilitation before the doctorate commission, or
- habilitated professors at scientific institutes.

(4) The restriction with regard to co-supervision pursuant to § 4 paragraph 3 sentence 4 shall not apply for the first ten years of professorship at the University of Lübeck in the health professions. Co-supervision of the doctorate is also possible for this period by an academically active person who has published at least five publications in peer-reviewed journals and whose own doctorate dates back at least four years, without the prior supervision of more than five doctorates. In justified exceptional cases, the period of five years may be extended once for a reasonable period of time by the doctorate commission. This paragraph expires fifteen years after the entry into force of the Fourth Statute Amending the Doctoral Regulations of the Medicine Section of the University of Lübeck.

(5) The following are treated as equal to professors working full-time at the university:

- professors of the University of Lübeck who are on leave and working at non-university research institutions, as well as lecturers of the University of Lübeck,
- retired or emeritus professors who most recently worked in the section,
- honorary professors working in the section,

- extraordinary professors working in the section,
- habilitated members of affiliated institutions working at the Section pursuant to § 35 HSG who regularly participate in teaching or research at the University of Lübeck.

(6) In the event of the departure of a supervisor, the university must ensure the continued supervision of the doctoral student. The wishes of the doctoral student must be taken into account here. Continuation by a supervisor who has left the University of Lübeck as a member or equivalent of the sections Medicine or Informatics/Technology and Natural Sciences or a supervisor who has newly joined the Section is possible.

(7) Acceptance as a doctoral student does not entitle the candidate to subsequent admission to the doctoral procedure.

(8) Upon acceptance, the doctoral candidate must also enrol at the University of Lübeck as a doctoral student, unless enrolment is legally precluded due to an already ongoing enrolment. In any case, the obligation to enrol pursuant to § 8 (1) lit. b) applies. At the time of acceptance, registration as a doctoral student must be made with the CDSL.

(9) Prior to commencement of the doctoral project, a supervision agreement must be concluded with the supervisory team using the model supervision agreement provided by the CDSL and filed with the CDSL. An appendix containing an outline of no more than 300 words must be submitted, outlining the essential content, preliminary work and objectives of the intended doctoral dissertation. A biometric plan must be drawn up and information on the intended duration, funding and other spatial and regulatory requirements (ethics, genetic engineering, animal experiments) must be provided. The signed supervision agreement and the outline are a prerequisite for participation in the curricular programme of the CDSL.

(10) In the case of doctoral studies which are completed outside the University of Lübeck, evidence must be provided of the academic link of the doctoral studies, of the candidate or of the supervisor to the University of Lübeck.

(11) The premature termination of the work must be reported to the Central Examination Office of the University of Lübeck and to all parties involved; it must be in writing and must be justified.

§ 5

Duties of the supervisor

(1) By submitting the application, the supervisor undertakes to pay attention to the doctoral period together with the doctoral student. The first meeting takes place after two months. After that, structured supervision meetings involving the co-supervisor take place twice a year with the doctoral student to document progress on a form developed by the CDSL. The meetings must be recorded in writing.

(2) The supervisor performs a plausibility check of the primary data on which the dissertation is based, reviews its development process and provides the doctoral student with feedback on the methodology and data quality at an early stage. She or he ensures the necessary involvement of the Ethics Commission, the Animal Welfare Committee or other relevant bodies as appropriate.

(3) In the case of doctoral projects in which several doctoral studies are conducted on different aspects of an overall topic complex, the supervisor must ensure that the individual doctoral studies are clearly demarcated from one another and transparently present this demarcation in the context of her or his dissertation report. She or he ensures that the doctoral rights of the doctoral students involved are respected in the publication; this also includes naming the doctoral students involved as co-authors in publications that relate to the overall topic.

Part two: Organisation

§ 6 Doctorate Commission

(1) The senate committee for medicine proposes the members of the doctorate commission and their deputies to the senate for election. The senate elects the members for two years at a time.

