



UNIVERSITY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF VETERINARY SCIENCES

Principles of Conflict of Interest in Doctoral and Habilitation Procedures

General Principle

Objectivity and impartiality of all participants involved in evaluation procedures are fundamental requirements in every qualification process. In cases of conflict of interest, the person concerned may not participate as an opponent (reviewer), chair, member, secretary, or evaluator in the admission procedure to doctoral training, in comprehensive examinations, in doctoral degree-awarding procedures, or in the habilitation process.

Therefore, the Council of the Doctoral School examines and assesses the submitted committee proposals in accordance with these principles, based on a combined consideration of the applicable legal and institutional regulations, university practices, and the relevant circumstances related to the candidate's institutional affiliation and scientific activity.

Cases of Conflict of Interest

1. Organizational relationship:

- A person may not act as an opponent, committee chair, member, examiner, or secretary if they work in the same organizational unit (e.g. department, institute, or clinic) as the candidate, especially if there is a hierarchical (supervisory or subordinate) relationship between them.

2. Scientific collaboration:

- A person may not be invited to serve as an examiner, opponent, committee chair, or member if they:
 - are **co-authors of publications** forming the basis of the PhD research plan or dissertation,
 - are **in active collaboration** with the student or the supervisor within the framework of a **joint research project** or grant underlying the PhD dissertation,
 - are a **member** of the candidate's **supervisory committee**,
 - are co-authors of publications forming the basis of the selected results submitted in the habilitation application.

3. Family and personal relationship:


- A person may not participate in the evaluation if they:
 - are **related to the candidate or the supervisor** (e.g. spouse, sibling, parent, close relative),
 - have a **close personal relationship** with the candidate that may compromise impartiality.

Responsibilities of the Supervisor and the Candidate

They must **always verify** co-authorships with potential participants based on the references forming the basis of the PhD dissertation or the habilitation application. **No one should be invited without prior consultation with the Secretariat of the Doctoral School** if there is any question regarding a potential conflict of interest.

Budapest, 11 June 2026.




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Head of Doctoral School