



INTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT  
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNAL SYSTEM  
OF THE SLOVAK MEDICAL UNIVERSITY IN BRATISLAVA

Bratislava 2022

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## *Abbreviations*

**(the) Agency** – the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education

**SMU/(the) University** – the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava

**IQAS** – Internal Quality Assurance System

**IR** – Internal Regulation

**HIP** – Habilitation Proceedings and Inauguration Proceedings

**IERIIS** – Internal Evaluation Report on the Implementation of the Internal System

**CENTRAL REGISTER OF FINAL THESES** – Research/art/teacher profile of a person

**PRSP** – Person responsible for the study programme

**TPPC** – Teacher providing profile course

**(the) Higher Education Act** - Act no. 131/2002 Coll. on Higher Education and on amendment to certain acts

**(the) Quality Assurance Act** – Act no. 269/2018 Coll. On Quality Assurance of Higher Education and on the amendment to Act no. 343/2015 Coll. On Public Procurement and on the amendment to certain acts

**(the) Ministry/MZ** – Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic

**(the) University Quality Board** – the Board of the Internal Quality Assurance System of the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava

**(the) Faculty Quality Board** – the Board of the Internal Quality Assurance System of the faculty of the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava

**SSPA** – Student scientific and professional activity

**(the) Support Centre** – the Support Centre for Internal Quality System of SMU

**MAIS** – Modular Academic Information System

# 1. UNIVERSITY BASIC INFORMATION

## 1.1. Name of the University

The Slovak Medical University in Bratislava.

The Slovak Medical University in Bratislava may use an abbreviation of its name "SMU".

The name of SMU in Slovak language is Slovenská zdravotnícka univerzita v Bratislave.

## 1.2. Address of the University

Limbová 12

833 03 Bratislava 37

Internet domain name is [www.eszu.sk](http://www.eszu.sk)

## 1.3. Anchoring in Law

SMU was established by Act No. 401/2022 Coll. on the Establishment of the Slovak Medical University and on the amendment of the Higher Education Act as amended by Act no. 209/2002 Coll. that came into force on 1 September 2002. It is a state higher education institution in the health sector. Its founder is the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic. SMU is a state contribution organization. Its relations with the Ministry are governed by § 45 of the Higher Education Act.

## 1.4. The University Statutory Authority

Rector of SMU, Dr. h. c. prof. MUDr. Peter Šimko, CSc. is a statutory authority of SMU, who manages it, is responsible for its activities, represents it externally and acts on its behalf.

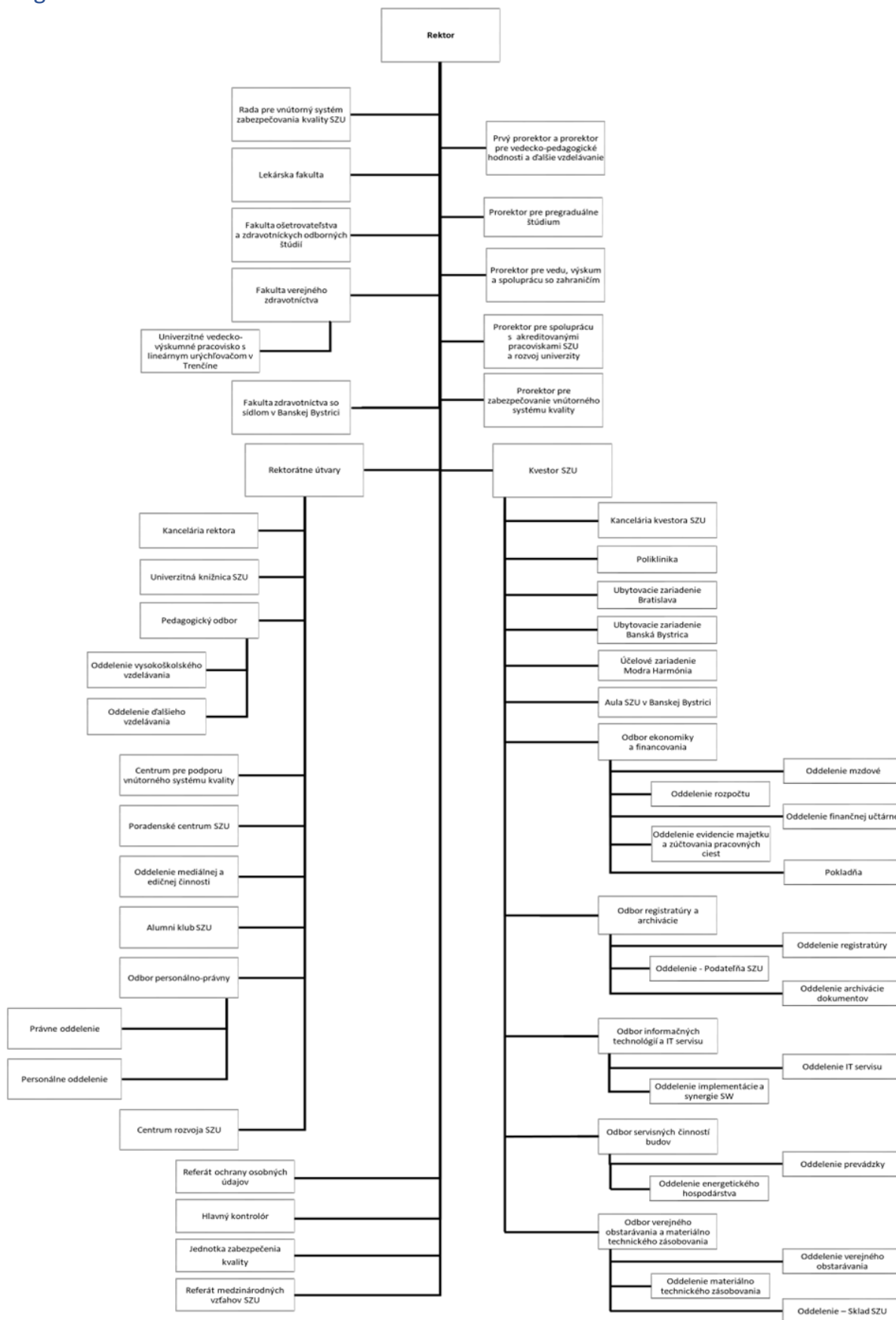
## 1.5. The University Contact Person

The contact person for the purpose of evaluating the internal quality assurance system at SMU is the vice-rector for the internal quality assurance system and the chairwoman of the Board of the Internal Quality Assurance System of the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava, prof. PhDr. Zuzana Slezáková, PhD., MPH.

## 1.6. Structure of the University

The structure of the SMU is determined by the Rules of Organization of the Slovak Medical University, which were approved by the Academic Senate of the SMU on 6 October 2022 registered by the Ministry's decision no. S 25 555-2022- OZV – 4 on 15.12. 2022, available at <https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/Organizacny-poriadok-SZU.pdf>

# Organizational Structure of SMU





## 1.7. History of the University

SMU has almost seventy years of history as the only provider of institutional education for health personnel in the health sector in Slovakia. It is a successor of the Slovak Institute of Education for Continuing Medical Education (May 1, 1953 - June 30, 1966, Trenčín), the Institute for Further Education of Doctors and Pharmacists in Bratislava (July 1, 1966 - June 30, 1991), the Institute for Other Health Care Personnel in Bratislava (July 1, 1991 – October 30, 1998), Slovak Postgraduate Academy of Medicine in Bratislava (November 1, 1998 – August 31, 2002).

## 1.8. The University Internal System Context

The internal quality system of the university is influenced by the specifics, namely the fact that SMU is included among the state universities belonging to the Ministry of Health. Its priority task is the preparation of health workers in undergraduate education and further education.

The specifics of the department include the fact that it is a medical school that has 100% of the medical study programmes necessary for the provision of health care.

The specific needs and expectations of external stakeholders of employers is great. Employment and employment on the labour market - SMU is among the 3 best universities for employment on the labour market. According to the results of the survey in 2019, the “Applicability following in the footsteps of graduates” from the portal of higher education is only 2% unemployment of our graduates, and according to the survey, the academic quarter-hour (conduct by the Agency) feels unprepared for life after college thanks to the studies so far 10.9%. All graduates are employed in health sciences, nursing, midwifery. SMU requirements of contractual partners, e.g., University hospital Bratislava, National Institute of Cardiovascular Disease, JSCo, National Institute of Paediatric Disease and other hospitals where clinical practice takes place is not able to fulfil the requirement of graduates.

### Demographics of SMU and its development

The number of students in the 2022/2023 academic year is 2,024, of which 1,287 are full-time students and 737 are part-time students. When reviewing the number of students over the last 10 academic years, we must state that there is still interest in studying at SMU. The Faculty of Nursing and Medical Professional Studies has the most graduates in the last five years.

Special interest remains in the study programmes in the combined 1st and 2nd level of study - general medicine and dentistry. There is great interest in the physiotherapy study programme in the 1st level of study, full-time form, and the study programme in dental hygiene, in the 1st level of study in the external form of study.

The highest number of students in full-time and part-time study in the first, second, combined first and second and third levels of study was in the academic year 2015/16 (according to the number of students enrolled as of October 31 of the given year). The number of students is kept at about the same number.

In the daily form of study, the number of students is still increasing, which is proof that there is still great interest in studying at our university. In the full-time form of study, the number of applications far exceeds the faculty's ability to accept applicants for university studies.

The data on the low number of students in the external form of study led us to decide in what number of students it is advantageous to start teaching such a low-numbered study programme in September, or we have cancelled admission interviews in study programmes for which interest has been low for a long time (public health - external form of study in the first and second level of study, laboratory and investigative methods in health care - full-time form of study, first level of study).

In case of low interest in the study programme, which is provided by two faculties of the university, we centralize students in only one faculty. The table and graph in Appendix 3 show us the decreasing number of external students and the increasing number of full-time students.

The restriction measures of the Ministry of Health of previous governments also had the effect of reducing the number of university teachers at SMU and accepting a lower number of students, if the need is still very urgent. Since the last accreditation, the number of university teachers has varied, reflecting the number of students, numerically 522 teaching staff, in the functional positions of professors: 42, associate professors: 81, assistant professors with PhD: 218, assistants: 164, lecturers: 14. We do not record the share of foreign university teachers in the total number university teachers.

## 1.9. Compliance Progress of the University Internal Quality Assurance System

Complying of the internal quality assurance system of SMU with the Agency Standards was carried out according to the Directive no. 5/2021 on the procedure for complying the study programmes and fields of habilitation and inaugural procedures at the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava and according to Quality Assurance Act until 31 August 2022.

Timeline and brief evaluation of individual steps and results:

until 30/09/2021 - each faculty in Faculty Quality Board approved a binding list of study programmes to be complied with the Standards for the study programmes issued by the Agency.

by 15/10/2021 – each faculty delivered in writing a list of the study programmes to be complied with Standards for the study programme to the University Quality Board.

until 15/11/2021 – each faculty drawn up internal regulations for faculty bodies that are competent for the preparation and approval of study programmes at the faculty (statute

of the Faculty Quality Board and the rules of procedure of the faculty quality board) and these were subsequently approved by the University Quality Board.

until 28/02/2022 – the faculties requested for an approval from the Ministry of Health, whether the graduates will meet the conditions for the performance of the medical profession.

until 30/4/2022 – the Faculty Quality Board approved the internal accreditation file and subsequently delivered it to the University Quality Board with the approval of the Ministry of Health.

until 15/7/2022 – the University Quality Board appointed working groups and their chairmen, composed of internal and external evaluators to prepare a report on the fulfilment of standards and criteria for the study programme. The report of the working group has a recommendatory nature and contains a statement as to whether it is proposed:

- a) to approve a complied study programme in a field of study and level of study and award its graduates with academic levels,
- b) approve a complied study programme in a field study and level of study and award its graduates with academic levels after the deficiencies have been rectified,
- c) not to approve the complied study programme and not to grant its graduates academic levels

until 30/07/2022 – issuing the decisions of the University Quality Board on the approval of the complied study programmes. This step was completed with a time delay to August 25, 2022.

until 31/8/2022 – the complied study programmes with the standards were published on the SMU website.

On August 31, 2022 – SMU notified the Agency of the complying of study programmes and provided information to the Agency that will request an evaluation of its internal system by December 31, 2022.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-5-2021-o-postupe-zosuladovania-studijnych-programmeov-a-odborov-habilitacnych-konani-a-odborov-inauguracnych-konani.pdf>

## 2. Quality Assurance Policies

The Higher Education Internal Quality Assurance System at the SMU has been implemented since 2014. In the above-mentioned directory, the Strategy for the Higher Education Quality Development at SMU was defined, as well as the higher education quality assurance policies at SM. Currently, the internal quality assurance system of SMU is undergoing an internal revision and adaptation with the aim of complying it with the requirements of the Quality Assurance Act and with the accreditation standards issued and published by the Agency.

An important aspect of the internal quality system of SMU is to be focused on education and training of health personnel and experts for the health care delivery system. This significantly affects the study programmes of our faculties and the assessment of their success and quality for several reasons: Part of the medical professions are so-called regulated occupations and preparation for these occupations are course to strict control by national, transnational, and European institutions. These procedures were also reflected in the approach to education in other health professions. Changing the composition of taught courses is primarily course to compliance with international regulations and Slovak legislation. It is also necessary to maintain the ratio of the theoretical part of the study with education at the patient's bedside. Students need to be motivated to pursue lifelong learning in the relevant field during their entire professional life.

Education in health professions is closely linked to practice, and the teachers are very often top specialists in the health sector. Although the necessary theoretical knowledge can be learned even without the presence of a patient, perfect mastery of practical skills and gaining experience are the result of working with a real patient. Students train many practical skills on models, virtual patients, using modern IT technology, so that they can use the already trained procedures in contact with a real patient.

The quality of education is one of the highest priorities at SMU, which is also evidenced by the connection of higher education with the latest scientific knowledge, the connection of education with the current requirements of economic and social practice, and orientation to the student and his needs. Implementation of the internal quality system, its results are regularly monitored and reviewed for the purpose of its systematic improvement and development. An important means is the systematic acquisition and evaluation of feedback from students regarding their satisfaction with the provided education and other aspects of their university experience at SMU.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-7-2021-vnutorny-system-zabezpecovania-kvality.pdf>

## 2.1. The Responsibility for the Quality of Provided Education

The competence and responsibilities of individual structures for ensuring the quality of higher education at the university belong to:

- a) Rector and Vice-Rectors,
- b) the University Quality Board,
- c) the Support Centre for Internal Quality System,
- d) the Scientific Board of SMU,
- e) the Academic Senate of SMU,
- f) Deans and Vice-Deans of faculties,
- g) Department Heads and Heads of Institutes,
- h) Scientific Boards of Faculties,
- i) Faculty Quality Boards,
- j) Faculty Programme Boards,
- k) the persons responsible for delivery, development, and quality assurance of study programme,
- l) Teachers of profile courses and other courses,
- m) Quaestor SMU,
- n) Secretaries of faculties,
- o) other senior staff according to the Statute of SMU.

The basic element of the organizational structure of improving the quality of the learning process is each individual university teacher. It is his duty and an integral part to constantly improve the quality of his pedagogical activities with orientation to the student and his needs. He achieves this by increasing his pedagogical mastery, professional and pedagogical education. Part of the self-evaluation of pedagogical work is verifying how students receive his lectures, practical exercises, or seminars, how he can keep the attention of the listeners and how much the listeners have remembered the presented material.

The second level of the quality system is the department or the institute. The programme boards were created at the departments for each study programme, which had the task of complying the study programme with the Standards for Study Programme issued by the Agency. The programme boards were created from the person who bears the main responsibility for the delivery, development and quality assurance of the study programme, teachers of profile courses of the study programmes who participate in teaching, the stakeholders mainly from a representative of the employer or a graduate, and in each programme board composition is a student from the relevant study programme.