(2) The doctorate commission consists of the following members of the Medicine Section:

1. seven members from the group of university teaching staff,
2. one habilitated member of the academic service group,
3. one member from the group of students who must be in the clinical section.

Two of the members of the doctorate commission from the group of university teaching staff should represent clinical subjects, two medical-theoretical subjects.

The doctorate commission should have equal numbers of female and male members; at least one member must be female.

The member pursuant to sentence 1 no. 3 is only a member of the doctorate commission in an advisory capacity. In addition, an equal number of deputies are appointed from the respective groups.

(3) The chair and business of the doctorate commission is conducted by a chairperson elected by the doctorate commission. She or he makes use of the Central Examination Office of the University of Lübeck for conducting business. The doctorate commission also elects a deputy chairperson.

(4) The doctorate commission carries out the doctoral procedures and perform the duties assigned to it under these Statutes. In particular, it ensures that the provisions of these Statutes are complied with and that the procedure is completed within a reasonable period of time. The chairperson reports to the chair of the senate committee for medicine on the development of the doctoral procedures. The chairperson of the senate committee for medicine may attend all meetings of the doctorate commission. The doctorate commission is quorate if at least five of its voting members or deputies are present.

(5) If there is concern of partiality, the provisions of the Framework Rules of Procedure apply.

§ 7

Examination board

(1) For each doctoral procedure to be carried out, the doctorate commission appoints an examination board consisting of one chairperson from among the members of the doctorate commission and two habilitated rapporteurs. The primary supervisor is appointed as primary rapporteur. The second rapporteur shall be a person with a habilitation or equivalent. The second rapporteur should not belong to the same institute or clinic and should not be a co-supervisor. At least one member of the examination board must be female. The chairperson and at least one rapporteur must be members of the Medicine Section of the University of Lübeck; one rapporteur may belong to another section or another scientific university.

(2) In case of doubt about the scientific quality of the submitted dissertation, the doctorate commission may appoint a sub-commission consisting of members of the doctorate commission, which shall make a recommendation on the acceptance of the dissertation for review even before it has been reviewed. A recommendation for non-acceptance is submitted to the senate committee for medicine for a final decision, a recommendation for acceptance to the doctorate commission.

(3) The doctorate commission may appoint another habilitated rapporteur to assess the dissertation, who may also be appointed as a member of the examination board. In a doctoral procedure for graduates of universities of applied sciences, these may also be professors of universities of applied sciences who hold a doctoral degree in the corresponding subject.

(4) If a rapporteur is no longer available or fails to prepare the opinion within a period of three months, the chairperson of the commission may appoint another rapporteur.

(5) With regard to independent supervisors and reviewers, the regulations of the DFG for the selection of reviewers ("Guidelines for Avoiding Conflicts of Interest") apply.

Part three:
Requirements for admission to the doctoral procedure

§ 8
General admission requirements

(1) Admission to the doctoral procedure is subject to the candidate

- a) having completed a higher education degree at a university, university of applied sciences or equivalent institution of higher education within the scope of the Framework Act for Higher Education and having written a dissertation,
- b) being enrolled as a doctoral student at the University of Lübeck until completion of the doctoral procedure,
- c) having successfully participated in a structured continuing education programme for doctoral students at the University of Lübeck; at least 6 CP must be earned, including the course "Good Scientific Practice" in any case; specific requirements may result from a statute of a special doctoral study programme, if this is applied,
- d) not having been sentenced on the basis of an intentional criminal offence to more than one year's imprisonment,
- e) having the ability to hold public office,
- f) not meeting the requirements for guardianship in accordance with §§ 1896 ff. BGB,
- g) not already being entitled to hold the desired doctoral degree,
- h) not already being entitled to hold a doctoral degree which is different from the desired one, but to the admission of which he/she is entitled due to having completed the same relevant degree course.

