

**Rules and Regulations for the Master of Science Programme in Health Promotion and Healthcare Policy, Innovation and Management 2026-2027, as referred to in Article 7.12b of the Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek, WHW)**

These rules and regulations have been determined by the board of examiners Health of the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences, Maastricht University on 19 August 2026.

**Contents**

|                   |                                                                        |          |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>SECTION 1</b>  | <b><u>GENERAL PROVISION</u></b>                                        | <b>2</b> |
| <b>SECTION 2</b>  | <b><u>ASSESSMENT</u></b>                                               | <b>2</b> |
| <b>SECTION 3</b>  | <b><u>PLACEMENT AND THESIS</u></b>                                     | <b>3</b> |
| <b>SECTION 4</b>  | <b><u>EXAMINATION</u></b>                                              | <b>4</b> |
| <b>SECTRION 5</b> | <b><u>IRREGULARITIES AND FRAUD WITHIN THE SCOPE OF EXAMINATION</u></b> | <b>4</b> |

## **SECTION 1      GENERAL PROVISION**

### **Article 1.1      Applicability of the rules and regulations**

1. These rules and regulations apply to the exams and the examinations of the Master of Science programmes in:

*Health Promotion (HeP)*

*Healthcare Policy, Innovation and Management (HPIM)*

of the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences, Maastricht University.

2. These rules apply to all students who participate in one of these master programme in the academic year 2026-2027.
3. These rules replace, in principle, previous rules, unless the alteration proves to be a disadvantage in any way to the student(s) involved.
4. The educational programme which was valid at the moment that the student started with the educational programme, including the tests, is still applicable for the student.
5. The board of examiners lays down rules and regulations annually.

### **Article 1.2      Board of examiners**

The board of examiners is in charge of the master's examination. The board of examiners ensures the proper execution of the regulation on the master's examination and its components, with due regard to the provisions laid down in the Act and the Education and Examination Rules (*EER*) that pertain to the structure and volume of the master's examination of the Health Science programmes of the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences.

### **Article 1.3      Appointment of assessors**

1. An assessor can have a role as a portfolio assessor, thesis assessor, or placement assessor. In principle, the roles of programme coordinator, track coordinator (e.g. skills, professional development, competency development), placement coordinator, Authentic Professional Task (APT) coordinator, and APT planning group member are also fulfilled by qualified assessors.
2. The board of examiners appoints assessors who are qualified to set assessments. Assessors have to belong to the permanent scientific staff of Maastricht University; the board of examiners has the power to grant exceptions to this rule.
3. Members of the scientific staff, who are entrusted with providing education of an educational learning task/component, are as educator responsible for providing feedback on the educational learning task/component. The board of examiners can appoint other members of the scientific staff and experts from outside the programme as assessor.
4. The board of examiners can decide to withdraw an appointment as assessor if the assessor does not cohere to laws and regulations or rules of the board of examiners, or if the assessment skills of the assessor (construct, examine and judge) has repeatedly proven to be of insufficient quality.

### **Article 1.4      Portfolio Assessment committee**

1. The portfolio assessment committee assesses the portfolio.
2. The portfolio assessment committee consists of the following members:
  - a. Portfolio assessment coordinator (chair);
  - b. Three to five portfolio assessors;
3. The portfolio assessors (see article 1.3) are not taking the role as an assessor of the students of whom they are simultaneously the coach in the respective master programme.

## **SECTION 2      ASSESSMENT**

### **Article 2.1      Graduation**

1. Students who wish to graduate should meet the following criteria:

- a) the student has demonstrated participation in a minimum number of elective skills trainings as stated in the programme assessment plan;
- b) the student completed the high-stakes portfolio assessment according to the requirements described in article 2.2).
- c) the student completed the master thesis and placement according to the requirements described in article 2.3.
- d) To graduate, the overall graduation score for both the high-stakes portfolio and the master thesis and placement should at least be 'competent'. The graduation score is determined by the programme coordinator(s) and the decision rules are described in the programme assessment plan.

#### **Article 2.2 High-stakes portfolio assessment**

1. The high-stakes portfolio assessment decisions consist of a score per role and an aggregated overall portfolio score (expressed in terms of novice; competent; advanced). For all roles as well as the aggregated score, this level should at least be 'competent'. See the programme assessment plan for a description of the procedure to aggregate datapoints within a role to a competency level for the role as a whole.
2. If the student does not meet the criteria mentioned in section 1, the student has to make a personal remediation plan, which has to be approved by the portfolio assessment committee. Upon completion of their personal remediation plan, students can request a new high-stakes assessment.
3. High-stakes assessments can occur once in period 5 or 6 of the academic year. Additionally, assessment of a student's remediated (role within the) portfolio can occur in any period of the subsequent academic year.