At the faculty management level, the decisive quality authority is the Faculty Quality Board as well as the dean's college. It is the faculty's central body for quality policy. The members of the Faculty Quality Board are persons who bear the main responsibility for the delivery, development and quality assurance of the study programme or the head of the department. The Faculty Quality Board cooperates with the relevant vice-dean in the collection and analysis of data on the quality of education at the faculty. The Faculty Quality Board analyses the obtained data, identifies problems, and suggests measures, as far as

they can be ensured with the means of the faculty. He works closely with the relevant Programme Board. It submits the obtained results to the University Quality Board. In the performance of its activities, the Dean Colleges closely cooperate with the departments, the programme boards, and the Faculty Quality Boards.

The University Quality Board operates at the university management level. Its competences are governed by the Statute and the Rules of Procedure. At the head of the University Quality Board, the chairwoman, is the vice-rector for the internal quality assurance system. She works closely with the management of the faculties and with the management of the university and is responsible for the overall quality policy at the university.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/Statut-SZU.pdf>

## 2.2. The University Mission

The mission of the SMU, which is part of the European Higher Education Area and the common European Research Area, in accordance with the Higher Education Act, is to develop a harmonious personality, knowledge, wisdom, goodness and creativity in a person and to contribute to the development of education, science, culture and health for the well-being of the whole society, and thereby contribute to the development of the knowledge society.

The main priority of SMU is the learning/education of health personnel in individual health professions at all three levels of higher education, including further education of health personnel.

To fulfil the university mission, while respecting the basic principles, high moral principles, civil and social responsibility, and education in the spirit of democratic values, SMU guides students to research, critical, and independent thinking with the objective of meeting the needs of society in the changing healthcare environment within Slovakia and of the European Union.

The purpose of the internal quality assurance system of higher education at the SMU is to endorse the development of the university in accordance with the European concept of the quality of university education and scientific activity, which supports the development of the individual and his preparation for life in an increasingly complex society. It also includes the emphasis on the teacher, his development and cooperation with students in a free academic environment and the preparation of graduates who can apply themselves on the domestic and international labour market able to work with the latest knowledge by preserving, spreading, and further advancing the results that humanity has achieved so far in the scientific, technical, and social fields. According to university internal regulation, the quality of the SMU means meeting the standards sets for its activities in accordance with its mission and objectives. The concept of quality that is used in a particular case is determined by the context.

The quality assurance system and its internal evaluation consists of internally linked principles, rules, processes and mechanisms that lead not only to the control of compliance

with the minimum requirements that are set at the national level by the relevant legal standards, university internal regulations or European standards for the education of health personnel but also it consists of main components, namely rules, standards and procedures for educational activity, research activity, as well as related support activities, and further complex documents that reflect the university's activity and serve its further development.

Since most of the elements of the internal quality assurance system of higher education are applied at the faculties, the task of the university management and its bodies is primarily to regard the interest of the university, to outline the basic framework (principles, rules, processes and mechanisms, tools) for its development and to provide support faculties and other departments for the field of education, science, and research and related activities.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/Statut-SZU.pdf>

### 2.3. The University Strategic Objectives

The main strategic objectives in the field of higher education activities are:

- a) at the national level, to profile SMU as a monothematically focused state university preparing health personnel for the needs of medical practice based on a social order,
- b) at the international level, to profile SMU as an institution that meets international standards for health education, including scientific research activities linked to study programmes of undergraduate and further education,
- c) implementation of innovative teaching methods that improve the professional training of future health personnel in terms of the latest knowledge of science and research,
- d) innovation of study programmes regarding the needs of practice,
- e) improving the quality of higher education provided by implementing an internal quality system and its continuous development,
- f) integrating ecological skills and environmental responsibility into the teaching of students.

The study programmes fulfil the mission and the university strategic objectives, which prepares students specifically for the health care delivery system. Healthcare is primarily teamwork, and students must learn this style during their studies. It is understandable that the high demands placed on health professions are also reflected in the demands of higher education as well as in the preparation of students for their practical life and are therefore reflected in the system of evaluating the pedagogical and scientific activities of health education institutions.

Evidence:

[http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Rektorat/dokumenty/Dlhodoby\\_zamer\\_SZU\\_2022-2028.pdf](http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Rektorat/dokumenty/Dlhodoby_zamer_SZU_2022-2028.pdf)

## 2.4. The Internal System Structure

The Internal System Structure is formed by a new academic self-governing body – the University Quality Board, established by the rector to ensure the quality of higher education and the quality of research activities, development activities, or other research activity, habilitation proceedings and inaugural proceedings and other activities related to them. The University Quality Board competence is governed by the Statute of the SMU, by the internal regulation No. 7/2022 – Internal system for ensuring the quality of higher education of the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava and by the Statute of the University Quality Board. It is made up of 17 members (including Secretary), in which are represented: employees from the academic community, teachers, representatives from the ranks of students who are enrolled in study programmes carried out at the faculties of SMU and approved by the academic senate of the relevant faculty and employers proposed by the deans of the faculties of SMU in Bratislava. The University Quality Board is internally divided into its permanent committees, which are divided into working groups of study fields to ensure expertise, objectivity, and independent assessment: midwifery, nursing, general medicine, public health, health sciences, dentistry.

The University Quality Board is responsible for:

- a) ensuring the quality of the provided higher education through the implementation of an internal quality system,
- b) controlling of the fulfilment of the requirements for the quality assurance activities in SMU resulting from legal regulations and university internal regulations,
- c) regularly, but at least once every two years, evaluating the level of the SMU in Bratislava in educational activities and in the field of science and assessing the higher education internal quality assurance system, the quality of research activity, habilitation proceedings and inaugural proceedings and other related activities at the SMU and proposing measures to improve the internal quality assurance system, which it submits to the rector of SMU,
- d) periodically approving study programmes in a period corresponding to their standard length of study,
- e) approving proposals for new study programmes that will take place at SMU, proposals for modifying study programmes and proposals for cancelling study programmes that will not be conducted at SMU,
- f) granting the right to deliver the study programmes in fields and levels in which SMU is authorized to deliver them and awarding corresponding academic levels to graduates of SMU,
- g) approving proposals for the fields of habilitation proceedings and inaugural proceedings, proposals for complying the fields of habilitation proceedings and inaugural proceedings and proposals for the withdrawal of rights in the fields of habilitation proceedings and inaugural proceedings at SMU, as well as other activities regulated in the Statute of the University Quality Board and its Rules of Procedure, which are available at:

[https://eszu.sk/wp-](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/statut_rady_pre_vnutorny_sys_kvality_160621-1.pdf)

[content/uploads/2022/10/statut\\_rady\\_pre\\_vnutorny\\_sys\\_kvality\\_160621-1.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/statut_rady_pre_vnutorny_sys_kvality_160621-1.pdf) a

[\[content/uploads/2022/10/rokovaci\\\_poriadok\\\_rady\\\_pre\\\_vnutorny\\\_sys\\\_kvality\\\_160621-1.pdf\]\(https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/rokovaci\_poriadok\_rady\_pre\_vnutorny\_sys\_kvality\_160621-1.pdf\)](https://eszu.sk/wp-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)



Furthermore, the quality of higher education at faculties is ensured by faculty quality boards. They have drawn up statutes and rules of procedure, which were approved by the University Quality Board as well as the programme boards for the study programmes that ensure design, modification, and approval of study programmes.

#### 2.4.1. System and structure of formalized higher education quality assurance policies.

SMU has formalized and implemented quality assurance policies and follows them strictly.

Evidence: <https://eszu.sk/vnutorny-system-kvality/>

#### 2.4.2. System and brief characteristic of higher education internal quality assurance structure including senior staff and representatives of stakeholders.

SMU has created an internal quality system at the entire university level. The structures that participate in the internal quality assurance system are:

##### 1. University Quality Board

Evidence – its Statute and the Rules of Procedure

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/statut\\_rady\\_pre\\_vnutorny\\_sys\\_kvality\\_160621-1.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/statut_rady_pre_vnutorny_sys_kvality_160621-1.pdf)

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/rokovaci\\_poriadok\\_rady\\_pre\\_vnutorny\\_sys\\_kvality\\_160621-1.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/rokovaci_poriadok_rady_pre_vnutorny_sys_kvality_160621-1.pdf)

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/rokovaci\\_poriadok\\_rady\\_pre\\_vnutorny\\_sys\\_kvality\\_160621-1.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/rokovaci_poriadok_rady_pre_vnutorny_sys_kvality_160621-1.pdf)

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/rokovaci\\_poriadok\\_rady\\_pre\\_vnutorny\\_sys\\_kvality\\_160621-1.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/rokovaci_poriadok_rady_pre_vnutorny_sys_kvality_160621-1.pdf)

##### 2. the Support Centre

Evidence – its Statute

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-5-2022-Statut-Centra-pre-podporu-VSK-SZU.pdf>

##### 3. Faculty Quality Boards and programme boards for study programmes.

Their responsibilities and scope in the field of quality assurance are stipulated in their statutes and rules of procedure.

##### 4. Academic Senate of SMU which in accordance with the relevant generally binding legal regulations, regularly reviews and approves the status and performance of the internal quality system

Evidence:

[http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/AS\\_SZU/dokumenty/sprava\\_o\\_cinnosti\\_AS\\_SZU\\_2021-2022.pdf](http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/AS_SZU/dokumenty/sprava_o_cinnosti_AS_SZU_2021-2022.pdf)

##### 5. Scientific Board of SMU, which in accordance with the relevant generally binding legal regulations, regularly reviews and approves the status and performance of the internal quality system

##### 6. SMU academic officials, in accordance with the relevant generally binding legal regulations, SMU internal regulations and in accordance with SMU organizational processes, operate in the system of establishment, implementation and control of the internal quality system of higher education in SMU conditions.

##### 7. The faculties of the university in accordance with the university-wide quality system, relevant generally binding legal regulations apply evaluations of the internal quality system of higher education at their own faculties.

##### 8. SMU students, in accordance with the relevant generally binding legal regulations or internal regulations, are directly or through their representatives an part of all internal processes of higher education quality assurance system within the University Quality Board, Faculty Quality Boards and the programme boards.

### 2.4.3. Processes of a coherent higher education internal quality assurance system.

The university has created IQAS processes, which are linked to the coherent internal quality assurance system at the entire university level. The internal quality system at SMU is in accordance with the methodology used by the European Associations of Universities, which they consider a tool that helps strengthen self-governing competence and responsibility for quality at the university-wide level as well as at the level of faculties and other components. Its understanding, purpose, assessment, principles, rules are anchored in a set of several separate internal regulations in accordance with Quality Assurance Act.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/vnutorny-system-kvality/>

## 2.5. Resources for the Working of the University Internal System

Financial, personal, and material resources for working of the university internal system and for working for IQAS, correspond to the size of the university and the scope of educational, research, and other related activities, are provided annually, recently by the contract for the year 2022 between the SMU and the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic.

Evidence:

<http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Rektorat/Kontrakty-MZ/2022/Kontrakt.pdf>.

The contract for 2022 was supplemented with amendments No. 1 and No. 2 to meet the specific needs of the resort. Due to increasing energies, financial resources for fulfilling the mission and specific tasks of the department are insufficient. The university has a structure of university teachers, whose practical experience, and transferable abilities as well as pedagogical skills make it possible to achieve educational outcomes as they are experienced experts from practice. The sustainability of staffing, especially in terms of the age structure of teachers, is insufficient. The average age of teachers at SMU is 51 years. At the individual faculties: Faculty of Medicine: 52 years, Faculty of Nursing and Professional Health Studies: 50 years, Faculty of Public Health: 51 years, Faculty of Health in Banská Bystrica: 50 years, due to the low interest in performing the activities of a university teacher and his financial evaluation compared to medical practice, the number of employees is adequate.

## 2.6. Internal System Policies, Structures, and Processes

### 2.6.1. Assurance of the involvement of stakeholders.

Stakeholders are involved in the processes of the internal quality system. They are students, graduates, and employers. They participate in the design, modification, and approval of study programmes through programme boards, faculty quality boards and University Quality Board. They are also involved through ongoing monitoring, evaluation,

and revision of the internal system, which we plan to carry out after two years of operation, i.e., 2024. They are also involved in the collection and processing of information, the collection and analysis of information about the study programme and other activities. We plan to involve stakeholders in the preparation of the methodology for obtaining and evaluating relevant feedback.

#### 2.6.2. Assurance of the interrelations between education and research, artistic and other activities while the level and focus of the research, artistic and other activities correspond to the level of higher education and the learning outcomes.

The university ensures the linking of education and research activities so that the level and focus of research activity correspond to the level of higher education and the educational outcomes in the respective fields of study. The quality boards of the faculties and the University Quality Board monitor, through evaluation of the level of research activity, that teachers in the study programme, especially teachers of profile courses they had the required outputs according to the study programme separately for each study programme and according to the Methodology for evaluating research activities, which is listed in Part V. of this methodology. Teachers providing profile courses of the study programme demonstrate the results research activity in the relevant study field/fields in which the study programme is carried out:

- at least at a nationally recognized level, if it is a first-level study programme,
- at an internationally recognized level, if it is a second-level study programme or a study programme combining first and second level,
- at a significant international level, if it is a study programme of the third level.

#### 2.6.3. Support for the internationalization of educational, research, artistic and other activities, and of other related activities so that its level is commensurate with the mission and strategic objectives of the institution, the learning objectives, learning outcomes, and the needs of stakeholders.

The university supports the internationalization of educational, research, and other related activities so that its level corresponds to the mission and strategic goals of the university, the goals and outputs of education and the needs of stakeholders. Internationalization is one of the conditions for development and quality. In line with the long-term plan of SMU for the period 2022-2028, it is necessary to establish cooperation with European countries and other world regions beyond the scope of European programmes and the Erasmus programme, and to pay more attention to other instruments and forms of international cooperation. To focus on strategic partnerships with prestigious universities in education and on developing academic and student activities.

In our portfolio, due to the specificity of education, we offer:

- 1 study programme in a language other than Slovak (English language – field of study, study programme general medicine)
- number of applicants for studies in the relevant academic year with citizenship other than Slovak: 148,
- proportion of foreign students from the total number of students: 10.21%,

- the number of students accepted for mobility from abroad in the academic year 2021/2022 was a total of 7 students, of which at the Faculty of Medicine: 6 students; Faculty of Nursing and Professional Health studies 1, from the countries: Italy -3, Portugal -1, Germany -1, Czech Republic -2,
- proportion of students with non-Slovak citizenship studying in a non-Slovak language from the total number of students: 4.41%,
- proportion of teachers with experience longer than 1 year at a foreign university or at a research institution abroad: we do not record.

2.6.4. Protection assurance against any forms of intolerance and discrimination against students, staff, and applicants, based on sex/gender, race, colour, language, age, sexual orientation, faith or religion, disability, political or other opinion, national or social origin, membership of a nationality or ethnic group, property, and lineage.

The University ensures protection against intolerance and discrimination of students, employees and applicants, especially on the basis of sex/gender, race, colour, language, age, sexual orientation, faith or religion, medical handicap, political or other opinion, national or social origin, affiliation to nationality or ethnic group, property and origin, Act No. 365/2004 Coll. on equal treatment in some areas and on protection against discrimination and on the amendment and supplementation of some laws as amended (anti-discrimination law) and the Plan for gender equality and equal opportunities at the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava. The auditor for the implementation and compliance of the Plan for gender equality and equal opportunities at the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava participates in selection procedures as a member of selection committee.

