

General study plan for postgraduate-level education in Medical Science

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**Karolinska
Institutet**

1.1 Karolinska Institutet's general postgraduate study plan for Medical Science

As of 1 March 1 2005, there will be only one study subject for new postgraduates at Karolinska Institutet, namely "Medical Science". This means that all postgraduate students admitted to Karolinska Institutet after this date will follow the same general study plan. The general frameworks for postgraduate education in this subject, as drawn up in accordance with chap. 6 para. 35 of the Higher Education Ordinance, are given in this regulatory document. As regards qualification or course requirements, and related literature where appropriate, all postgraduate students at Karolinska Institutet are required to attain a specific educational target: at least 30 university credits (1.5 university credit is equivalent to one week's full-time study) for those working towards a PhD degree or at least 15 university credits for those working towards a licentiate degree. These requirements are to be fulfilled and recorded during the student's course of postgraduate study as a specific number of passing credits from a combination of the following components:

Basic general science (7.5 university credits):

- A certificated qualification corresponding to at least 7.5 university credits of basic general science courses for postgraduates (see below), which must be completed before the half-time control or the licentiate degree can be taken.

Qualifications corresponding to those acquired through additional postgraduate education courses (at least 9 university credits for a PhD degree and 4.5 university credits for a licentiate degree):

- A pass (attendance) in an inter-departmental postgraduate programme component carrying a specified number of credits.
- A pass (attendance and exam) in individual postgraduate courses of relevance to the postgraduate's studies as specified in the individual study plan or as has become apparent during the course of the student's postgraduate studies.
- Other suitable courses, including passes in clinical specialist training courses (SK courses) of direct relevance to the research project as detailed in the individual study plan (subject to a maximum total of 4.5 university credits).

Other credit-bearing components (at least 6 credits for a PhD degree and at least 3 credits for a licentiate degree):

- Participation in and personal presentation at international conferences awards 1.5 university credits per conference (at least 1.5 university credits up to a maximum total of 4.5).
- Attendance at a research laboratory at another university (awards 1.5 university credit per week up to a maximum total of 6).
- Participation in the department's seminar series, journal clubs etc. (awards 1 to 1.5 university credits per term depending on intensity, subject to a minimum total of 1.5 university credits and a maximum total of 6).
- Participation in undergraduate teaching for the purposes of practical pedagogical training (40 working hours for preparation and teaching awards 1.5 university credits up to a maximum total of 3).

1.1.1 Compulsory qualifications for all postgraduate students – basic general science

Basic general science qualifications for postgraduates at Karolinska Institutet must include certificated passes in a selection of the following subjects:

- theory of science
- ethics
- teaching/presentation techniques
- bioinformatics
- statistics
- scientific writing
- library skills
- research grant application
- GLP (Good laboratory practice)
- GCP (Good clinical practice).

A minimum of 7.5 university credits must be earned from the above basic science courses, with no more than 4.5 university credits from any one subject. PhD students must accumulate these credits before their half-time control.

1.1.2 Compulsory qualifications for certain postgraduate students

1.1.2.1 Laboratory animal management, 4.5 university credits

Karolinska Institutet's course in laboratory animal management is compulsory for postgraduate students who intend to use animals in their research. The course is to have been completed and passed before any animal experimentation can commence.

1.1.2.2 Human biology or nosology, 3 university credits

Postgraduates lacking basic university level medical education corresponding to the programmes available at Karolinska Institutet are required to attend postgraduate courses worth at least 3 university credits on human biology or nosology, including compulsory components in public health sciences and nosology from a social perspective. The director of postgraduate studies at the department decides from case to case which course(s) can be accredited to meet these obligatory course requirements.