(2) A completed degree course at a university outside the scope of the Higher Education Framework Act is recognised if equivalence has been established. Equivalence is established if the content, scope and requirements of the periods of study, academic achievements and examination results correspond essentially to those of a corresponding degree course at a university within the scope of the Higher Education Framework Act. This does not require a schematic comparison, but an overall view and evaluation. The equivalence agreements approved by the conference of ministers of education and the rectors' conference as well as agreements within the framework of university partnerships must be observed. The applicant must submit the documents required to determine equivalence to the chairperson of the doctorate commission.

§ 9
Special admission requirements

(1) Admission to the doctorate of Dr. med. and Dr. med. dent. requires the applicant to have passed the medical and dental examinations respectively. Examinations taken abroad are recognised if they are equivalent to the German medical examination.

(2) As a rule, only those who have completed their degree course in accordance with § 8 (1) lit. a) in a subject relevant to the doctoral topic, with a state examination, the Diplom at a university or a consecutive Master's degree in accordance with the requirements of the German accreditation guidelines may be admitted to the doctoral studies. The topic of the doctorate must relate thematically to the Bachelor's or Master's degree course. Furthermore, the applicant is required to have passed the final examination or the state examination with at least a good grade or a grade that would allow him or her admission according to the doctoral regulations of the higher education institution at which the degree was obtained.

(3) Holders of a Diplom degree (from a university of applied sciences or an equivalent institution of higher education) or a Bachelor's degree corresponding to the German accreditation guidelines and comprising at least 240 ECTS may also be admitted directly to the doctoral studies of Dr. rer. hum. biol. by way of an aptitude assessment process without acquiring a further degree instead of the prerequisites specified in (1) and (2). The following special admission requirements must be met:

- a) The final examination was passed with good results in the case of a Diplom study programme at a university of applied sciences, and with very good results in the case of a Bachelor study programme.
- b) Applicants must submit a detailed appraisal by a member of the university teaching staff from the department in which they obtained their degree, stating the applicant's special qualification for the doctorate.
- c) Applicants must submit a statement from a member of the university teaching staff who is willing to supervise the intended doctorate. The member of the university teaching staff must be a member of the Medicine Section. The statement should include the impression of the member of the university teaching staff about the scientific aptitude of the applicant, the subject area in which the doctorate is being pursued and indications of additional qualifications which the member of the university teaching staff believes the applicant should be required to have.
- d) Proof of scientific aptitude is provided in an examination procedure before an examination board consisting of three members of the university teaching staff. The examination board is appointed by the doctorate commission.
- e) The examination board determines requirements for the candidate that must be fulfilled before the oral examination can take place. These requirements must be designed in such a way that they can be met within the three semesters following the application.
- f) The examination board conducts an oral examination with the applicant. This must take place no later than three months after fulfilment of the conditions.
- g) The oral examination may cover any of the areas that have been imposed as requirements under (e). It should not exceed one hour. The oral examination should be suitable for demonstrating the applicant's scientific aptitude.
- h) Proof of scientific aptitude is provided if all three members of the examination board assess the oral examination to be "passed". The vote is not taken in public. The result of the oral examination must be communicated to the chairperson of the doctorate commission. The applicant must be notified in writing of the rejection of the application for admission.

- i) The oral examination may be repeated once at the applicant's request. The oral examination can be repeated at the earliest after 6 weeks and must be repeated at the latest 6 months after receipt of the decision according to (h).

§ 10

Provisional admission to doctoral studies

(1) If an applicant in the fields of medicine and dentistry has passed the first part of the medical examination but not yet the final medical examination (or state examination in the field of dentistry), provisional admission to doctoral studies may be granted upon application if the admission requirements are otherwise fulfilled. The procedure for the examination of the dissertation is initiated on the basis of the provisional admission. The oral examination can only take place after final admission.

(2) The provisional admission expires with the final admission after passing the final medical examination (or state examination in the field of dentistry) or if the 2nd part of the medical examination (or state examination in the field of dentistry) is not passed.