Evidence:

[http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Dokumenty/Dokumenty\\_SZU/Plan\\_rodovej\\_rovnosti\\_SZU\\_20220509.pdf](http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Dokumenty/Dokumenty_SZU/Plan_rodovej_rovnosti_SZU_20220509.pdf)

2.6.5. Assurance of the maintenance of scientific integrity, adherence to academic ethics, vigilance against plagiarism and other academic fraud.

Preservation of scientific integrity, academic ethics and vigilance against plagiarism and other academic fraud are regulated in the study regulations of SMU and in the internal regulation Directive no. 5 /2019 of the Rector of the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava on the requirements of final and qualifying theses, their bibliographic registration, originality control, storage, and access. Central register of theses helps us detect academic fraud. We deal with the inference of consequences in accordance with the study regulations of SMU and the Higher Education Act.

Evidence:

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2019-05\\_O\\_nalezitostiach\\_zaverecných\\_prac.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2019-05_O_nalezitostiach_zaverecných_prac.pdf)

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-10-2022-eticky->

[khttp://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Dokumenty/Dokumenty\\_SZU/Studijny\\_poriadok\\_VP\\_1\\_2\\_022.pdf](http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Dokumenty/Dokumenty_SZU/Studijny_poriadok_VP_1_2_022.pdf)

- 2.6.6. Assurance of the effective and transparent mechanisms for examining claims that students seek to protect their rights or legally protected interests or point out specific deficiencies in the actions or inactions of the university.

If the student demands the protection of his rights or interests protected by law, which he believes have been violated, or by which the student points out specific shortcomings in the activity or inaction of the university, we examine the initiatives transparently. We apply internal regulation No. 14/2022 Rules for reviewing student claims at the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava. The claims are reviewed by a three-member faculty committee, where a student representative is always present. The university also examines the claims based on the results of questionnaires from students. At least once a year, the student can comment on the quality of the teachers, study programme, and support services. The complaints are processed and investigated by the Support Centre in cooperation with the University Quality Board. The Support Centre keeps a record of the investigation of the complaints, which includes the measures taken. The claims are also reviewed by the University Quality Board, where the student can submit a claim. Submitters of claims are provided with feedback, in written form, about the results of their review and the measures taken. Such a procedure mechanism is effective.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-14-2022-pravidla-preskumavania-podnetov-studentov.pdf>

- 2.6.7. Consistency and compliance assurance with generally binding regulations and with university internal regulations

The university ensures compliance of internal regulations with generally binding regulations and their compliance in the university environment. Due to the amendment of the law on universities, the university is gradually evaluating the compliance of its internal regulations with generally binding regulations. According to the transitional provisions, the university will align its internal regulations and the internal regulations of the faculties with the regulations effective from April 25, 2022, by August 31, 2023.

- 2.6.8. Assurance of continuous improvement of the quality of activities carried out by the university.

Continuous improvement of the quality of all activities carried out by the university and development of a culture of quality at all parts and levels of the university is ensured through the Support Centre.

The Support Centre is a rector's department whose mission is to provide administrative, organizational, and technical support to the university management, the University Quality

Board, faculties, institutes, departments, and other workplaces in creating, implementing, maintaining, and improving the internal quality assurance system within SMU in all areas of its activity. In its scope, it is responsible for submitting and processing questionnaires for surveying the opinions of selected target groups, quality assurance groups in all areas of SMU activity, monitoring selected quality assessment indicators, etc. Compliance with the Code of Ethics as well as valid legislation in the field of GDPR and personal data protection as part of quality control. At the level of study programmes at the faculties, this activity is carried out by the programme boards and quality boards of the faculties.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-5-2022-Statut-Centra-pre-podporu-VSK-SZU.pdf>

#### 2.6.9. Assurance of interrelationship between the internal system with the university long-term plan.

SMU ensures the interrelationship between the internal system with the long-term plan of the university. It provides a supportive environment for all students, staff, and partners with links to accredited study programmes that prepare quality health professionals who are prepared to become health care providers, professional and academic leaders, and managers with the aim of developing medical, health, research teams and generate important findings, turning them into benefits for the society.

Evidence:

The Long-Term Plan of SMU for the period 2022 to 2028

[http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Rektorat/dokumenty/Dlhodoby\\_zamer\\_SZU\\_2022-2028.pdf](http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Rektorat/dokumenty/Dlhodoby_zamer_SZU_2022-2028.pdf)

#### 2.6.10. Assurance of effective administration related to quality assurance, and not overloading teachers, students, and other university staff with unnecessary bureaucracy.

By applying the bureaucracy reduction mechanism, we ensure the efficient performance of administrative activities related to quality assurance and the non-burdening of teachers, students, and other research employees. Administrative activities at the faculties are carried out by administrative forces. For example, university and faculty quality boards as well as programme boards have secretaries, an administrative force that ensures the entire administrative agenda related to quality activities.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-19-2022-administracia-a-vydavanie-potvrdeni.pdf>

## 2.7. Compliance of Habilitation and Inauguration Proceedings

Compliance of HIP with standards for HIP are ensured:

Rules for the habilitation procedure and the procedure for appointing professors at the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava.

Evidence:

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/VP\\_c7-2022-Pravidla\\_HKaIK-1.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/VP_c7-2022-Pravidla_HKaIK-1.pdf),

Rules for the selection of members of the habilitation and inauguration commissions and opponents in the habilitation and inauguration proceedings at the Slovak Health University in Bratislava.

Evidence:

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/VP\\_c8-2022-Pravidla\\_vyberu\\_clenov\\_habilitacnych\\_a\\_inauguracnych\\_komisii\\_a\\_oponentov-1.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/VP_c8-2022-Pravidla_vyberu_clenov_habilitacnych_a_inauguracnych_komisii_a_oponentov-1.pdf)

The procedure and details of the content of the habilitation procedure and the procedure for the appointment of professors at the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava.

Evidence:

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/VP\\_c9-2022-Postup\\_a\\_nalezitosti\\_obsahu\\_HIP-1.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/VP_c9-2022-Postup_a_nalezitosti_obsahu_HIP-1.pdf)

Criteria for obtaining scientific-pedagogical titles associate professor and professor at the Slovak Health University in Bratislava

Evidence:

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Kriteria\\_FOaZOS\\_HIP.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Kriteria_FOaZOS_HIP.pdf)  
[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Kriteria\\_HIP\\_LF.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Kriteria_HIP_LF.pdf)  
[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Kriteria\\_HIP\\_FVZ.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Kriteria_HIP_FVZ.pdf)

General criteria for filling the positions of professors and associate professors and specific conditions for filling the positions of professors

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/foazos/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-6-2022-FOaZOS.pdf>  
<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/lf/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-LF-kriteria-na-obsadzovanie-funkcnych-miest-pedagogickych-pracovnikov.pdf>  
<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/fvz/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-4-2022-FVZ-vseobecne-kriteria-na-obsadzovanie-funkcnych-miest-profesorov-a-associate-professorov.pdf>  
<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/fz/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-2-2022-FZ-vseobecne-kriteria-na-obsadzovanie-funkcnych-miest-profesorov-a-associate-professorov.pdf>

**Progress and results of HIP for the past 5 years:**

Year	<b>Public Health – Habilitation Proceedings</b>	
2017	RNDr. Roman Mezencev, MS, PhD.	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=7682">old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=7682</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of associate professor in the field of public health with effect from 14 December 2017
2017	PhDr. Elena Žiaková, PhD.	<a href="http://www.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=7349">www.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=7349</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of associate professor in the field of public health with effect from 14 December 2017
2018	JUDr. Peter Hulinský, Ph.D	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=7749">old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=7749</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of associate professor in the field of public health with effect from February 8, 2018
2018	RNDr. Andrea Čipáková, PhD.	<a href="http://www.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=7842">www.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=7842</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of associate professor in the field of public health with effect from 17.5.2018
2020	RNDr. Elena Szabová, CSc.	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9950">old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9950</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of associate professor in the field of public health with effect from 11/09/2020
Year	<b>Public Health – Inauguration Proceedings</b>	
2018	doc. MUDr. Ľubomír Legáth, CSc.	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=29&amp;eid=7821">http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=29&amp;eid=7821</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of professor in the field of public health
2020	doc. MVDr. Tatiana Kimáková, PhD.	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=29&amp;eid=9142">http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=29&amp;eid=9142</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of professor in the field of public health
2022	RNDr. Zdenka Krajčovičová PhD., MPH	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9950">old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9950</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of associate professor in the field of public health with effect from September 30, 2022
Year	<b>Internal Medicine – Habilitation Proceedings</b>	
2021	MUDr. Ľubica Harvanová, PhD.	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9879">http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9879</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of associate professor in the field of internal diseases with effect from 26.10.2021
	MUDr. Miroslav Žigrai, PhD.	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9877">http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9877</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of associate professor in the field of internal diseases with effect from 26.10.2021
Year	<b>Surgery – Habilitation Proceedings</b>	



2022	MUDr. Miroslav Kilian, PhD.	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9955">http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=28&amp;eid=9955</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of associate professor in the field of surgery with effect from 14.6.2022
Year	<b>Surgery – Inauguration Proceedings</b>	
2022	doc. MUDr. Daniel Pindák, PhD.	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=29&amp;eid=9572">http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=29&amp;eid=9572</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of professor in the field of surgery
2022	doc. MUDr. Miroslav Janík, PhD.	<a href="http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=29&amp;eid=9597">http://old.szu.sk/printpage.php?menu=&amp;id=21&amp;tid=1&amp;egid=29&amp;eid=9597</a> Issuance of a decree on the awarding of the scientific-pedagogical title of professor in the field of surgery

Unfinished habilitation procedures (interruption, withdrawal, non-granting): 1

Current announcements about habilitation and inaugural lectures: NONE

Description of HIP:

Public Health:

[https://eszu.sk/fvz/veda-a-vyskum/habilitacne-a-inauguracne-konania-fvz/;](https://eszu.sk/fvz/veda-a-vyskum/habilitacne-a-inauguracne-konania-fvz/)

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/HIP\\_VZ\\_Suhrna-sprava\\_o\\_plneni\\_standardov.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/HIP_VZ_Suhrna-sprava_o_plneni_standardov.pdf)

Surgery:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Opis-HIP-CHIR.pdf>

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/HIP\\_CH\\_LF\\_SZU\\_Suhrna\\_sprava\\_o\\_plneni\\_standardov-1.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/HIP_CH_LF_SZU_Suhrna_sprava_o_plneni_standardov-1.pdf)

Internal Medicine:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Opis-HIP-VCH.pdf>

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/HIP\\_VCH\\_LF\\_SZU\\_Suhrna\\_sprava\\_o\\_plneni\\_standardov.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/HIP_VCH_LF_SZU_Suhrna_sprava_o_plneni_standardov.pdf)

## 2.8. Quality Assurance of University Contractors

Quality assurance policies are bindingly applied by all contractual partners of the university or other third parties that participate in or have an impact on the quality of education, research activities, and other related activities.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/vnutorny-system-kvality/>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-1-2022-o-zasadach-postupe-a-kriteriach-pre-akreditaciu-svz.pdf>

Contracts with medical facilities are available at:

[https://www.crz.gov.sk/2171273-sk/centralny-register-zmluv/?art\\_zs2=&art\\_predmet=Zmluva+o+practickej+v%C3%BDu%C4%8Dbe&art\\_ico=&art\\_suma\\_spolu\\_od=&art\\_suma\\_spolu\\_do=&art\\_datum\\_zverejnene\\_od=&art\\_datum\\_zverejnene\\_do=&art\\_rezort=0&art\\_zs1=&nazov=&art\\_ico1=00165361&ID=2171273&odoslat=Vyh%C4%BEada%C5%A5&frm\\_id\\_frm\\_filter\\_3=6229c0848cc65](https://www.crz.gov.sk/2171273-sk/centralny-register-zmluv/?art_zs2=&art_predmet=Zmluva+o+practickej+v%C3%BDu%C4%8Dbe&art_ico=&art_suma_spolu_od=&art_suma_spolu_do=&art_datum_zverejnene_od=&art_datum_zverejnene_do=&art_rezort=0&art_zs1=&nazov=&art_ico1=00165361&ID=2171273&odoslat=Vyh%C4%BEada%C5%A5&frm_id_frm_filter_3=6229c0848cc65)

## 2.9. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Review of the Internal System

The mechanism of regular monitoring, evaluation, and revision of the internal system, in which all stakeholders participate, will take place during the year 2023. In the mentioned period, it will be monitored whether the internal system leads to the achievement of strategic goals in the field of quality assurance, which we have in strategic documents, in the long-term plan, the Annual Reports of the SMU, as well as those resulting from legal regulations. The following participates in the above: University Quality Board, Programme Boards, Faculty Quality Boards, Academic Senate, deans, and vice-deans. Methods of monitoring the implementation of the standard, evaluating the development of indicators in the relevant area:

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/vnutorny-system-kvality/>  
<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-2-2022-o-priebezhnom-monitorovani-periodickom-hodnoteni.pdf>  
[http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Rektorat/Vyroczna\\_sprava/Vyroczna\\_sprava\\_2021.pdf](http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Rektorat/Vyroczna_sprava/Vyroczna_sprava_2021.pdf)

## 2.10. Public Access to Formalized Policies and Processes and Further Documentation of the Internal System

The collection of analyses, use and regular publication of information about study programmes, study conditions and the applicability of graduates is published in Slovak and English on the website in the relevant domain of the faculty.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/vnutorny-system-kvality/>  
<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-4-2022-o-pravidelnom-zverejnovani-informacii.pdf>  
<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-6-2021-k-zabezpeceniu-vseobecne-pristupneho-prostredia.pdf>  
<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-14-2022-pravidla-preskumavania-podnetov-studentov.pdf>  
[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Sprava-o-cinnosti-Rady-pre-IQAS-SZU\\_092021\\_082022.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Sprava-o-cinnosti-Rady-pre-IQAS-SZU_092021_082022.pdf)

### 3. Design, modification, and approval of study programmes

The university has identified and described internal structures and processes for the design, modification, and approval of study programmes in the fields and levels in which it is authorized to carry out these study programmes. The activity is ensured by the University Quality Board, which proceeds according to internal regulation No. 9/2022 Assessment of study programmes and assessment of eligibility for habilitation procedures and inaugural procedures at Slovak Medical University in Bratislava. Pursuant to the internal regulation of the University Quality Board, its chairman appointed the chairmen of the committee for study fields (general medicine, dentistry, public health, nursing, midwifery, and health sciences). They proposed a working group, which was approved by the University Quality Board. The task of the working group was to review the fulfilment of the standards based on the submitted internal accreditation file and documented evidence of the fulfilment of the standards for the study programme or HIP. The activity of the working group was directed by the chairman of the working group, who is a member of the University Quality Board. All reviewers received:

1. Affidavit that they are not in a conflict of interest when reviewing the study programmes as a member of the University Quality Board or an external reviewer,
2. Appointment decree of the internal or external reviewer and reviewed fields and study programmes,
3. The form for the report on the fulfilment of the standards and criteria of the study programme, in which the reviewer was to review the documented information from the point of view of the fulfilment or non-fulfilment of the standards for the study programme and the criteria specified in the Agency's methodology for evaluating the standards for the study programme.

The reviewers subsequently based on the submitted application and its attachments (description of the study programme, internal evaluation report, recommended study plan, course information sheets, CENTRAL REGISTER OF FINAL THESES of a person responsible for the study programme, teachers of profile courses, designated three persons for study programme, supervisors of final theses, characteristics of submitted evaluation of research activities, evaluation of the level of research activity, other documented information - programme board, minutes, report on the fulfilment of standards; quality board of the faculty - minutes, summary report on the fulfilment of standards and recommendation or non-recommendation to submit the study programme to University Quality Board began the evaluation of the study programme. Formally the details necessary for the evaluation were checked.

