Doctorate in Medicine and life sciences (MD-PhD)

GENERAL OUTLINE

Objectives
The university of Lausanne (UNIL) - Faculty of Biology and Medicine (FBM) in collaboration with Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), organize a Doctorate in Medicine and Life Sciences for medical graduates aiming for an academic career.

The program is managed by the MD-PhD Commission and offers a high quality education in sciences.

The MD-PhD program allows curious and motivated medical students with a keen interest in science to follow a 3rd cycle course in science and biology.

The program also allows them to acquire scientific competences in research, centered on the diseases and the patients.

Career prospects
- Academic career
- Biomedical research
- University hospital
- Biotechnology
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Biomedical engineering

GENERAL INFORMATION

In collaboration with the Faculty of Biology and Medicine (FBM) and Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)

www.unil.ch/mdphd
http://phd.epfl.ch/md_phd

Degree awarded
Doctorate in Medicine and life sciences (MD-PhD)

Period
Minimum 3 years

Commission MD-PhD
President: Associate Prof. Daniel Hohl
Administration: Chine Benjemia
Doctoral School Quartier UNIL-Sorge Biophore Building 1015 Lausanne Tél. +41 21 692 40 24 md-phd@unil.ch
**MD-PhD PROGRAM CONTAINS**

### Basic knowledge

Each candidate selected by the MD-PhD Commission must follow courses which prepares them to biomedicine and clinical research, human or social sciences.

This preparatory training is equivalent to 25 ECTS credits obtained while following courses, seminars, workshops and by preparing a Master degree. These ECTS credits must be obtained in a subject related to the thesis project.

Theoretical knowledge is acquired during the studies in medicine (Track I) or after obtaining a Master degree in Medicine (Track II).

The success of the preparatory training is the prerequisite for the continuation of the MD-PhD program after obtaining a Master degree in Medicine.

### Doctorate at UNIL / EPFL

Candidates may choose between:

UNIL - in the field of sciences and other disciplines of competences of the FBM; the Doctorate in Medicine and Sciences (MD-PhD) is granted by the University of Lausanne on proposal of its Faculty of Biology and Medicine.

EPFL - in the field of cellular and molecular biology, biotechnologies, neurosciences, biomedical engineering and other disciplines of competences of EPFL; this Doctorate in Medicine and Life Sciences (MD-PhD) is granted in collaboration with UNIL and EPFL.

### Thesis work

The place and subject of the thesis must be selected as soon as possible. The characteristics of the PhD thesis in Sciences correspond to the requirements of the Doctoral School and will take at least 3 years.

### Fellowships

MD-PhD students withheld by the MD-PhD Commission may apply for a specific SAMS fellowship (Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences). This prestigious and competitive fellowship awarded directly to the candidate provides a salary up to 3 years. They take place every year in December at local level and in May at national level. Only students with a Swiss citizenship or established in Switzerland for at least 2 years are eligible.

The “Theodor & Gabriella Kummer Foundation” offers the Kummer fellowship. The selection of the candidates takes place in July and is made by the local Commission.

The NCCR (National Center of Competence in Research in Molecular Oncology) offers a certain number of scholarships per year to candidates interested in this discipline. The selection of these candidates is made by the local Commission.

The grants do not cover the preparatory training.

Candidates selected by the local Commission and who were unable to obtain a grant are authorized to continue the program but will have to find other funds to finish their Doctorate.

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### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

**Admission requirements:**

**Program MD-PhD**

Candidates must have passed their 1st years’ exam or the following years of the Bachelor in Medicine. The selection criteria is based on excellent notes, scientific commitment, a planned research project and an interview with the President of the MD-PhD Commission.

**Admission requirements:**

**Doctorate MD-PhD**

- With a Master degree in Medicine obtained at a Swiss University or an other diploma judged equivalent by UNIL’s Admissions Office

- Who have passed the preparatory training (Track I or II)

**Rules and additional Information:**

- [www.unil.ch/mdphd](http://www.unil.ch/mdphd)

**Calendar:**

- [www.unil.ch/mdphd](http://www.unil.ch/mdphd)

**Online registration (new)**

- [www.unil.ch/immat](http://www.unil.ch/immat)

**Preparatory training:**

- Registration deadline (Track II)

  Before 30 April (autumn semester)
  Before 30 November (spring semester)

Candidates requiring a study visa should apply two months prior to above deadlines.

**Swiss MD-PhD Association**

[http://smpa.org](http://smpa.org)