§ 11

Cumulative doctorate

(1) A cumulative dissertation is possible upon application by the doctoral student. Prerequisites for this are at least three already published, independently written original scientific papers in internationally recognised peer-reviewed journals. The applicant must be the sole or lead author of at least one publication. The publications must be named with a common theme and form a coherent overall concept for this. For the publication(s) for which the doctoral student is lead author, it must additionally be confirmed by the co-authors that the doctoral student did the essential part of the work. A detailed summary must be prepared of the publications on which the cumulative dissertation is based, which shows the connection between the individual publications. The doctorate commission decides on the application.

(2) The provisions of § 4 (8) and § 8 (1) lit. c) apply accordingly to the cumulative doctorate.

Part four:
Doctoral procedure

1st section:
Application and admission procedures

§ 12
Admission application

(1) The application for admission to the doctoral procedure must be addressed to the chairperson of the doctorate commission, stating the desired academic degree. The application must include:

1. six copies of the dissertation, usually written in German and bound in DIN A4 size, as well as a suitable electronic version of the dissertation text,
2. written consent to the use of anti-plagiarism software or an anonymised version of his or her dissertation in electronic form
3. a list of the resulting publications, lectures, posters, patents and other publications; six copies of the publications must be enclosed,
4. a curriculum vitae, which in particular provides information on education and study programme and must be accompanied by a photograph (passport photo),
5. a police clearance certificate that is no older than 1 year,
6. the certificate of successful completion of the degree course entitling the holder to a doctorate,
7. proof of participation in the doctoral college in accordance with § 8 (1) lit. b)
8. the name of the supervisor and the institute or clinic at which the dissertation was written,
9. the applicant's affirmation in lieu of an oath that he or she wrote the dissertation without outside help and did not use any personal, technical or material aids or resources other than those mentioned in the work,
10. in cases where the dissertation was prepared using medical records or patient findings, a written declaration stating that the responsible medical or scientific supervisor agrees to the paper being submitted as a dissertation, insofar as the work is not supervised by him or her,
11. if research projects were conducted on humans: a statement on the studies approved by an ethics committee for the supervisor, stating the file number and date of the approval letter

in the appendix to the dissertation; in this context, the doctorate commission is free to request a copy of the ethics committee's vote in individual cases,

12. if animal experiments were carried out: a statement on the animal experiments approved for the supervisor by the competent ministry or office, stating the file number and date of the approval letter in the appendix to the dissertation,
13. the applicant's confirmation that he or she has not previously or simultaneously applied for admission elsewhere or submitted the dissertation,
14. a statement as to whether and with what result the applicant has already undergone another doctoral procedure,
15. an address at which the applicant can be contacted until the end of the doctoral procedure. The applicant must notify the chairperson of the doctorate commission of any change of address in writing and without delay.
16. a statement by the applicant as to whether he or she objects to the admission of observers to the oral examination.

(2) Upon justified application, dissertations in English may also be admitted in deviation from (1) no. 1, provided the language quality would permit publication in an English-language journal. In this case, a detailed German-language summary of the dissertation of 4 DIN A4 pages, divided into the main chapters of the dissertation, must also be submitted for each copy.

§ 13

Admission decision

- (1) The chairperson of the doctorate commission decides on admission.
- (2) Admission must be denied if the applicant does not fulfil the requirements for admission. Admission may be denied if the application for admission is incomplete and the applicant fails to comply with a reasonable time limit set for him or her to complete the application.
- (3) In the case of a cumulative doctorate, admission may be refused if the doctorate commission comes to the conclusion that the work is not equivalent to a doctorate.
- (4) The applicant must be notified in writing of the rejection of the application for admission and justification must be provided.
- (5) If the application for admission is granted, the doctorate commission appoints the examination board on the proposal of the chairperson. The first rapporteur must be named. The applicant must be notified of the admission decision.