The reviewers thoroughly studied the submitted evidence and internal regulations published on the university's website and in the university's SharePoint for compliance with the standards for study programmes or HIP.

The working group, each of its members prepared a separate report from the assessment, which was sent to the chairman of the working group, a member of the working group, who, based on the reports from the reviewers, drew up a summary report in which he/she evaluated the documented information from the point of view of meeting or not meeting

the standards for the study programme and the criteria listed in the Agency's methodology for evaluating the standards for the study programme, including the level of research activities for individual areas of evaluation of the level of research activities (study programmes, habilitation and inaugural procedures). Subsequently, the chairman of the working group for the field of study presented a summary report on the fulfilment of standards, including the calculation of the quality profile of research activities of individual study programmes, habilitation, and inaugural procedures. The University Quality Board, on the proposal of the chairman of the working group for the field of study or HIP, agreed and approved completely or agreed and approved with the time limit, and determined the corrective measure and the deadline for eliminating the deficiencies. The University Quality Board from the meeting processed the resolution on the granting of the authorization to carry out the study programme and the minutes of the University Quality Board were subsequently drawn up, the decision on the granting the right to deliver the study programmes or the right do conduct HIP.

### 3.1. Policies, structures and processes for the design, modification, and approval of study programmes

The university has identified and described internal structures and processes for the design, modification and approval of study programmes in the fields and levels in which the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava is granted the right to deliver these study programmes in accordance with the standards for study programmes of the Agency, in which it is not granted the right to deliver study programmes and internal structures and processes for submitting applications to the Agency for the granting the right to conduct HIP according to § 31 of Quality Assurance Act.

The university has the following authorities for approving rights to conduct study programmes and applications for the granting of accreditation submitted to the Agency:

1. The University Quality Board, which is the highest internal body of SMU in accreditation, decides on the granting of authorization to conduct a study programme in the field and level in which SMU has been granted the right to conduct it entered in the register of study fields and the register of study programmes. Assesses applications addressed to the agency for accreditation of a study programme in a field and level in which SMU is not granted the right to deliver it. It assesses applications addressed to the Agency for HIP accreditation. The University Quality Board is governed by a special regulation that regulates its establishment, status, scope, and internal organization.
2. The Faculty Quality Board is an internal body of the faculty that assesses proposals and requests for the design of new study programmes in fields and levels in which SMU, the relevant faculty has been granted the right to deliver the study programme, or in which SMU, the relevant faculty has not been granted the right to deliver the study programme, assesses proposals and requests for modification of study programmes in fields and levels in which SMU, the relevant faculty has been granted right to deliver the study programme, assesses proposals and requests for granting accreditation of new HIP fields, assesses proposals for the termination, cancellation of study programmes, initiates the cancellation of study programmes, or of HIP.
3. The Programme Board is responsible for the design, modification, and development of the relevant study programme in the relevant level and department at the faculty. The

programme board consists of at least 5 members. It is composed of:

- a) the person who bears the main responsibility for the delivery, development, and quality assurance (hereinafter referred to as "main responsibility") of the study programme and at the same time ensures the profile course,
- b) two persons providing profile courses in the relevant study programme in accordance with Standards for the study programme,
- c) at least one representative of the students of the given study programme,
- d) at least one representative of employers or graduates of the given study programme who are not members of the academic community of the faculty.

The chairman of the programme board is the person who bears the main responsibility for the study programme.

The person who bears the main responsibility for the delivery, development and quality assurance of the study programme is appointed to this position by the dean of the faculty for the time specified in the authorization for the implementation of the given study programme. The person who bears the main responsibility for the delivery, development and quality assurance of the study programme mainly fulfils these activities.

1. coordinates the content preparation of the study programme together with the teachers of the study programme,
2. ensures that the study programme is processed, designed in accordance with the standards for the study programme, according to the structure - outline for processing the description of the study programme, Government Decree No. 296/2010 Coll. and Decree of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic No. 244/2019 Coll. on the system of study fields of the Slovak Republic and in accordance with the mission and strategic objectives of the SMU in Bratislava, determined in the long-term plan of the SMU,
3. supervises that the study programme has a clearly specified and communicated qualification acquired by successful completion of the programme, the level of which corresponds to the requirements of the relevant level of the qualification framework in accordance with Decree no. 244/2019 Coll.,
4. supervises that the educational outputs through descriptors and the qualifications obtained by completing the study programme meet the sector's health professional expectations for the performance of the relevant health profession and are in accordance with the relevant decree of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic on the scope of practice (competencies) for the relevant health profession.
5. ensures that the content of the study programme includes mandatory professional experience of students in a contractually cooperating organization in the overall scope in accordance with Government Decree No. 296/2010 Coll., the purpose of which is the development of practical professional skills; professional practice enables the student to carry out activities through which he acquires working procedures typical for the relevant level of qualification and the relevant study programme; has the opportunity to participate in professional processes, projects and, through specific tasks, acquire knowledge, skills and competences relevant to the performance of the relevant health profession; professional practice is divided into several shorter time periods and also carried out as continuous professional practice and holiday professional practice in connection with the relevant study programme,

6. approves the topics of final theses, in the case of dissertations, the course or programme committee may approve the topics if the faculty establishes it in its own internal regulations, is responsible for defining the content and scope of the state exam and its parts so that this exam corresponds to the focus of study and the profile of the graduate,
7. is responsible for the content of the admission to the study programme for which he is responsible,
8. develops the study programme content-wise and methodically in accordance with the current level of knowledge in the given field, linked to the level and focus of the research activity of teachers of profile courses and in accordance with the requirements of medical practice for graduates,
9. submits proposals to the dean of the faculty for amending the internal regulations regarding studies,
10. is responsible for the preparation of a regular evaluation report of the study programme in the period and scope according to the instructions of the dean of the faculty,
11. participates in the meeting of faculty bodies for IQAS processes of the faculty as needed,
12. monitors and supervises the teachers who are participating in the delivery of the study programme,
13. provides cooperation in the preparation of annual reports on pedagogical activity or other evaluation reports regarding information on the study programme,
14. implements the measures that were intended for its improvement as part of the evaluation of the study programme,
15. demonstrates the results of research activity in the relevant study field/fields in which the study programme is delivered at the required level depending on its level and educational outcomes,
16. fulfils other tasks within the faculty's IQAS according to the instructions of the dean of the faculty,
17. cooperates in documenting the approval opinion; of the Ministry of Health for the delivery of the study programme in accordance with § 51a of the Higher Education Act, statements of the relevant state organization for the relevant study programme, employers for the relevant study programme, documentation of minutes on the involvement of students, employers or graduates of state organizations and other relevant stakeholders in the design of the relevant study programme.

The person who bears the main responsibility for the delivery, development, and quality of the doctoral study programme in particular:

- a) coordinates the content preparation of the study programme and its significant modifications, supervises the quality of its delivery, evaluates the study programme, and develops it,
- b) solves professional and organizational issues of the study programme in cooperation with the working group, the relevant programme board, and supervisors,
- c) is responsible for keeping the documentation related to the given study programme correct, including entering information into the modular academic information system of SMU,
- d) participates in the design of the content part of the admission to the study programme, for which he bears responsibility in cooperation with the relevant working group,
- e) is responsible for the preparation of a regular evaluation report on the fulfilment of quality requirements according to the standards for the study programme in the period

- and scope according to the instructions of the dean of the faculty, he does so in cooperation with the working group,
- f) demonstrates the results of research activity in the relevant study field/fields in which the study programme is delivered at the required level depending on its level and learning outcomes,
  - g) fulfils other tasks within the IQAS faculty according to the instructions of the dean of the faculty

Each study programme has a specially defined group of profile courses in accordance with Government Decree No. 296/2010 Coll., which usually includes core and elective courses. Profile courses are visually distinguished from other courses in the recommended study plan (e.g., "bold" typeface). Profile study courses are provided as standard by university teachers in the capacity of professor or associate professor for fixed weekly working hours. In the case of professional health study programmes, also experienced health professionals who participate in educational activities in the relevant study programme for the established weekly working time or shorter working time from the ranks of assistant professors with a scientific rank or an academic PhD level or assistants based on the proposal of the head of the department that provides the teaching of the given course. Core and elective courses that are not a profile course can also be provided by a teacher who is not an associate professor or professor

In more detail, the activities of the authorities and the processes for design, modification and approval of study programmes are governed by internal regulation No. 8/2022 Design, modification and approval of study programmes and submission of applications to the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/VUS-1.pdf>

### 3.2. The compliance of the policies, structures, and processes for the design, modification, and approval of study programmes with Standards

With policies, structures and processes for the design, modification, and approval of study programmes, we ensure compliance with the standards, especially by involving students, employers and other relevant stakeholders in the design, modification, and approval of study programmes. Students and employers are represented in the bodies for design, modification, and approval of study programmes, which are the programme board of the study programme, the faculty quality board, and the University Quality Board. The stakeholders submit their proposals, suggestions and comments for the design, modification, and approval of study programmes, which we used when evaluating compliance of study programmes with Standards.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-8-2021-vytvaranie-uprava-a-schvalovanie-studijnych-programmeov.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-9-2021-posudzovanie-studijnych-programmeov-a-posudzovanie-sposobilosti-HIP.pdf>

<http://old.szu.sk/index.php?&menu=440&oid=#menutop>,

### 3.2.1. Ensuring the involvement of students, employers and other relevant stakeholders in design, modification, and approval of study programmes.

Students, employers, and other relevant stakeholders are involved in the process of designing, modification, and approving study programmes through programme boards, faculty quality boards and the University Quality Board.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-8-2021-vytvaranie-uprava-a-schvalovanie-studijnych-programmeov.pdf>

### 3.2.2. Transparent, fair, professionally founded, objective and independent evaluation and approval of study programmes, in which conflicts of interest and possible bias are avoided.

Approvals of new study programmes and modifications of existing study programmes are carried out transparently, fairly, professionally based and objectively by the University Quality Board. Independent assessment is ensured by signing an affidavit that the internal or external reviewer is not in a conflict of interest and is not biased in the assessment of study programmes. After the assessment of the study programme in accordance with internal regulation No. 9/2021 Assessment of study programmes and assessment of eligibility for habilitation procedures and inaugural procedures at the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava, after the resolution of the working group, which in its summary report on the fulfilment of the standards and criteria of the study programme of the working group recommends to the University Quality Board to approve the proposal of the relevant study programme in the field of study and confirms its compliance with the standards for the study programme and agrees to submit it for discussion to the University Quality Board. Afterward, the University Quality Board draws up a decision on granting the right to award the relevant academic level.

The summary report evaluates the level of fulfilment of the individual standards, which must be evaluated by working group A or B for the granting of accreditation, lists the identified deficiencies, if any, recommendations for the study programme presenter and the names and surnames of the members of the working group.

Supervision of the delivered study programmes is ensured by the vice-dean for pedagogical activity, the vice-dean for practical teaching and clinical practice, the person who bears the main responsibility for the delivery, development, and quality of the study programme, at the level of the courses, they are teachers of profile courses.

Evidence:

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/zapisnica\\_c\\_5\\_2022.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/zapisnica_c_5_2022.pdf)

<http://old.szu.sk/index.php?id=1562&menu=>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-8-2021-vytvaranie-uprava-a-schvalovanie-studijnych-programmeov.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-9-2021-posudzovanie-studijnych-programmeov-a-posudzovanie-sposobilosti-HIP.pdf>

<http://old.szu.sk/index.php?&menu=440&oid=#menutop>



### 3.2.3. Permanent compliance of study programmes with the Standards for Study Programmes

SMU went through the process of evaluating the compliance of the study programmes with the Standards for the study programme in accordance with the Internal Quality System and with Standards issued by the Agency. The design and implementation of study programmes at the university is carried out based on the accepted rules and policies of IQAS SMU, the mission and strategic goals in the long-term plan of the university. The quality and compliance of the study programmes at the first, second and third level is monitored and ensured by the programme board of the relevant faculty and the union commissions of the study programmes. Students, graduates, other relevant persons from the external environment and representatives of employers are an integral part of the process of ensuring and verifying the quality of study programmes. The university publishes and updates the register of study programmes on the portals of the university, which offers those interested in studying, as well as its students and employees, a detailed overview of the teaching at the university and constantly reflects the needs of practice from the relevant scientific field to ensure the permanent improvement of the study programmes reflecting the relevant standards. The procedure proposed by IR No. 9/2021 in connection with IR No. 8/2021 Design, modifying and approving study programmes and submitting applications to the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education guarantee permanent compliance of study programmes with study programme standards.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-8-2021-vytvaranie-uprava-a-schvalovanie-studijnych-programmeov.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-9-2021-posudzovanie-studijnych-programmeov-a-posudzovanie-sposobilosti-HIP.pdf>

### 3.2.4. Clear specification and communication of the qualification acquired by successfully completing the study programme, the level of which corresponds to the requirements of the relevant level of the qualification framework.

Graduates of each study programme, depending on the level of education, demonstrate the required knowledge, their understanding, and the ability to apply them practically. The student controls the educational goals and the assessment of individual courses, which are contained in the course information sheets as well as in IR No. 15/2022 Rules for the assessment of students by teachers at the Slovak University of Health Sciences in Bratislava. In the final theses, students can analyse the assigned problem, solve it and defend this solution before the state commission and the professional public at the appropriate level according to the Dublin descriptors (according to the EHEA qualification framework) in accordance with the profile of the graduate with a solved problem from the field. The student is guided by teachers/experts from practice with relevant professional competence, qualification, expertise, and experience. If it is a study programme of the third level, he knows how to work scientifically, which he documents with his own scientific work and the publication of original (original) scientific works in scientific journals and at conferences in the registered databases Scopus and Web of Science.

Profiles of graduates of individual study programmes are communicated to the outside and inside the university through electronic, personal and media communication channels. The university awards the successful graduates of the study programmes with the relevant

academic title, issues a diploma and other documents on the education obtained, which state and characterize the obtained qualification, including the achieved learning outcomes, the context, level, and content of the successfully completed study. The draft of the new study programme is assessed by the programme board for the relevant study programme, the faculty quality board, and the University Quality Board with the strategic objectives of the university, compliance with the standards for the study programme issued by the Agency, the personnel composition of the teachers involved, the participation of students and other persons in the process of designing a new study programme is assessed. The course of assessment of the draft of the new study programme is also the compliance of the draft of the obtained qualification with the national standards of the qualification framework, with the needs of practice, the definition of the workload for individual study courses and the research nature of the content of the draft, including final theses, etc. The programme board for the relevant study programme at regular intervals, as a rule, at least once per academic year, evaluates the level of fulfilment of the standard and, in the event of a deficiency, recommends to the faculty management the improvement of its fulfilment, which it deals with at its meeting (college of the dean) with the aim of constantly improving the standard.

### 3.2.5. Alignment of content and level of qualification with sector-specific expectations of employers and other external stakeholders.

Medical study programmes are in accordance with regulation of the Government Decree No. 296/2010 Coll. on professional competence for the performance of a health profession, the method of further education of health workers, the system of specialist fields and the system of certified work activities as amended by some laws and Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Board, as well as by the relevant decrees of the Ministry of the Interior for competences in individual health professions and we have the approval of the relevant authority to carry out the study programme (the Ministry).

The structure and content of the units of the study programme according to the courses are indicated in the study plan and information sheets of the courses, including the number of credits, which are part of the annex to the accreditation file.

The structure and content of the courses is determined by the profile of the graduate, which clearly defines preparation for healthcare practice, respecting the goals and priorities of the Bologna process. Decree of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic no. 244/2019 Coll. on the system of study fields in the Slovak Republic.

The rules for creating a study programme are laid down in the internal regulation of the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava no. 8/2021 Design, modification and approval of study programmes and submitting applications to the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/VUS-1.pdf>

The design of recommended study plans is carried out according to internal regulation No. 2/2021 Methodology for designing study programmes at the Faculty of Nursing and Health Professional Studies of the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava.

