



GRADUATE PROGRAMME in “Vaccines and Prevention of Infectious Diseases”

Call for Applications

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025

The School of Medicine announces that applications for the **Graduate Programme in “Vaccines and Prevention of Infectious Diseases”** for the academic year 2024-2025 are now open, based on the provisions of law 4957/2022 (Hellenic Government Gazette 141 issue A).

The aim of the Programme is to provide modern, competitive, internationally oriented training to postgraduate students, so that they acquire a strong scientific background, experience and expertise in the dynamic and demanding field of vaccines and infection prevention. The modules taught will comprehensively address the theory and practice of vaccination and infection prevention strategies, elements of epidemic/epidemic response, principles and design of vaccination programmes, practical implementation, social, ethical and legal aspects, and relevant topics in epidemiology, immunology, research methodology and laboratory science.

The object of the Programme is to promote knowledge and skills in the field of infection prevention and vaccination.

The modules of the Programme comprehensively cover the theory and practice of vaccination and infection prevention from the basic principles and strategy of vaccination programmes and prevention of infectious diseases to practical application, critical review of vaccination and prevention measures and relevant fields of epidemiology, physiology and immunology of vaccines and infections. The scope of the Programme is broad, so that graduates have a global view of the field. The Programme is therefore addressed to all Health Professionals who will be called upon to participate in the prevention of infections.

Learning outcomes and qualifications obtained from successful completion of the Programme:

- Acquisition of knowledge and practical as well as social skills in the field of infection prevention and vaccination
- Understanding of basic principles and strategy of vaccination programmes and prevention of infectious diseases
- Knowledge and use of vaccination programmes for infants, children, adolescents and adults
- Understanding and acquisition of basic knowledge in the relevant fields of epidemiology, physiology and immunology of vaccines and infections, training in immune response mechanisms, translational and clinical research, new vaccines and personalised intervention (precision vaccinology)
- Understanding infection prevention and vaccination in high-risk groups for infectious diseases, neonates, pregnancy, the elderly and immunocompromised persons
- Understanding of vaccine safety issues, design and implementation of clinical trials for vaccines
- Familiarisation with practical issues of vaccine administration and implementation
- Familiarity with research methodology and the conduct of research studies
- Acquiring knowledge on the management of public health emergencies

- Exposure and reflection on issues related to the ethical, social and legal aspects of vaccination and prevention

Duration of Studies

The Programme awards a master's degree (MSc) upon completion of a three-semester studies program (2 semesters for courses and exercises and 1 semester for the preparation of the thesis).

The Programme is full-time and attendance is compulsory. The structure of the courses is such that it is possible for employees to attend the Programme.

The teaching of the courses in the first and second semesters is carried out in the physical presence of the students.

The language of the Programme, both for teaching and for writing the thesis, is Greek and/or English.

The Programme is addressed to graduates with officially recognized undergraduate degrees in areas such as Medicine, Nursing, Midwifery, Public and Community Health as well as to graduates with degrees with related subjects.

The maximum number of students admitted to the Programme is fifteen (15) per year.

In addition to the maximum number of admissions, up to two (2) candidates who have been awarded postgraduate scholarships by States, State Scholarship Foundations, International Organizations, International Programs, etc., may be admitted, as long as the admission criteria are met.

The minimum number of admissions to the Programme per year is ten (10).

Application Documents for Submission

Applicants are required to first create a user account at <https://postgrad.cict.uoc.gr> and then upload the following documents:

1. Certified copy of BSc and/or MD degree(s)

If the BSc and/or the MD degree is from a higher education institution outside of Greece, recognition by the Hellenic National Academic Recognition Information Centre (DOATAP) is required. According to Law 4957/2022, the initial contact with DOATAP after a candidate applies for postgraduate studies is made by the Programme's Secretariat.

2. Course transcript

The university degrees and the respective transcripts shall be written either in Greek (provided that they are issued by a Greek authority) or officially translated in English and certified by a competent authority.

3. Proof of competence and fluency in English language of level B2 or higher (according to the Council of Europe) or alternatively a degree from an educational institution in an English-speaking country or an English-language curriculum.

4. Proof of professional and/or research activity (if available)

5. A Motivation Letter in which candidates should effectively describe the reasons and motives for attending the Programme.

6. Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the candidate, written in English and including information on studies, academic/professional experience, scientific/social activities, list of publications and scientific work (if available)

7. Two (2) letters of recommendation

8. One recent passport-size photograph

For the scanned documents and files

Only **pdf** files can be uploaded

Maximum size of each file = 2MB

Total Maximum Size = 20 MB

For the Photo

Acceptable file format: .png, .jpeg

Maximum size = 2MB

Dimensions: 200px x 200px

For the Recommendation Letters

1. The Recommendation Letters can be submitted by the referees through the programme's electronic applications platform (<https://postgrad.cict.uoc.gr>). The indicated referees will automatically receive an invitation e-mail after the applicants' successful submission of his/her application. The applicant should clearly state in the application form:

- a) the e-mail address of the academic institution for each referee
- b) the status and complete contact details of the referee

The recommendation letters must be submitted until **10 June 2024**.

or

2. The Recommendation Letters can be sent by email, directly by the referees at: postgradsecr@med.uoc.gr with the subject: "Recommendation Letter for the applicant of the Graduate Programme "Vaccines and Prevention of Infectious Diseases", Mr./Mrs./Ms. , until **10 June 2024**.

Criteria for Admission

Applicants will be evaluated according to the following criteria in a grading scale of 1 to 10 (with 10 indicating the highest ranking).

- Grade of Undergraduate Degree
- Grades of undergraduate courses with content related to the Programme
- Grade of undergraduate degree thesis, if this was provided for at the applicant's undergraduate level of studies
- Research Activity (if any)
- Evaluation of the Recommendation Letters
- Proof of competence and fluency in English language of level B2 or higher (according to the Council of Europe)
- Interview

In the event of a tie, candidates are accepted as supernumeraries.

Tuition Fees

Tuition fees are set at € 1.500 (Euros) for the total duration of the Programme and they are non-refundable.

Payment of fees will be made in two instalments:

Installments	Fees
1st Installment - Upon Registration (September 2024)	1000€
2nd Installment (September 2025)	500€

Indicative Timeline

1. Deadline for the applications: **7 June 2024**

2. Deadline for the Recommendation Letters: **10 June 2024**

3. Interviews: **18 June 2024**

Candidates will be informed of the exact time and method of the interviews by e-mail. In case of a large number of candidates, interviews will also be held on 19 June 2024.

4. Initial list of successful candidates and possible runners-up / Announcement: **21 June 2024**

4. Deadline for appeals: **27 June 2024**

5. Final list of successful applicants and possible runners-up: **July 2024**

6. Registrations: **September 2024**

7. Courses start: **1 October 2024**

INFORMATION

Programme's Secretariat: Jenny Dokoumetzidi

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