§14

Withdrawal of the application for admission

- (1) The applicant may withdraw the application for admission as long as the dissertation has not been rejected or the oral examination has not yet begun. If the application for admission is withdrawn after the review of the dissertation has begun, one copy remains with the section.
- (2) The withdrawal of a doctoral application must be declared in writing to the doctorate commission.

Second section:

Review of the dissertation

§ 15

Dissertation

The dissertation must provide individual evidence of the applicant's ability to carry out independent scientific work and to present his or her results clearly, and must make a novel scientific contribution of its own to the field of medicine as a whole, especially in the case of degree programmes outside the subject. The principles for ensuring good scientific practice of the DFG must be observed. Joint dissertations are precluded. If a dissertation is written within a working group, the applicant's scientifically independent, clearly definable performance must be recognisable; the working group participants must be indicated.

§ 16

Assessment by the examination board

- (1) The rapporteurs assess the dissertation and propose its acceptance or rejection as well as the grade to the doctorate commission. The appraisal is carried out without knowledge of the other appraisal. It must generally be completed by each rapporteur within four weeks. If the regular assessment period is exceeded, the rapporteur must justify this to the doctorate commission.
- (2) The chairperson of the examination board provides the doctorate commission with a summary assessment of the dissertation on the basis of the expert opinions and the dissertation text. In this process, he or she takes particular note of the rapporteurs' proposals for evaluation.
- (3) The following grades are used for the evaluation of a dissertation proposed for acceptance:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1 = very good | = an outstanding performance; |
| 2 = good | = a performance significantly above average requirements; |

- 3 = satisfactory = a performance meeting average requirements;
4 = sufficient = a performance which, despite its shortcomings, still meets the requirements.

For a differentiated evaluation of the performance, the grade can be reduced or increased by 0.3; grades 0.7 and 4.3 are excluded.

(4) The grading of the dissertation with the marks 1.0 and 1.3 generally requires the publication of the essential results in subject-related recognised publication media. For publications and their authorship, the rules of good scientific practice of the University of Lübeck and the German Research Foundation apply.

§ 17

Decision by the doctorate commission

- (1) The doctorate commission decides on the acceptance or rejection, revision and assessment of the dissertation.
- (2) The dissertation is rejected if at least two thirds of the members of the doctorate commission present vote against its acceptance. Otherwise, the dissertation is accepted.
- (3) Instead of accepting or rejecting the dissertation, the doctorate commission may return it for improvement. § 18 (2) sentence 2 applies accordingly.
- (4) § 15 (3) applies to the assessment of the accepted dissertation. If the grade is 1.0, an external expert opinion must be obtained.
- (5) The doctoral student must be notified in writing of the decision of the doctorate commission, with reference to the period for display. § 12 (3) applies accordingly.

§ 18

Display and acceptance of the dissertation

- (1) The chairperson of the doctorate commission must give the habilitated members and junior professors of the Medicine Section the opportunity to inspect the dissertation and the reports of the rapporteurs with the assessment of the doctorate commission. The display period begins with the acceptance of the dissertation by the doctorate commission and lasts three weeks; it is announced in writing by the chairperson of the doctorate commission.
- (2) The persons entitled to inspect the dissertation in accordance with (1) may lodge a reasoned written objection to the acceptance, rejection or assessment of the dissertation with the chairperson of the doctorate commission within the display period. If an objection is raised within the display period, the doctorate commission decides again on the acceptance or rejection of the dissertation in

accordance with § 16, taking into account the reasons given for the objection. § 16 (5) then applies accordingly.

§ 19

Revision of the dissertation

(1) If the doctorate commission decides that the dissertation is ready for acceptance but still requires revision, the chairperson of the doctorate commission returns the dissertation subject to the condition that certain additions or changes be made.

(2) A dissertation submitted after revision is handled in accordance with §§ 16 and 17. Revision can only be demanded twice.