After graduation, the university will start in 2023 through the Alumni Club, which was created in 2022, to monitor the fulfilment of sector-specific expectations in the performance of the profession. Sector-specific indicators of the success of the employment of graduates of our study programmes on the labour market are the results of several independent research, e.g., Academic quarter conducted by the Agency, according to which approximately 60% of our students stated that thanks to their studies at SMU they feel professionally prepared for life after university, and 10% strongly disagree with the statement. The independent research platform "Applying in the footsteps of graduates" on its web portal [uplatnenie.sk](http://uplatnenie.sk) reports the latest rate of unemployment of graduates of our study programmes due to the low number of graduates in the category cannot be displayed. In its official document "Future employment growth in % Slovakia in 2015-2025 across sectors" (Future employment growth in % Slovakia in 2015-2025 across sectors), the European Union predicts the largest percentage increase in employment in the field of health and social sciences by 2025, which are the main study programmes of our universities. The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Education (Cedefope) expects the greatest demand by Slovak employers and other interested parties for specialists in the field of health and social care by 2030.

- 3.2.6. [Compilation of the profile of the graduate and the definition of objectives and learning outcomes that are verifiable and corresponding to the mission of the university, the study level of the qualification framework and the field of knowledge according to the relevant field of study or a combination of fields in which graduates will obtain their higher education.](#)

Compilation of the profile of the graduate and the definition of educational goals and outputs correspond to the mission of the university, the field of knowledge according to the relevant field of study in accordance with the decree of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic no. 244/2019 Coll. on the system of study fields in the Slovak Republic. The educational goals in the study programme are achieved through measurable educational outputs in the individual information sheets of the study programme courses – core and elective. The educational goals of the study programme are transformed into the student's abilities at the time of completion of the study programme. By completing the relevant medical study programme, graduates fulfil sector-specific professional expectations for the performance of the relevant medical profession. The educational outcomes meet the provisions of the standards for obtaining professional competence according to the Regulation of the Government of the Slovak Republic no. 296/2010 Coll. on the professional competence for the performance of the health profession, the method of further education of health workers, the system of specialized fields and the system of certified work activities as amended by some laws and the directive of the European Parliament and the Board 2005/36/EC for the relevant health profession. Legal regulations stipulate more than 50% of practical teaching and clinical

practice, which future students are informed about even before the admission procedure in the study information section, available

<http://old.szu.sk/index.php?&menu=438&oid=#menutop>

SMU, through the University Quality Board, will monitor the level of quality of study programmes in regular cycles, especially the results/outcomes of education regarding the goals/focus of study programmes with the requirements of the labour market. Based on his findings, he proposes measures for, concepts for state final exams and topics for final theses, thus updating the profile of the graduate regarding the requirements of practice.

Each study programme has a clearly defined graduate profile, which is published in the study programme descriptions.

### 3.2.7. Interrelationship between educational and research activities in study programme, while the level and focus of research activity corresponds to the level of higher education and the learning outcomes of the relevant study program.

SMU has a clear connection between education and research activities embedded in its study programmes, while the level and focus of research activity corresponds to the level of higher education and educational outcomes, which is demonstrated by the scientific-pedagogical characteristics of the teachers providing the profile courses of the study programme and the characteristics of the research activity outputs. The programme boards of the respective study programmes continuously monitor the coherence between the taught courses, research, and publication activity of individual teachers of the study programmes, based on which it gives recommendations to the management of departments and workplaces to ensure the connection of education with the research activities of teachers. Students participate in the scientific and research activities of the university by regularly participating in SSPA, publishing the empirical results of their final theses in the university's journals, which improves the quality of the study programme and the environment in favour of a positive climate of the university. Part of the continuous improvement of higher education and educational outcomes is the natural and expected opportunity for students to provide teachers with feedback on their work, so that they do not control teachers, but create a partnership for the purpose of continuous improvement of education and research activities of the university.

Evidence:

<https://www.osetrovatelsky.herba.sk>, <https://www.lekarsky.herba.sk/index.php/lekarsky-obzor-2022>

### 3.2.8. Providing students with transferable competencies that contribute to their personal development and that can be used in their future careers and life as active citizens in democratic societies.

The university ensures professional content, structure and sequences of profile study courses and other educational activities of study programmes, which guarantee access to

transferable skills that directly affect the personal development of students and can be used in their future career application. These are transferable skills, such as communication skills, organizational skills, interpersonal skills, willingness to help people in need, motivation, and the ability to learn as well as to think in context. Due to the practical nature of our study programmes, the content of the study programmes is compiled in such a way as to enable the achievement of educational outcomes expected by employers with an emphasis on the development of practical professional skills in the relevant sector of the economy or social practice. The University Quality Board is responsible for regular monitoring (at the end of the academic year), implementation and evaluation of the quality of transferable skills that affect the personal development of students and can be used in their future career and life as active citizens in democratic societies through the control of pedagogical activities and evaluation the quality of the educational process for students and graduates of the university, including the request for feedback from employers.

### 3.3. European Approach to Quality Assurance in Joint Study Programmes

These are not joint study programs.

### 3.4. Compliance of study programmes with Standards for Study Programmes

SMU designs, modifies, and approves study programmes in study fields and levels in accordance with the granted rights, as evidenced by all documented information of the study programme according to the directive for design, modification and approval study programmes and submitting applications to the Agency. The University Quality Board discussed and approved the compliance of the study programmes with the standards of the Agency study programme. It has evaluated the compliance of 36 study programmes, 7 study programmes have not complied with Standards, and they were cancelled in the register of university study programmes, no new study programme was approved, the compliance of 3 habilitation procedures and inaugural procedures (HIP) were evaluated and afterward SMU announced the compliance of the internal quality system to the Agency on August 24, 2022.

The compliance of following study programmes was evaluated in fields and levels according to the faculties:

Faculty of Nursing and Professional Health Studies:

1. compliance of the nursing study programme I. level, full-time study
2. compliance of the nursing study programme I. level, external study
3. compliance of the nursing study programme II. level, external study
4. compliance of the nursing study programme III. level, external study
5. compliance of the nursing study programme III. level, full-time study
6. compliance of the physiotherapy study programme I. level, full-time study
7. compliance of the physiotherapy study programme I. level, external study
8. compliance of the physiotherapy study programme II. level, external study
9. compliance of the study programme physiological and clinical nutrition I. level, external

study

10. compliance of the dental hygiene study programme, first level, full-time study
11. compliance of the dental hygiene study programme, first level, external study
12. compliance of the study programme midwifery I. level, full-time study
13. compliance of the radiological technology study programme I. level, full-time study
14. compliance of the study programme radiological technique I. level, external study
15. compliance of the study programme emergency health care I. level, full-time study
16. compliance of the study programme emergency health care I. level, external study

Faculty of Medicine:

1. compliance of the study programme general medicine I. and II. joint level, full-time study
2. compliance of study programme dentistry I. and II. joint level, full-time study
3. compliance of the study programme of internal medicine III. level, external form
4. compliance of study programme surgery III. level, external form
5. compliance of the department of habilitation procedure and inaugural procedure of internal medicine
6. compliance of the field of habilitation procedure and inaugural procedure of surgery

Faculty of Public Health:

1. compliance of the public health study programme I. level, full-time study
2. compliance of the public health study programme I. level, external study
3. compliance of the study programme public health II. level, full-time study
4. compliance of the study programme public health II. level, external study
5. compliance of the public health study programme III. level, full-time study
6. compliance of the public health study programme III. level, external study
7. compliance of the department of habilitation procedure and the inaugural procedure of the department of public health

Faculty of Health in Banská Bystrica

1. compliance of the nursing study programme I. level, full-time study
2. compliance of the nursing study programme I. level, external study
3. compliance of the physiotherapy study programme I. level, full-time study
4. compliance of the physiotherapy study programme I. level, external study
5. compliance of the physiotherapy study programme II. level, full-time study
6. compliance of the physiotherapy study programme II. level, external study
7. compliance of the study programme emergency health care I. level, full-time study
8. compliance of the study programme emergency health care I. level, external study
9. compliance of the study programme of laboratory investigation methods in healthcare, I. level, full-time study

Corrective measures were imposed in two study programmes: dentistry I. and II. Joint level, full-time study, and physiotherapy II. level, full-time study, and physiotherapy II. level, external study due to age sustainability

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-9-2021-posudzovanie-studijnych-programmeov-a-posudzovanie-sposobilosti-HIP.pdf>

## 4. Student-oriented learning, teaching, and assessment

The rules, forms, and methods of teaching, learning and evaluation of study results in the relevant medical study programme enable the achievement of educational outcomes while respecting the diversity of students' preparation for the medical profession and their needs. Students are encouraged to take an active role, autonomy, creativity, and independence of students in education and in the learning process, and this approach is also reflected in student evaluations. When implementing the study programmes, a spectrum of pedagogical methods, forms and concepts, evaluation methods are flexibly used, and their application is regularly evaluated and improved. For theoretical courses, preferred methods are lectures, case studies and discussion of the problem, for practical courses, demonstration, practice of practical skills, problem solving, work in groups. Teachers respect the diversity of the study programme, the educational process is flexible following changes in medical practice, legislative provisions and requirements of medical practice (mainly medical facilities where clinical practice is carried out).

Students are provided with adequate guidance and support from teachers through study advisors and study references, and mutual respect and esteem in the student-teacher relationship is supported. Students can carry out part of their education outside of school at foreign universities, especially through mobility support. The results of this education are recognized by the relevant faculty. Teachers, examiners use various methods of testing, examining, and assessing student performance, including clinical practice, and support them to further improve their knowledge and skills. The student's requirements, criteria, assessment methods and dates are known in advance and easily accessible through the MAIS system. He also knows grading scales. The evaluation allows students to demonstrate the extent and level to which they managed to achieve the expected learning outcomes and provides students with feedback, which can, in necessary cases, be linked to recommendations and guidelines regarding the learning process, as they are evaluated by several teachers in several cases. The evaluation of the study results is carried out by continuous verification of knowledge, processing of seminar/year papers, case studies, tests, and exams. In case of problems in achieving results, students use the services of a study advisor, the person responsible for the implementation, development and provision of the study programme, study officers and relevant vice-deans. The teacher providing the study course, the head of the department at the time of consultation hours and an online and study advisor for the respective study programme are available to the students. Students with specific needs are advised by the coordinator for students with SEN. Assessment is consistent and fairly applied in relation to all students, including students with specific needs, carried out in accordance with pre-approved procedures and bringing reliable conclusions that do not lead to unjustified differences in similar cases. Students have them in the study schedule and course information sheets. The student's workload in the range of ETCS credits is given in the course information sheets.

The results of student evaluation are recorded, documented, and archived in MAIS as well as with the systems of the teachers themselves. Teachers know the methods of testing and examination and are supported in the further development of skills in this area. The methods and subsequent criteria for evaluating students are published in advance in the

course identification sheets and in the Study Regulations of the SMU. In case of problems, the student is tested by several teachers. Students are entitled to 2 correction dates for the course exam. In the next year, a student can repeatedly enrol in no more than 2 courses, except for practical teaching courses, with the written consent of the dean of the faculty. At the correction deadline for a repeatedly enrolled course, the dean of the faculty appoints a committee of at least two members based on the examiner's request. The rules for the possibility of corrective procedures in relation to the evaluation are stated in the SMU Study Regulations - art. 21 and Art. 40 par. 1 letter m) and para. 4. During the correction deadline for a repeatedly enrolled course, the dean of the faculty always appoints at least a two-member examination committee. Students can thus find out to what extent they have achieved their planned learning outcomes. Students can use means of redress against the results of their assessment in accordance with the study regulations, while fair treatment of those requesting redress is guaranteed.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/vp-c-15-2022-pravidla-hodnotenia-studentov-ucitelmi.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-14-2022-pravidla-preskumavania-podnetov-studentov.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-6-2021-k-zabezpeceniu-vseobecne-pristupneho-prostredia.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-1-2022-studijny-poriadok.pdf>

#### 4.1. Active, autonomous, and independent role of students

During the implementation of study programmes, the active, autonomous, and independent role of students in education is encouraged, while in the learning process this approach is also reflected in the assessment of students. The range of active tasks, autonomy and independence of students is partially expressed in each information sheet in the section on the student's time burden and is reflected in the number of self-evaluations.

Students work on seminar papers, projects, and at individual faculties, students participate in SSPA.

Evidence:

[http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/FOaZOS/SVOC/Zasady\\_SVOC\\_na\\_FOaZOS\\_2022.pdf](http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/FOaZOS/SVOC/Zasady_SVOC_na_FOaZOS_2022.pdf)

<https://fzszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Zasady-SVOC.pdf>

[old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/FVZ/SVOC/Statut\\_SVOC-FVZ.pdf](http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/FVZ/SVOC/Statut_SVOC-FVZ.pdf)

<http://old.szu.sk/index.php?&menu=280&oid=#menutop>

Students present the results of their research activity at the annual SSPA conference and/or at international SSPA conferences. Doctoral students are actively involved in solving national and international research projects. Doctoral students participate in SMU internal grants. In the same way, students and their supervisor can apply for a research grant



according to the internal regulations of SMU.

Evidence:

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2019-01\\_O\\_implementacii\\_projektov\\_.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2019-01_O_implementacii_projektov_.pdf),  
[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/7-2021\\_O\\_udelovani\\_FP\\_na\\_riesenie\\_VG\\_SZU.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/7-2021_O_udelovani_FP_na_riesenie_VG_SZU.pdf)

SMU has created policies, structures and processes for student-oriented learning, teaching and assessment that guarantee:

- a) that students are provided with adequate guidance and support from teachers,
- b) that the active role, autonomy, and independence of students in education is also reflected in the assessment of students.

#### 4.2. Respect for the needs and diversity of students and the flexibility of learning paths

SMU treats all students equally in education and assessment, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, marital and family status, race, skin colour, disability, political or other opinion, belonging to a national minority, religion, or belief, national or social origin, wealth, gender or other status and respects student diversity. The methods, forms and techniques of teaching and learning in the relevant study programme are organized to respect the diversity of students' needs. The study plan of the relevant study programme and the corresponding course information sheets are available on the faculty's website. It is possible to combine various methods (face-to-face, distance learning or hybrid) during teaching and student evaluation, which ensures a diversity of procedures for achieving educational goals, considering the needs of both the student and the teacher. SMU takes an active approach to supporting access to education for students with specific needs. Students and teachers are assisted by a coordinator for supporting students with specific needs.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-6-2021-k-zabezpeceniu-vseobecne-pristupneho-prostredia.pdf>

The Counselling Centre is available for students with specific needs

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-4-2022-Statut-Poradenskeho-centra-pre-studentov-SZU.pdf>

Considering the flexibility of study trajectories is made possible by the study schedule of SZU, which also enables the award of an individual study plan (ISP). The rules for students with ISP are transparent and understandable to ensure equal access to all students.

#### 4.3. Flexible use of concepts, forms and methods of education and assessment

Flexible use of a wide range of pedagogic methods, forms and concepts of education, student assessment methods are enabled by the attributes related to study methods and forms and assessment methods, which are listed in the course information sheets. The use

of a spectrum of pedagogical methods, forms and concepts and assessment methods is also supported by regular training organized for all teachers of SMU. It is guaranteed that the appropriateness and effectiveness of the used pedagogical methods, forms and concepts and evaluation methods are regularly evaluated and improved, and their result is a record containing a special assessment of the appropriateness of the methods used and their improvement (in the evaluation of the relevant study programmes and separately in the process of evaluating the quality of educational process).

