

General study plan for postgraduate studies in Medical Science

Ref. no: 197/06-506

Applies from 01/03/06



**Karolinska
Institutet**

1 General study plan

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

As of 1 March 2006, 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. 8 para. 7 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 20 credits (one credit is equivalent to one week's full-time study) for those working towards a PhD degree or at least 10 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 (5 credits):

- A certificated qualification corresponding to at least 5 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 six credits for a PhD degree and three 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 three credits).

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

- Participation in and personal presentation at international conferences (awards one credit per conference, subject to a maximum total of three).

- Attendance at a research laboratory at another university (awards one credit per week, subject to a maximum total of four).
- Participation in the department's seminar series, journal clubs etc. (awards half to one credit per term depending on intensity, subject to a maximum total of four and a minimum of two).
- Participation in undergraduate teaching for the purposes of practical pedagogical training (40 working hours for preparation and teaching awards one credit, subject to a maximum total of two).

1.1.1 Compulsory qualifications for all postgraduate students – basic general science, 5 credits

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 five credits must be earned from the above basic science courses, with no more than three 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, 3 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, 2 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 two credits on human biology or nosology, including 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.