(3) The dissertation must be resubmitted within one year of being returned. The chairperson of the doctorate commission may extend the time limit on request in justified cases.

§ 20

Rejection of the dissertation

(1) If the dissertation is rejected, the doctorate has been failed conclusively. One copy of the dissertation together with the reports remains on file at the Central Examination Office of the University of Lübeck.

(2) The applicant must be notified of the decision. § 12 (3) applies accordingly.

Third section: Oral examination

§ 21

Colloquium

(1) The oral examination is conducted in German as a colloquium. In the oral examination, the applicant should prove that he or she can argue scientifically on his or her own. The scientific oral examination is based on the dissertation and covers the wider subject area to which the dissertation belongs.

(2) Upon request, the oral examination may be held in English for applicants whose native language is not German.

§ 22

Conducting the oral examination

- (1) If the application for admission according to § 12 has been granted, the oral examination takes place within three months of the date of acceptance of the dissertation on a date to be determined by the chairperson of the doctorate commission. The date will be announced on a notice board in the Medicine Section. Unless the applicant has objected pursuant to § 12 (1) no. 16, the announcement must also contain the information that doctoral students who have submitted an application for admission are admitted as observers.
- (2) The invitation to the oral examination is sent to the applicant no later than three weeks before the date to the last address provided in accordance with § 12 (1) no. 15.
- (3) The oral examination takes place before the examination board under the direction of its chairperson. The junior professors and the habilitated members of the Medicine Section may be present during the examination. (1) sentence 3 remains unaffected. Upon application, the examination board may, in justified individual cases, refuse the participation of a person entitled according to sentence 2 in the oral examination.
- (4) The colloquium lasts a maximum of 60 minutes. At the beginning the doctoral student has to present the most important results of the dissertation without aids, the speaking time used for this must not exceed 10 minutes. During the subsequent questioning by the members of the examination board, the chairperson of the examination board may allow questions from the habilitated members of the Medicine Section present for a total of 10 minutes.
- (5) The beginning, end, course and subject of the oral examination must be recorded in the minutes.

§ 23

Evaluation and successful completion of the oral examination

- (1) Following the examination, the examination board discusses the evaluation of oral performance. Visitors are not permitted to be present during this discussion.
- (2) Each member of the examination board submits an individual assessment of the oral examination performance, which must be recorded in the minutes. § 15 (3) applies accordingly to the evaluation.
- (3) The oral examination is passed if none of the individual evaluations lies below 4.0. The overall evaluation of the oral examination corresponds to the arithmetic mean of the individual evaluations.
- (4) The oral examination has been failed if the applicant fails to attend without reasonable excuse after having been duly notified.

**Fourth section:
Completion process**

§ 24

Passing the doctorate and announcement of the result

(1) The doctorate has been passed if the oral examination has been passed. Once the overall evaluation for the oral examination has been concluded, the examination board determines the overall grade for the doctorate.

(2) The overall grade for the doctorate is based on the arithmetic mean of the evaluations of the dissertation and the oral examination. The grade for the dissertation is weighted with two thirds and the grade for the oral examination with one third. The mean value is rounded to one decimal place.

Based on the overall grade of the doctorate, the following ratings are awarded:

summa cum laude (passed with distinction)

if the grade of both the dissertation and the oral examination is better than 1.2, the external expert opinion pursuant to § 17 (4) sentence 2 recommends the grade of 1.0 or the rating "summa cum laude" for the dissertation and the senate committee for medicine has approved the award of the rating "summa cum laude" with 4/5 of its members present;

magna cum laude (passed very well)

with an overall grade of no worse than 1.5;

cum laude (passed well)

with an overall grade of no worse than 2.5;

rite (passed)

with an overall grade of above 2.5.

(3) The examination board may combine passing the doctorate with the requirement to make formal changes to the dissertation for publication.