#### 4.4. Student guidance and support by teachers

Students are provided with adequate guidance and support from teachers. At the beginning of the semester, each teacher determines regular consultation hours and a contact for the teacher for the students. Consultation hours are published on the website of the department for the relevant study programme.

Student support is also ensured by study advisors and a coordinator for students with specific needs. The relationship of mutual respect between students and teachers is also supported by compliance with the University Code of Ethics as a prevention of conflict or potentially conflict situations.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-10-2022-eticky-kodex.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/>

#### 4.5. Methods of verification of educational outcomes

- 4.5.1. Examiners are familiar with the existing testing and examining methods of verifying the achievement of learning outcomes, and with methods of testing and assessing student's performance

The basic document for student evaluation is the study schedule, and all methods of verification of the achievement of educational outcomes are listed in the course information sheets.

Examining teachers are thoroughly familiar with the existing methods of verifying the achievement of educational outcomes, methods of testing, testing and assessing student performance.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/vp-c-15-2022-pravidla-hodnotenia-studentov-ucitelmi.pdf>.

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-1-2022-studijny-poriadok.pdf>

#### 4.5.2. The assessment criteria, methods, deadlines and marking criteria of assessment and grading are known to students in advance and are easily available.

Each teacher of the relevant course in the study programme is obliged to announce the criteria and conditions for passing the course in accordance with the information sheet of the course at the beginning of the educational process. Furthermore, he is obliged to ensure, in accordance with the study regulations, that the evaluation dates are set on time, evenly, and in sufficient quantity, while the evaluation and grading scale is accessible to students in the SMU Study Regulations and in the information sheets of the relevant course. The student has the right to learn the level of achievement of the expected educational outcomes, so that every teacher must allow students to publish the results of verification and evaluation upon request, by the end of the semester of the academic year, when the student has fulfilled the given obligation. The results of the evaluation of educational outputs are available in the form of physical or electronic records. These policies, structures and processes of the internal system are in accordance with the study regulations, the recommended study plan and information sheets and guarantee the fulfilment of the criteria.

#### 4.5.3. Assessment allows students to demonstrate the extent and level to which the intended learning outcomes have been achieved and it provides feedback to students which can be linked to recommendations and guidance regarding the learning process where necessary.

The assessment allows students to demonstrate the extent and level to which they managed to achieve the expected learning outcomes. At the same time, he provides feedback to students, while the course teacher is responsible for informing students about the achievement of educational outcomes. Assessment is, where necessary, linked to recommendations and guidelines regarding the learning process.

#### 4.5.4. Assessment is consistent and fairly applied in relation to all students, carried out in accordance with stated procedures and it enables students to draw reliable conclusions that do not lead to unjustified differences in similar cases.

Assessment is consistent and fairly applied in relation to all students, carried out in accordance with pre-approved procedures and producing reliable conclusions that do not lead to unjustified differences in similar cases.

#### 4.5.5. The assessment appropriately reflects circumstances concerning students with special needs.

When evaluating a student, the circumstances related to students with special needs are adequately considered according to the directive for students with special needs and the study regulations enabling the grant of an individual study plan.

4.5.6. If possible, the student assessment is carried out by more than one examiner.

The level of evaluation of students by several examiners depends on the content of the course and the number of teachers participating in it. Only persons who are listed as course teachers in the SMU yearbook can assess.

4.6. Student appeals against the assessment results is available.

Students are provided with means of appeals against assessment results, while fair treatment of those seeking redress is guaranteed.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-14-2022-pravidla-preskumavania-podnetov-studentov.pdf>

The student can also turn to the study advisor with a complaint and a request for its solution. The student can ask the person responsible for the implementation, quality and development of the study programme, the head of the department, the dean to review the awarded evaluation. In accordance with the study regulations of SMU, a student can also apply for a commission examination. The issue of awarding evaluations for exams is part of questionnaire surveys of student satisfaction with the quality of the educational process. All types of evaluation of study results are designed to clearly determine the required conditions for passing the course. The student is familiar with the dates of exams as well as state exams and remedial (state) exams.

## 5. Student admission, progression, recognition and awarding of academic levels

The study programme is carried out in accordance with the Study Regulations of the SMU in Bratislava, which regulates the rules of study in all phases of the study cycle. It is published on the SMU website. The condition for admission to full-time study is the successful completion of a complete secondary education or a complete secondary vocational education, successful completion of the entrance exam, a medical certificate of compliance with the prescribed health criteria for the performance of the nursing profession. The faculty accepts applicants for full-time study based on the results of the admission procedure in the number it planned and published on the website. The decisive factor is the number of points achieved. In case of the same number of points achieved by several applicants who exceed the planned number, the faculty will also accept other applicants with the same number of points achieved. The results are published on the website of the university and the faculty. Applicants with specific needs can contact the coordinator for students with specific needs before submitting the application. The admission procedure is adapted to the needs of the applicant. All applicants can consult with the SMU Counselling Centre.

The rules for the implementation of the study programme and the recognition of studies and parts of studies are in accordance with the internal regulations of the SMU and the Study Regulations of the SMU.

The conditions for recognition of the study or part of the study are stated in the Study Regulations of SMU - art. 13 Admission procedure when a student transfers from another faculty or another university, Art. 14 Academic mobility, and Art. 22 Recognition of completed courses.

SMU confirms the completion of the study programme by issuing a university diploma, a certificate of state examination and an addendum to the diploma in accordance with § 68 of the Act on Universities. The requirements are regulated by the Act on Universities and VPs of SMU.

The handing over of documents for completed studies is usually carried out during a formal academic ceremony. No undergraduate levels were withdrawn in 2021.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-1-2022-studijny-poriadok.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-13-2022-pravidla-prijimacieho-konania.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-6-2021-k-zabezpeceniu-vseobecne-pristupneho-prostredia.pdf>

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/Stipendijny\\_poriadok\\_SZU.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/Stipendijny_poriadok_SZU.pdf)

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2016-03\\_Erasmus.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2016-03_Erasmus.pdf)

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-10-2022-eticky-kodex.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-18-2022-o-vydavani-dokladov-o-studiu.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/Disciplinarny-poriadok-SZU.pdf>

## 5.1. Rules and Progression of Study

The study programme is carried out according to pre-defined and easily accessible study rules in all phases of the study cycle, which are admission procedures, course and evaluation of studies, recognition of education, completion of studies, awarding of a level and issuance of a diploma and other documents on the education obtained.

The study programme is carried out according to the content and scope in accordance with laws, decrees and other documents, or regulations: Directive 2013/55/EU of the European Parliament and of the Board amending Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications and Regulation (EU) no. 1024/2012 on administrative cooperation through the internal market information system (IMI regulation), government regulation no. 296/2010 Coll. on professional competence for the performance of the health profession, the method of further education of health workers, the system of specialized fields and the system of certified work activities, Decree of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic no. 244/2019 Coll. on the system of study fields of the Slovak Republic, Decree of the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic no. 614/2002 Coll. on the study credit system and the decree of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic

no. 95/2018 Coll., which determines the scope of nursing practice provided by a nurse independently, independently based on a doctor's indication and in cooperation with a doctor, and the scope of midwifery practice provided by a midwife independently, independently based on a doctor's indication and in cooperation with a doctor or Decree No. 321/2005 Coll. on the scope of practice in some health professions

The study programme clearly specifies the requirements for applicants and the method of their selection, which correspond to the level of the qualification framework. The admission procedure is reliable, fair and transparent. Criteria and requirements for applicants are published in advance and easily accessible. The conditions of the admission procedure are inclusive and guarantee equal opportunities to every applicant who proves the necessary prerequisites for completing the studies. The admission procedure takes place in study programmes where the demand for study is greater than the school's capacity (personnel, space, technical and financial), including physical fitness in the study programmes of physiotherapy and emergency health care in the study field of health sciences.

The study is completed by the defence of the final thesis and a state exam. As part of the implementation of the study programme, there is effective use of tools to ensure research

integrity and to prevent and solve plagiarism and other academic fraud through CENTRAL REGISTER OF FINAL THESES, opponent and trainer reviews.

The successful completion of the study programme is confirmed by the university by awarding an academic level, issuing a university diploma, as well as issuing additional documentation (diploma supplement) explaining the qualification obtained, including the educational results achieved, the context, level, and content of the successfully completed study. Upon completion of the studies, the graduate will acquire professional competence for the relevant performance of the medical profession. The documentation is in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-13-2022-pravidla-prijimacieho-konania.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-9-2021-posudzovanie-studijnych-programmeov-a-posudzovanie-sposobilosti-HIP.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-10-2022-eticky-kodex.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-5-2019-onalezitostiach-zaverecnych-prac.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-10-2022-eticky-kodex.pdf>

## 5.2. The Offer of Study Programmes

The offer of study programmes is broad in the context of the mission and strategy of the University. SMU offers the widest curriculum of study programmes within the Slovak Republic for the acquisition of professional qualifications for the performance of the health profession. The offer of study programmes is part of the report in the appendix. Information about the offer of study programmes is published on the website. Headquarters of the university, the university organizes an open day as well as provides information on the requirements and criteria for admission and other study conditions. For the applicability of graduates, the proof is the requirement of the departmental Ministry of Health's opinion on whether the graduates will meet the professional qualifications for the profession

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-4-2019-vyska-skolneho-a-poplatkov-spojnych-so-studiom-na-SZU.pdf>

### 5.3. Student admission

Admission of applicants to the Slovak Medical University and its faculties is carried out in accordance with Higher Education Act. Individual faculties have developed enough questions from which questions for applicants for university studies are generated - a different test for each applicant. Tests are generated in sufficient quantity so that even the last applicant can choose from several envelopes.

At the faculties, teaching staff are entrusted with the preparation of questions. Written exam

it is compiled in the scope of the curriculum of the grammar school. The condition for inclusion in the admission procedure is the completion of complete secondary education with a high school diploma, or complete

secondary vocational education with high school diploma and medical fitness to perform jobs.

The conditions of the admission procedure for studying at the faculties are determined by the dean and

approved by the Academic Senate. The conditions are published in September at the latest the academic year that precedes the academic year in which the study takes place get started. Information for applicants is published on the university's website.

College applications and dates for entrance exams are determined by the faculty:

- applicants must meet the prescribed health criteria for the performance of the profession in healthcare,
- each applicant shall attach a notarized copy of the matriculation certificate to the application or registry office,
- all applicants attach a brief CV to the application
- applicants who graduate in high school in the given academic year, submit a verified copy of high school diploma on the day of the entrance exam,
- doctor's confirmation about the applicant's state of health.

The results are published on the university's website. In 2021, he applied for university studies (first and second level and combined first and second level of study in Slovak and English language) in Slovak medical university 2,197 applicants. Of this, 1574 for full-time study applicants, which represents 71.64% of the total number of registered applicants.

The following tables show in detail the course of the admission procedure at individual faculties from the planned number of applicants to the number of participants applicants up to the number of applicants received, including review requests decisions of the dean of the faculty.

#### 5.3.1. The admission procedure is fair, transparent, and reliable, and the selection of applicants is based on appropriate methods of assessing their eligibility for admission.

The conditions for the admission procedure are approved by the academic senate of the faculty and published on the website of SMU and in the domain of the faculty. The admission procedure is regulated by the internal regulations of SMU. The details of the admission procedure are regulated by:

Evidence:



<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-1-2022-studijny-poriadok.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-13-2022-pravidla-prijimacieho-konania.pdf>

Applicants with specific needs can contact the coordinator for students with specific needs before submitting the application. The admission procedure is adapted to the needs of the applicant. All applicants can consult with the Counselling Centre SMU.

We registered complaints about the admissions procedure regarding the formulation of questions for the admissions procedure for the physics course in 2020. The university made a correction. It established a working group for the design and multi-level control of correct answers when entering the electronic system. Since then, we have not registered complaints about the admissions process, which we consider to be a strong evidence base.

5.3.2. The conditions of the admission procedure are inclusive and equal opportunities are guaranteed to all applicants who demonstrate eligibility for study.

The conditions of the admission procedure are inclusive and equal opportunities are guaranteed to every applicant who proves the necessary prerequisites for completing the studies. When analysing unfinished students, there is no difference between domestic and foreign students.

#### 5.4. Students with Special Needs and Students with Disadvantaged Backgrounds

Support measures are provided to students through the coordinator for students with specific needs and students with disadvantaged backgrounds in Counselling Centre, which creates an environment for equalizing the opportunities to study at our university for such students.

#### 5.5. The Quality Level of Defended Final and Rigorous Theses

In the 2022/2023 academic year, the university will monitor the level of defended final and rigorous theses on a pilot basis to see if they correspond to their grade. Final theses assignments for the academic year 2022/2023 are designed to be problem-oriented, so that the title of the final thesis topic makes it clear what problem the student must solve within the study programme. The assignments are specific to us, they specify the solution to the problem, they state what the output of the student's independent research activity should be. With the mentioned procedure, we support the student in the process of analysing the problem, proposing a solution, and verifying it, thus contributing to the increase of students' critical thinking and their independent research activity. Through the defence, students fulfil this requirement at the corresponding level of the EHEA qualification framework (Dublin Descriptors). Dissertations and their defences prove that the applicant can work scientifically. Plagiarism and other academic frauds are effectively

detected and punished in principle through the internal regulations of SMU and through Central register of final theses.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-10-2022-eticky-kodex.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-5-2019-o-nalezitostiach-zaverecných-prac.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-1-2022-studijny-poriadok.pdf>

## 5.6. Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications

The study programme is designed in such a way that it is possible to complete academic mobility or gain experience corresponding to academic mobility. The policies, structures and processes of the internal system guarantee that the recognition of higher education qualifications, periods and parts of studies, previous education, including non-formal and informal education, is transparent, consistent, and reliable and is in accordance with the generally binding regulations and principles of the Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications Related to Higher Education in the European region so that student mobility is supported. Holders of our diplomas have free access to the labour market in the EU, which we issue in Slovak and English (all), thereby reducing translation costs for students.

Evidence:

[https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2016-03\\_Erasmus.pdf](https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2016-03_Erasmus.pdf)

<https://eszu.sk/uchadzac-szu/>

## 5.7. Awarding of an Academic Level, Issuing University diplomas and other documentation

SMU awards graduates the relevant academic title, issues a diploma and other documents on the education obtained, which state and characterize the qualification obtained, including the achieved educational outcomes, the context, level, and content of the successfully completed study. No academic level was withdrawn in 2021. Sample diplomas, addendum to the diploma awarded by the school is stored in SharePoint, the school's internal information system, and will be made available to SAVVS assessors.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-18-2022-o-vydavani-dokladov-o-studiu.pdf>

## 6. Teaching Staff

SMU ensures and tries to observe that the professional qualification of the teachers providing the study programme is at least one level higher than the qualification achieved upon its completion. In rare cases, especially when it comes to teachers providing clinical practice, they are also teachers with the same qualifications but with many years of practical experience and are specialists in their field.

Teachers who participate in study programmes and have the required qualifications, their workload distribution, the level of results of research activities, practical experience, pedagogical skills, and transferable abilities enable the achievement of educational outcomes. Their language skills correspond to the languages of the study programme and whose number and working capacity correspond to the number of students and the personnel demand of educational activities.

Profile study courses are provided as standard by university teachers in the capacity of professor or associate professor, who work in the relevant field of study or a related field for the established weekly working hours. However, professionally oriented study programmes are also provided by important specialists, experts with experience in healthcare practice who work for shorter working hours. Faculties in cooperation with the university are trying to ensure the sustainability of the staffing of the profile courses of the study programme from the point of view of the age structure of the teachers.

Each study programme has a designated person who has the relevant competencies and bears the main responsibility for the delivery, development, and quality assurance of the study programme. This person is a full-time professor or associate professor in the case of bachelor study programmes. At the same time, this person does not bear the main responsibility for the delivery, development, and quality assurance of the study programme at another university in the Slovak Republic. One and the same person bears the main responsibility for the delivery, development, and quality assurance of a maximum of three study programmes if it is a continuation of the education levels in the relevant field.