#### **Article 2.3 Placement and master's thesis**

1. The master thesis is assessed by two assessors: the thesis supervisor and an independent second thesis assessor.
2. The master thesis is assessed by using the programme competency rubric. Using the rubric, the thesis supervisor and the thesis assessor independently provide an assessment of the content-related competencies associated with the thesis. Using the programme competency rubric, the thesis supervisor furthermore provides an assessment of the competencies associated with the placement.
3. The master thesis should be assessed at least at level 'competent' by both assessors. The placement should be assessed at least at the level 'competent' by the thesis supervisor. The assessment plan contains a description of the procedure to aggregate datapoints to an assessment for the thesis and placement as a whole.
4. In case of a large discrepancy between the assessment of content by the two assessors (when one supervisor assesses the thesis at 'novice' level and the other at 'advanced' level), a student who feels treated unfairly, can file an appeal to the board of examiners to have an independent third assessor assess the thesis. If the board of examiners thinks the appeal is well-founded and agrees with the appeal, the final assessment for the thesis will be the combination of the assessments of the three assessors. In this case, the mode of all three assessments is considered final. If the mode is inconclusive, the median of all three assessments is final.
5. The requirements are summarised in the Guidelines for the thesis per Master program. These guidelines are published on the Student Portal.

#### **Article 2.4 Receiving credits (ECTS)**

Students should have completed the components mentioned in article 2.1, which is equivalent to 60 ECTS. Students will receive these credits only at the end of the program.

#### **Article 2.5 Exemption**

1. In the event that a student is granted an exemption for an authentic professional task, this will be registered as 'exemption'.
2. In case a student is granted an exemption, they are unable to obtain the maximum number of datapoints described in the programme's assessment plan. All assessment criteria will be adjusted accordingly by the programme portfolio assessment committee.

### **SECTION 3. PLACEMENT AND THESIS**

#### **Article 3.1 Placement and thesis**

1. The board of examiners determines the rules and regulations that apply to the general and scientific nature of the placement. These rules are published on the Student Portal.
2. For the Master programme a placement coordinator is appointed. The placement coordinator is responsible for approving a proposed research project.
3. To be granted access to the placement, students need to meet the eligibility criteria specified in the programme's assessment plan.
4. The placement coordinator appoints an assessor to be the faculty thesis supervisor for the research project. This assessor will also be the first assessor for the Master's thesis. The second assessor is called thesis assessor.
5. For the assessment of the placement and thesis the programme competency rubric is used.
6. The master thesis must be written in a format described in the assessment plan of each programme
7. Only individual theses are allowed.

### **SECTION 4 EXAMINATION**

#### **Article 4.1 Degree classification**

1. The degree classification 'Cum Laude' (with distinction) will be awarded if the student receives an 'advanced' score for their portfolio and an 'advanced' score for their placement and thesis.
2. For the HPIM master programme the degree classification 'Cum Laude' (with distinction) will be awarded if the following requirements are fulfilled:
  - a. A student has obtained the level 'advanced' on at least two of the five competency roles in the HPIM competency framework.
  - b. A student has obtained the level 'advanced' as an overall assessment score for the master thesis and placement. See the HPIM assessment plan for a description of the procedure to compose the score for the placement and thesis.
3. For the HeP master programme the degree classification 'Cum Laude' (with distinction) will be awarded if the following requirements are fulfilled:
  - a. A student has obtained the level 'advanced' on at least three of the four competency roles in the HeP competency framework.
  - b. A student has obtained the level 'advanced' as an overall assessment score for the master thesis, placement and oral defense. See the HeP assessment plan for a description of the procedure to compose the score for the placement and thesis.

### **SECTION 5 IRREGULARITIES AND FRAUD WITHIN THE SCOPE OF EXAMINATION**

#### **Article 5.1 Fraud, including plagiarism and passing off work or assignments (partially) generated by artificial intelligence software, such as ChatGPT, as their own work**

The General FHML Regulation for Fraud and Irregularities, made by the three boards of examiners of the faculty, and the FHML student guidelines for the use of generative AI will be applied. In these regulations the definition of fraud and plagiarism will be elaborated, as well as the sanctions the board of examiners can impose. The regulations will be published in the student portal at the beginning of the academic year.