(4) After the oral examination, the chairperson of the examination board informs the candidate and the chairperson of the doctorate commission of the determined result. In the event that the candidate fails to complete the doctorate, he or she will receive a written decision with reasons and information on appeals, including information on the possibility of repeating the examination.

(5) The candidate may inspect the examination documents no sooner than one week after publication of the result.

§ 25

Reproduction of the dissertation

(1) Within one year after passing the doctoral examination, the applicant must

- a) either publish the dissertation in electronic form, in which case the data format and data carrier of the electronic version must be agreed with the Central University Library Lübeck and submitted there in addition to two printed copies. In this case, the applicant must grant the University of Lübeck an irrevocable right of use to publish and/or disseminate the dissertation in open access document servers or in any other way in electronic media that serve the permanent archiving of scientific publications. The University of Lübeck is entitled to transfer this right of use to the Central University Library Lübeck, the German National Library in Frankfurt a.M./Leipzig and other libraries and institutions with a corresponding collection focus. The rights are granted free of charge.
- b) or submit 25 copies of the dissertation printed or photomechanically reproduced to the University of Lübeck, with the copies, which are to be provided in DIN A5 format, with a title page and with a curriculum vitae relating to the academic career on the last page
- c) or submit five copies in copyable typescript together with the original and 25 CD-ROM copies (in pdf format); in this case, the doctoral student grants the University of Lübeck the right to produce and process further electronic copies of the dissertation; in this case, no electronic distribution of the dissertation may take place.

(2) If the work submitted as a dissertation appears in full or in its essential parts in a recognised scientific journal stating the name of the doctoral student, provision of six special prints suffices. The same applies if a commercial publisher distributes the dissertation via the book retail trade and evidence of a minimum circulation of 150 copies is provided. The special prints must have a title page and a curriculum vitae relating to the academic career on the last page. In this case, the supervisor (§ 4 (1) and (2)) must confirm in writing that the contents of the dissertation and the publication are the same.

(3) Reproduction requires approval if the examination board has imposed conditions in accordance with § 23 (3) on the passing of the doctorate. This is issued by the chairperson of the doctorate commission after hearing the chairperson of the examination board.

(4) If the doctoral student fails to meet the time limit in (1), all rights acquired as a result of the examination shall lapse. In exceptional cases, the chairperson of the doctorate commission may, on written request, extend the time limit by up to two years. The application must be submitted no later than one month before the expiry of the time limit.

§ 26

Completion of the doctorate

- (1) Once all of the applicant's obligations have been fulfilled, the doctorate is completed by the presentation of a certificate of the award of a doctorate. The certificate must state the overall grade and the corresponding rating. The date of the doctorate is the day on which the oral examination was passed. The applicant may choose whether the certificate is to be issued in English or German. In addition to the certificate, the doctoral student receives a list of the grades of the dissertation and the oral examination and, in the case of a grade of 1.0, notification of the confirmation by the external reviewer and the senate committee for medicine.
- (2) The certificate is issued by the chairperson of the doctorate commission and signed by him or her and the President of the University of Lübeck. The certificate may be issued in a ceremony.
- (3) Entitlement to hold the doctorate is only acquired when the certificate is handed over or sent.

Fifth section:

Possibility of repeating the examination / compensation for disadvantages

§ 27

Repetition of the oral examination

- (1) The rejection of the dissertation constitutes the conclusive failure of the doctoral procedure. A repeated submission of the dissertation is not permitted even after revision.
- (2) An oral examination which has not been passed may be repeated once on application of the doctoral student, but not before the expiry of three months and not later than one year after the failure of the oral examination. At the end of the one-year period, the doctoral procedure has been conclusively failed.
- (3) The doctorate commission determines the members of the examination board for the resit.