The persons who lead the final theses perform active research activity or practical activity at the level corresponding to the level of the study programme during the professional and thematic focus of the supervised theses. Supervisors of final theses are professors or associate professors.

The teachers of the study programme develop their professional, language, pedagogical, digital skills, and transferable abilities, which they demonstrate at VUPCH.

The university does not conduct study programmes in several locations.

### 6.1. Teacher Selection

The selection of university teachers is transparent, objective and professionally founded and implemented based on previously known requirements and criteria that are in accordance with the mission and long-term plan of the university and with generally binding regulations.

Evidence:

General criteria for filling the positions of professors and associate professors and specific conditions for filling the positions of professors, <https://eszu.sk/vnutorny-system-kvality/>

Selection Principles, <https://eszu.sk/vnutorny-system-kvality/>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-12-2022-pravidla-vyberu-vyucujucich.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/vyberove-konania/http://old.szu.sk/index.php?id=21&tid=8&egid=8>

Progression of Selection Procedures:

#### SELECTION PROCEDURE TABLE

<b>Years</b>	<b>Number</b>
2020	5
2021	71
2022	113

#### SELECTION PROCEDURES in 2020, 2021, 2022 BY FUNCTIONS

<b>Function</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Professor	10
Associate Professor	29
Assistant Professor	48
Assistant	26
Lecturer	3
Senior Employee	85

## 6.2. Structure, Number and Qualification of teachers

Individual faculties systematically ensure that they have teachers to provide study programmes whose qualifications, workload distribution, level of results of research activities, practical experience, pedagogical skills, and transferable abilities enable the achievement of educational outcomes and whose number and working capacity correspond to the number of students. They regularly review the structure, number, and qualifications of teachers at least once a year to ensure the quality of education.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-12-2022-pravidla-vyberu-vyucujucich.pdf>

### 6.3. Interrelationship between educational and research activities of the teaching staff

6.3.1. The university strengthens the link between educational and research activities of teachers, while the focus of these activities corresponds commensurate with learning outcomes and with the level of qualification framework at which the education is provided.

SMU has a clear interrelationship between education and research activities embedded in its study programmes, while the level and focus of research activity corresponds to the level of higher education and educational outcomes, which is demonstrated by the scientific-pedagogical characteristics of the teachers providing the profile courses of the study programme and the characteristics of the research activity outputs. The programme boards of the respective study programmes continuously monitor the coherence between the taught courses, research, and publication activity of individual teachers of the study programmes, based on which it gives recommendations to the management of departments and workplaces to ensure the connection of education with the research activities of teachers. The persons responsible for the implementation, quality and development of the study programme must also have the relevant specialization in the health field. Students participate in the scientific and research activities of the university by regularly participating in the SSPA, publishing the empirical results of their final theses in the university's journals by which improves the quality of the study programme and the environment in favour of a positive climate of the university. Part of the continuous improvement of higher education and educational outcomes is the natural and expected opportunity for students to provide teachers with feedback on their work, so that they do not control teachers, but create a partnership for the purpose of continuous improvement of education and research activities of the university.

Evidence:

<https://www.osetrovatelsky.herba.sk>,

<https://www.lekarsky.herba.sk/index.php/lekarsky-obzor-2022>

6.3.2. Procedures (methodology) for evaluating the level of research activities in study programmes in accordance with Art. 7 Standards for the study program.

Once a year, SMU evaluates the level of research activities it carried out when approving study programmes that were harmonized. When evaluating, we proceed according to Part V. Methodology for evaluating research activities (standards) and output categories according to the table below. In cooperation with the university library, the University Quality Board evaluates the dynamics of the outputs of scientific research activity (appendix 3 – indicators) to meet the requirements of the relevant study programme. It emphasizes and motivates the teachers that the outputs are in the WOS, Scopus, and CC indexed databases. Monographs and university textbooks as well as scripts are accepted, especially for the first level of higher education professionally oriented study programmes.

In the methodology, the output categories are applied according to the table:

### Categorization of outputs:

A+	scientific publication in extenso in the journal Q1 and Q2
A	a scientific publication in extenso in a Q3 journal or or a publication that has more than 10 indexed citations
A-	scientific publication in extenso in the journal Q4 and other publications in extenso in journals indexed in WoS, Medline / PubMed or SCOPUS
B	other scientific publications in extenso in other peer-reviewed journals and peer-reviewed scientific collections, at least of national importance

Note on quartiles Q1 – Q4. The inclusion of the journal in quartiles according to WoS - Journal Citation Reports or according to SCOPUS - Scimago Journal Reports is accepted. If the journal is included in several scientific fields with different quartile values, the more valuable one is considered.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-3-2021-o-tvorivej-cinnosti-zamestnancov.pdf>

6.3.3. Delivery of study programmes III. level, the evaluation of their long-term continuous research activity in the respective fields of study in which the given study programmes are carried out.

SMU achieves long-term development, research and scientific goals through projects and development programmes in accordance with its focus and priorities, both from its own resources and, as far as possible, from external sources with the help of grants obtained. Dozens of scientific teams work at the university, and scientific goals are set by all research workers who, according to the law, increase their qualifications through scientific and research activities. Over the past 10 years, SMU scientific research teams have implemented more than 70 projects in cooperation with Slovak, as well as foreign scientific research, educational and commercial institutions, and 27 projects implemented from the SMU Internal Grants scheme. The projects are original outputs of research workers in cooperation with the University Development Centre. The University Development Centre thus forms effective content and managerial support and focuses on the development and support of science, research, innovation, and the transfer of knowledge into practice. Scientific teams of SMU transfer knowledge into practice through the performance of expertise, assessment, and other professional activities at the request of state and private contractors.

Projects implemented at SMU in the last 10 years were financed or co-financed from all available grant schemes for the support of science, research and development of the scientific and university environment and education. These were mainly funds from grant schemes of the European Union (for example FP7: FP7-ENVIRONMENT, FP7-KBBE, FP7-HEALTH, FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES, EU Joint Programme JPND, EU Public Health Programme 2008-2013, EU Health Programmes (3rd EU Health Programme, EU4 Health Programme), H2020, HORIZON, European Research Board, ERASMUS+, ERASMUS, EU COST Action, European Border Fund. Furthermore, funds from programs in the USA, in particular National Institutes of Health (NIH) a from private funds RECOOP (Regional Cooperation for

Health, Science and Technology (RECOOP HST) Consortium). From the means of foreign cooperation, such as the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

The projects were also financed from the state budget of the Slovak Republic (subsidy of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic) and especially from the structural funds of the EU (OP Education, OP Research and Development), the Research and Development Support Agency.

The research and scientific activity of SMU was also supported by the private funds of companies. It was mainly clinical research - clinical trials, contract research based on specific assignments, as well as projects supported by private companies, for example F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Slovakia s. r. o., GileadSciences LLC, Prague, Czech Republic, TCHIBO SLOVENSKO Ltd., Centro universitario San Ragael - Nebrija, Madrid, Tatrabanka Foundation, Planeat, LLC, Bratislava, Core Technology Co., China.

#### 6.4. Development of professional, linguistic, teaching, digital and transferable skills of teaching staff

Teachers develop their professional, language, pedagogical, digital skills and transferable skills, which are declared in the RAT/.

#### 6.5. The assignment of teaching staff to the delivery of study programmes

##### 6.5.1. The assignment of teaching staff to the delivery of study programmes and educational activities and guaranty that a level of qualification, skills, practical experience, research, and other outputs corresponds to the level and learning outcomes.

Teachers for study programmes and educational activities as well as for teaching individual study courses and conducting final and rigorous theses are assigned in accordance with the internal regulations of SMU and Regulation 296/2010 Coll., so that they have the required professional competence.

Profile courses of the study programme are provided mainly by university teachers

in the position of professor or in the position of associate professor, who undergo a selection process after meeting the general criteria for filling the positions of professors and associate professors and the specific conditions for filling the positions of professors who work at SMU in the relevant field of study or a related field of study, for the established weekly working time.

In study programmes with a focus on professional education, which are medical study programmes, profile study courses are also provided by university teachers who are experienced experts, specialists in the provision of health care and in the health industry and work for the established weekly working hours or shorter working hours and have passed the selection process. If they are experts who provide practice, clinical practice, the

rector concludes a contract with them for one year or repeatedly or different employment legal relationships to help develop the teaching of the specifics of individual topics. This is guaranteed sustainability of personnel provision of profile courses of the study programme from the point of view of the age structure of teachers. These procedures ensure transparency and guarantee that the level of qualifications, abilities, practical experience, focus and results of research activities corresponds to the level and outcomes of education and the thematic focus of final works.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-12-2022-pravidla-vyberu-vyucujucich.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-22-2022-zasady-vyberoveho-konania.pdf>

#### 6.5.2 Method of selection and delegation of responsibilities to teachers providing profile courses.

The teacher in charge of the course is the teacher who is responsible for the course, conducts lectures and other focal educational activities of the course, and is responsible for quality assurance activities in the course and the development of the course so that the required educational outcomes of the study programme are achieved. Profile courses are normally provided by university teachers in the capacity of professor or associate professor, who work at the university for the established weekly working hours or also by experts from practice for shorter working hours and who have passed the selection process.

The delegation of responsibilities of teachers providing profile courses is determined in the University internal regulation.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-12-2022-pravidla-vyberu-vyucujucich.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-8-2021-vytvaranie-uprava-a-schvalovanie-studijnych-programmeov.pdf>

#### 6.5.2. The method of selecting and delegating responsibilities to a person who has competences, the scope and level of competences - the authorization of persons bearing the main responsibility for the delivery, development, and quality assurance of the study programme.

The method of selecting and delegating responsibilities to a person who has the competences, scope, and level of competences - the authorization of the persons who bear the main responsibility for the delivery, development and quality assurance of the study programme and ensures the profile course (guarantor) is carried out through a selection procedure.

Evidence:



<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-12-2022-pravidla-vyberu-vyucujucich.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-8-2021-vytvaranie-uprava-a-schvalovanie-studijnych-programmeov.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-22-2022-zasady-vyberoveho-konania.pdf>

### 6.5.3. System and scope evaluation of professionally oriented programmes

Study programmes with a focus on professional education are provided by teachers with the required professional qualifications according to Government Regulation No. 296/2010 Coll. on the professional competence for the performance of the health profession, the method of further education of health workers, the system of specialized fields and the system of certified work activities. Experienced experts, specialists from the health sector also work on shorter working hours, which ensures the achievement of educational outcomes with the expected specific requirements of employers. The clinical practice profile course is divided into groups with a small number of students depending on the study programme and the cooperation and requirements of contracted medical facilities.

### 6.5.4. Evaluation of the method of selection of supervisors of final theses.

The persons who lead the final theses perform an active research activity or they are teachers who carry out practical activities at the level corresponding to the level of the study programme in the issue of the professional and thematic focus of the supervised theses. Supervisors of dissertations are persons in the position of professor or associate professor, or also researchers with qualification level I and independent scientific workers with qualification level IIa.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-12-2022-pravidla-vyberu-vyucujucich.pdf>

### 6.5.5. Evaluation of the fulfilment of the requirement that the professional qualifications of the teachers providing a study programme is higher than the qualification achieved by its completion.

The teachers providing the study programme have a higher qualification than the one achieved upon completion of the study programme. These are persons with the required professional qualifications according to Government Regulation No. 296/2010 Coll. on professional qualifications for the performance of the health profession, the method of further education of health workers, the system of specialized fields and the system of certified work activities. In rare cases, courses of clinical practice are also taught by teachers with the same qualification as the qualification achieved upon completion of the study

programme (dental hygiene, emergency health care). The doctoral study programme is provided by professors and associate professors.

## 6.6. The Workload Allocation of Teaching Staff

The workload distribution of university teachers enables ensuring and developing the quality of study programmes, ensuring teaching and other related educational activities, ensuring student assessment, managing and evaluating final theses, participating in research activities and other activities related to their professional development and fulfilling the university's mission in the scope and proportions that correspond to the pool of working time in relation to the size of their working hours and the nature of the work position held by them.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-12-2022-pravidla-vyberu-vyucujucich.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-2-2022-o-priebeznom-monitorovani-periodickom-hodnoteni.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-3-2021-o-tvorivej-cinnosti-zamestnancov.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-8-2022-Pravidla-vyberu-clenov-habilitacnych-a-inauguracnych-komisii-a-oponentov.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-4-2021-o-pracovnej-zatazi-ucitelov-pedagogicka-cinnost.pdf>

## 7. Learning resources and student support

Resources for securing studies and supporting students are allocated to the university from the budget chapter of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic based on a contract. The resources for fulfilling the main activity are adequate for the secured needs of students and teachers in all provided study programmes.

Evidence:

<https://www.health.gov.sk/Clanok?kontrakt-mzsr-szu-2022>

### 7.1. Evaluation of the requirement to ensure sufficient financial resources allocated for the comprehensive provision of study programmes and related research, support and other activities that correspond to its mission.

Every year, the SMU receives resources from the founder of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic, allocated funds based on the approved contract and its amendments, always for a fixed period from 1.1. – 31.12. in the form of monthly subsidies or monthly regular transfer to ensure higher education, further education, university operation and scientific research, as well as data collection, processing, and analysis. In 2022, the university had an approved budget in the amount of EUR 10,300,000.00 and EUR 200,000.00 for the activities of the national reference centres for the year 2022, according to the contract between the Ministry of Health of the SR and SMU. This determined amount of income from the Slovak Republic is demonstrably insufficient. The lack of resources leads to the fact that we cannot plan routine maintenance of buildings, machines and equipment and we minimize purchases of goods and services for pedagogical and scientific research activities, modernization of infrastructure, development of new study programmes. . The annual average of total income and expenses (approx. costs) for the last 10 years is approx. EUR 13,200,000 (for at least the basic requirements for running the university it is EUR 13,500,000), i.e., when deducting the university's own income in the amount 4,200,000 EUR/year is a necessary income of approx. 9,000,000 - 9,300,000 EUR/year from the Slovak Republic, budgeted for the university in the form of a contract. The stated amount of income represents only the maintenance of the existing status. It is necessary to accept an indisputable comparison that the level of equipment of teaching spaces, IT equipment, the extent of necessary repairs, renovations, etc. would require min. 10.0 to 11.0 mil. EUR from the Slovak Republic/year so that the university is gradually modernized to the level of existing comparable public universities in the Slovak Republic. Ultimately, the university is the founder of the "additional financing" to the basic contract, but only in the number of obligations after the due date. The situation in question leads to the fact that the university is a permanent debtor, except for one to two months (after additional financing) and 2-3 months in the 3rd quarter after obtaining its own extraordinary income. For a more effective comprehensive provision of study programmes and related research, support and other activities that correspond to the mission of the university, it is necessary to set up resources more efficiently.

The management results are processed in the form of an individual annual closing (IAC) as we are a state contribution organization. Notes on IAC, Consolidation of IAC must be stored in the central consolidation system (CCS) based on the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic and in accordance with the Accounting Act no. 431/2002 Coll. and in accordance with "Measures of the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic dated 19.12.2017 No. MF/017353/2017-352, which establishes the arrangement, content definition, method, date and place of submission of accounting information necessary for the purposes of evaluating the implementation of the budget of the Ministry of Finance and Methodological Guidelines of the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic no. MF 008361/2018-352.

The data is stored in the Central Consolidation System.

## 7.2. Spatial, material, technical, infrastructural, and institutional provision of educational, research and other activities correspond to educational outcomes, the number of students and their specific needs.