§ 28

Recognition of special needs, compensation for disadvantages

- (1) The use of time limits pursuant to the Maternity Protection Act and the statutory regulations on parental leave are guaranteed.
- (2) If a doctoral student proves, by submitting appropriate evidence, that he or she is unable to take the doctoral examination in full or in part in the form prescribed due to a chronic illness or disability,

the chairperson of the doctorate commission may permit equivalent examination performances in a form appropriate to requirements.

(3) The inclusion commissioner of the university may be involved in the decision of the chairperson of the doctorate commission in accordance with (1).

Sixth section:

Remedies

§ 29

Redress procedures

(1) Decisions of the doctorate commission and the examination board may be appealed against.

(2) The doctorate commission decides on decisions of the examination board.

(3) The senate committee for medicine decides on decisions of the doctorate commission.

(4) The objection must be lodged in writing or with the chairperson of the doctorate commission or with the chairperson of the senate committee.

Part five:

Invalidity of the doctorate

§ 30

Declaration of invalidity

The doctorate commission may declare the doctoral performance invalid if it becomes apparent before the certificate is issued that the applicant is guilty of misrepresentation or that essential requirements for admission to the doctorate were wrongly assumed for reasons for which the applicant is responsible. This requires resolution by 4/5 of the members of the senate committee for medicine.

§ 31

Revocation of the doctorate

(1) The doctorate commission may revoke the award of a doctorate if it is established after the certificate has been issued that the doctorate was obtained by deception. Revocation requires resolution by 4/5 of the members of the senate committee for medicine.

(2) If the award of the doctorate is revoked, all certificates handed over must be returned.

Part six:
Transitional provisions

§ 32
Transitional arrangements

(1) The provisions of these Statutes are applicable to all future doctoral procedures for which the admission decision is made on or after the date on which the Fourth Statute Amending the Doctorate Regulations (Statutes) of the Medicine Section of the University of Lübeck comes into force.

(2) For all doctoral procedures already in progress for which admission to doctoral studies was granted prior to the entry into force of the First or Second Statutes Amending the Doctorate Regulations (Statutes) of the Medicine Section of the University of Lübeck, the provisions of the Doctorate Regulations (Statutes) of the Medicine Section of the University of Lübeck in the version published on 7 December 2015 or in the version published on 23 July 2019 remain applicable.

(3) In deviation from paragraphs 1 and 2, the following shall apply to all doctoral projects registered by 31 March 2021 but not yet admitted to the doctoral examination procedure:

a) The provision of § 4 paragraph 7 shall apply with the proviso that the doctoral candidate must enrol and register with the CDSL within three months of the entry into force of the Second Statute Amending the Doctoral Regulations (Statutes) of the Medicine Section the University of Lübeck dated 22 December 2020 (NBI. HS MBWK Schl.-H. 2021 p. 9).

b) the provision of § 4 paragraph 8 shall apply with the proviso that the doctoral candidate must have concluded a supervision agreement within six months of the entry into force of the Second Statute Amending the Doctoral Regulations (Statutes) of the Medicine Section of the University of Lübeck of 22 December 2020 (NBI. HS MBWK Schl.-H. 2021 p. 9), unless the doctoral project is at an advanced stage of completion at the time of entry into force of the Second Statute Amending the Doctoral Regulations (Statutes) of the Medicine Section of the University of Lübeck of 22 December 2020 (NBI. HS MBWK Schl.-H. 2021 p. 9). Instead of the required outline of the doctoral project as a prerequisite for participation in the curricular program of the CDSL, a summary of the dissertation is submitted in the case of an advanced dissertation.

c) The provision of § 4 paragraph 1 shall apply with the proviso that the doctoral candidate may alternatively be provided with an official co-supervisor. The official co-supervisor is appointed together with the chairperson of the doctorate commission.

d) The provision of § 8 paragraph 1 lit. c) shall apply with the proviso that the doctoral candidate has successfully participated in a structured continuing education program for doctoral candidates at the University of Lübeck if they have earned at least 3 CP, of which the course "Good Scientific Practice" must be completed in any case.