To ensure educational, research and other related activities corresponding to educational outcomes, the number of students and their specific needs, the university has lecture rooms, seminar rooms, specialist classrooms and simulation laboratories. Lectures by students are held in auditoriums with a capacity of 68, 58, 52, 45, 40, 24 and in the auditorium 134 students. Lectures on profile courses are held in these classrooms.

The rooms are equipped with standard computing equipment. Seminar rooms have a capacity of 40 and 24 people, they are also equipped with standard computer technology and seminars and exercises are held in them, where mutual interaction is a prerequisite in the teaching process. Professional classrooms and simulation rooms are used for teaching exercises workplace.

## 7.3. Functional contractual partnerships with specialized teaching establishments and other institutions which are necessary to achieve the learning outcomes.

The university has functional contractual partnerships with specialized educational facilities and other institutions, in which it carries out clinical practice to achieve educational outcomes, and practical skills, competencies for the performance of relevant health professions.

The teaching facilities enable the university students to carry out professional/clinical practice in the form of work activities, through which students strengthen their knowledge and skills, strengthen work education, and combine theoretical knowledge with practical activities. The university students participate in the providing of health care to the extent necessary for learning according to the plan under the supervision of the designated teacher and mentor.

Specialized teaching facilities undergo university accreditation according to internal regulations and have the prior consent of the Ministry of the Interior for the establishment of a contract.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-1-2022-o-zasadach-postupe-a-kriteriach-pre-akreditaciu-svz.pdf>

Contracts with medical facilities are available at:

[https://www.crz.gov.sk/2171273-sk/centralny-register-zmluv/?art\\_zs2=&art\\_predmet=Zmluva+o+practickej+v%C3%BDu%C4%8Dbe&art\\_ico=&art\\_suma\\_spolu\\_od=&art\\_suma\\_spolu\\_do=&art\\_datum\\_zverejnene\\_od=&art\\_datum\\_zverejnene\\_do=&art\\_rezort=0&art\\_zs1=&nazov=&art\\_ico1=00165361&ID=2171273&odoslat=Vyh%C4%BEada%C5%A5&frm\\_id\\_frm\\_filter\\_3=6229c0848cc65](https://www.crz.gov.sk/2171273-sk/centralny-register-zmluv/?art_zs2=&art_predmet=Zmluva+o+practickej+v%C3%BDu%C4%8Dbe&art_ico=&art_suma_spolu_od=&art_suma_spolu_do=&art_datum_zverejnene_od=&art_datum_zverejnene_do=&art_rezort=0&art_zs1=&nazov=&art_ico1=00165361&ID=2171273&odoslat=Vyh%C4%BEada%C5%A5&frm_id_frm_filter_3=6229c0848cc65)

#### 7.4. The access to information resources, library collections, and services

Access to information resources, library funds and services for students and teachers of each study programme corresponding to the educational outcomes, the focus of research activities and the number of students is ensured at the university. It uses a local computer network LAN 100/1000 MB/s, Internet connection via SANET II optical network with a speed of 1000 MB/s. Most classrooms, as well as the accommodation area, are covered by the Wi-Fi signal of the SZUFREEPOINT network, which is freely available to all students and teachers. 2 computer classrooms with a capacity of 25 and 20 PCs with direct access to the Internet are available for the specialized pedagogical process. The operation of SMU's information systems is ensured by several dozens of servers. These are mainly systems:

MAIS – a modular academic information system whose goal is to provide comprehensive services for electronic support of processes taking place at the university, as well as the registration and processing of information related to preparation and implementation of the academic year at the university, with records of study courses, study programmes, study plans, timetables, records of students and their studies.

EZP - a portal for the Registration and submission of final theses, which provides checking the originality of final theses and storing them in accordance with the law LIBRARY SYSTEM – ensures university library activities and records publishing activity.

OMO - the system ensures the registration and processing of documents for needs inclusion of healthcare workers in specialized studies, personalization expertise indexes and recorders, maintains a database of issued study documents, records of issuance of certificates of equivalence of obtained specializations for doctors.

IS STUDENT - System for processing information of the study department for postgraduate studies. It is used for recording educational activities, inviting, organizing events, recording, and issuing documents for postgraduate studies.

At the same time, it serves to export payments for the needs of the economic sector. It ensures the export of documents for the operation of SMU information screens.

EMTEST - System for recording and processing data for students' cards in full-time form of study (ISIC card) and external (SMU student card) form of study

E-LEARNING - System for distance learning

E-TEST – system for electronic testing of students

OFFICE365 – student email accounts

The external presentation of the university is provided by the website The University Library of the Slovak Health University in Bratislava (hereinafter referred to as "UL SMU") is has been building since the beginning of the education of healthcare workers. UL SMU is a specialized library focused on medicine and related fields. Its users are students, teaching staff, doctors, pharmacists, scientific and research staff, and other health workers. It is in a building at Limbová 12 in Bratislava. UL has hand stores of book and periodical literature. The catalogs (author's and systematic) can be found in the book rental department. The library has an electronically processed library card fund. 10 PCs with Internet access are available for readers in the study room by connecting to a printer. The library provides, in addition to the book rental service (presence and absence) bibliographic - research services, consultations on library issues, international interlibrary loan service, interlibrary book rental service, reprographic services from library materials and organizes sales exhibitions of foreign medical books, cooperation with foreign publishers and suppliers. Periodicals are kept in the UL for 15 years, current contents a medical newspaper for 3 years and daily press for a year. Collections of laws are permanently stored and Journal of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic. UL has access to the following databases: Science Direct: Ebsco Medline, Scopus, Bio Med Central, Czech National Bibliography, Free Medical Journals, PQDT Open, Pub Med, Springer Link, Web of Science, Infotrac and free available databases. By 31 December 2021, the library fund contains - 35,840 library units and is constantly updated with current literature.

The Department of Nursing has elaborated for profile courses related to the field own teaching texts, which are available in the SMU university library and in the COPY centre.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/univerzitna-kniznica/>

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/socialne-stipendia/>

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/>; <https://www.minedu.sk/tehotenske-stipendium/>

#### 7.5. The access to counselling and other support services and administrative resources.

Students have access to counselling and other support services and to administrative resources that meet their diverse needs and are a prerequisite for their academic progress and personal and career development.

The university offers students high-quality preparation for their future professional activities in a wide range of study programmes, as well as other "services", the university magazine Nursing horizon or Medical horizon. ALUMNI club, a wide range of further

education study programmes for personal and career development. Organizes employers' day/ the labour market for the student, so that he can more effectively decide on an employer that will more appropriately ensure his career growth and the prospect of employment.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-4-2022-Statut-Poradenskeho-centra-pre-studentov-SZU.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/socialne-stipendia/>

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/>; <https://www.minedu.sk/tehotenske-stipendium/>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-3-2022-Statut-Alumni-klubu-SZU.pdf>

#### 7.6. The qualified support staff providing tutoring, counselling, administrative, and other support services.

The university has sufficient qualified support staff providing tutoring, consulting, administrative and other support services and related activities for students, whose capacity corresponds to the number of students and their diverse needs in individual faculties.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-4-2022-Statut-Poradenskeho-centra-pre-studentov-SZU.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/socialne-stipendia/>

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/>; <https://www.minedu.sk/tehotenske-stipendium/>

#### 7.7. Adequate social support, sports, cultural, spiritual, and social activities during their studies.

SMU ensures adequate social security, sports, cultural, spiritual and social enjoyment for students during their studies. It helps guide students and teachers to humanism, critical thinking, responsibility, helping young graduates, maintaining a database of graduates, continuing education, disseminating information, helping with research, helping with job search, observing ethics, awarding the best students for activities based on the principle of helping.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/socialne-stipendia/>

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/>; <https://www.minedu.sk/tehotenske-stipendium/>

#### 7.8. The resources for all university parts outside its seat where study programmes or educational activities are carried out.

Resources for securing studies and student support for the Faculty of Health in Banská Bystrica are allocated to the university from the budget chapter of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic based on a contract. The resources for fulfilling the main activity are adequate for the secured needs of students and teachers in all provided study programmes.

Evidence:

<https://www.health.gov.sk/Clanok?kontrakt-mzsr-szu-2022>

#### 7.9. Accessibility of resources for students and awareness of their accessibility.

Through the university's website, which ensures the accessibility of resources for students and information about their accessibility, information is published and regularly updated, which is supplemented according to current needs.

#### 7.10. Efficiency and effectiveness of resource use.

Effective use of resources is the main element of the university's strategy for spatial and material security of the teaching process and administration, for preserving existing jobs and creating new ones, for ensuring the duration of functional contractual partnerships, for ensuring easy access for students to counselling and other support services, for ensuring development, scientific and grant projects at the university. The results of the effectiveness and efficiency of the use of resources are regularly submitted to the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Finance.



## 8. Information management

- 8.1. Systematic collection, processing, analysis, and evaluation of information that is used in the effective strategic, tactical, and operational management of the delivery and development of study programmes, research activities and other activities of the university.

SMU systematically collects, processes, analyses, and evaluates information mainly from the set of indicators listed in Appendix 3, which are used in effective strategic, tactical, and operational management of the implementation and development of study programmes, related research activities and other activities of the university. It collects information:

- in accordance with § 3 of Quality Assurance Act, point 3 letter n) "Collection, analysis and use of information necessary for the effective implementation of the study programme", further annual reports in accordance with § 49 par. 1 of Higher Education Act. As of October 31, the obligation to provide information to the registers is carried out via IS of the Ministry of education. Furthermore, the university library keeps records of publication activity and responses to ČREPČ (Central register of publication activities), while the records in CC, WOS and Scopus are kept automatically by the registers themselves.
- results of evaluation reports of domestic accreditation, application of graduates, indicators, and dynamics of VVČ, numbers of students, teachers, research activities and other related activities.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/smernice/Smernica-c-4-2022-o-pravidelnom-zverejnovani-informacii.pdf>

<https://eszu.sk/wp-content/uploads/Dokumenty/szu/vnutorne-predpisy/VP-c-2-2022-o-priebeznom-monitorovani-periodickom-hodnoteni.pdf>

<http://www.akredkom.sk/zapis/934fo/prku9384.pdf>

- 8.2. A set of indicators used in the management of study programmes.

The set of indicators is processed annually with the addition of a new year. (Appendix no. 3 of this report). The system of indicators is reviewed and revised. Indicators specified in IR No. 2/2022 are gradually monitored and processed.

- 8.3. Involvement of all stakeholders in the collection and processing of information.

All interested parties are involved in the system of collecting, processing information and indicators, which the university uses in monitoring and improving IQAS.

## 9. Public information

- 9.1. Clear, accurate, adequate, and up-to-date quantitative and qualitative information about study programmes and their graduates, as well as other related activities in accordance with the university's mission, which are relevant to the applicants, students, employees, employers, and other external stakeholders and to the public is available.

SMU has policies, structures and processes that guarantee that clear, accurate, adequate, and up-to-date quantitative and qualitative information about activities in accordance with the university's mission is adequately published. This information is relevant to those interested in studying, students, employees, employers and other external stakeholders and the public. This information is published on the SMU website.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/>

<https://eszu.sk/uchadzac-szu/>

- 9.2. Up-to-date information on the implementation and functioning of the internal system, on the results achieved and measures taken.

SMU has policies, structures and processes that guarantee that up-to-date information on the implementation and functioning of the internal system on the results achieved and measures taken are implemented and evaluated. This information is published on the SMU website.

See the evidence:

- a) Directive no. 5/2021 on the procedure for harmonizing study programmes and departments of habilitation procedures and departments of inaugural procedures at the Slovak Medical University in Bratislava according to Act no. 269/2018 Coll. until 31 August 2022
- b) Structures of the internal quality system at SMU
- c) Indicators related to the study programme monitoring process
- d) Study programmes at SMU

- 9.3. Information about study programmes in all languages of their delivery.

Basic information about study programmes is also available in English.

- 9.4. Information from the point of view of easy accessibility for persons with disabilities.

SMU supports study applicants and students with specific needs. This information is published on the SMU website.

Evidence:

<https://eszu.sk/student-szu/>

## 10. Ongoing monitoring and periodic review and approval of study programmes

### 10.1. Continuous monitoring, periodic review, and periodic approval of the internal system, while employers, students and other stakeholders involved in the internal system

The compliance of the study programmes with the SAAVŠ standards for study programmes were evaluated and approved by the University Quality Board on August 24, 2022, their periodic evaluation began only after 1. September, in accordance with the diction of the relevant law. Periodic evaluation will take place after two years, i.e., in 2024 and after the standard length of study. The task in question is fulfilled by the programme board for the relevant study programme and the quality board of the faculty. The University Quality Board will subsequently approve study programmes after periodic evaluation. Students, graduates, and employers are involved in the processes.

### 10.2. Ensuring that the delivery of study programmes, student assessment, and achieved learning outcomes are in line with the latest knowledge, technological possibilities, needs of the society, student's needs and expectations of employers and other stakeholders.

Supervision of the compliance of the curriculum, its content and compliance with current knowledge, technological possibilities, the needs of society, the needs of students and the expectations of employers and other external stakeholders, and that the university creates a supportive and effective educational environment for students, is evaluated by the following structures: the programme board of the relevant study programme, which ensures the compliance of the curriculum with legislative standards through its reports, the Faculty Quality Board and the Scientific Board evaluate the research activity of the employees of the relevant faculty and the Academic Senate of the SMU, which approves the annual report on the activities of the SMU.

Evidence:

[http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Rektorat/Vyrocna\\_sprava/Vyrocna\\_sprava\\_2021.pdf](http://old.szu.sk/userfiles/file/Rektorat/Vyrocna_sprava/Vyrocna_sprava_2021.pdf)

The lack of graduates in the health professions has been undersized for a long time and therefore the expectations of employers are not met. (September 2022 - only 7 countries in Europe report enough doctors and only 3 countries out of 27 enough nurses).

### 10.3. Ensuring that the university has sufficient spatial, personal, material, technical, infrastructural, information, and financial resources for the delivery of study programmes and other related activities.

Mentioned in the point 7.2. of this report.

- 10.4. The opportunity for students to comment on the quality of study programs, the quality of teachers, the quality of support services and the quality of the university environment at least once a year, and how feedback is provided to students on the results of the evaluation and the measures taken.

Students can comment on the quality of teaching and the teachers of the study programme once a year in the summer semester through an anonymous questionnaire.

- 10.5. Modifications of study programmes, which are the result of their continuous monitoring and periodic review, proposed with the participation of students, employers, and other interested parties.

So far, adjustments to study programmes that are the result of their continuous monitoring and periodic evaluation, proposed with the participation of students, employers and other interested parties, have not been implemented.

- 10.6. Periodic approval of study programmes in a period corresponding to their standard length of study.

Study programmes periodically approved in a period corresponding to their standard length of study. They will be approved in two years, i.e., 2024.

## 11. Periodic external quality assurance

SMU regularly undergoes an external quality assurance assessment to make sure that the university's internal system is developed and implemented in accordance with the standards for the internal system and is improving.

Regular external assessment of quality assurance by national entities is provided by the SMU, mainly by the department of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic (issues opinions on study programmes, whether graduates will meet the requirements for professional competence. The opinions are part of Appendix 4) and the agency. Employers participate in the design of study programmes through programme boards. Furthermore, it ensures regular external quality assessment by foreign entities, especially through their participation in scientific research activities, in habilitation/inauguration proceedings, etc.

SMU implements procedural rules for external assessment of the quality of higher education mainly through its faculties and through the University Quality Board.

## 12. List of IERIIS attachments

Annex no. 1 List of study programmes

Annex no. 2 List of habilitation and inauguration proceedings

Annex no. 3 System of IQAS SMU indicators

Annex No. 4 compressed file with descriptions of study programmes and compressed file with descriptions of HIP in ZIP format