



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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Doctorate



PhD Medical Research – Cardiovascular Science

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München • München

Overview

Degree	Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Medical Research – Cardiovascular Science
Course location	München
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">English
Languages	Courses are held in English only. PhD theses are written only in English.
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">full-time
Programme duration	6 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Application deadline	Applications for the PhD Medical Research – Cardiovascular Science are accepted once a year, with an application period of 1 December to 31 January of the following year. Applications must be submitted via the online application portal of the Munich Medical Research School (MMRS). Successful applicants will then start their PhD studies in the winter semester (October) of the same year.
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	<p>The PhD Programme in Medical Research in Cardiovascular Science is a collaborative effort between various departments of the LMU University Hospital and LMU, under the umbrella of the Munich Medical Research School.</p> <p>This interdisciplinary full-time doctoral programme offers comprehensive training to both national and international doctoral candidates in various aspects of cardiovascular science. From cardiology to vascular and cardiac surgery, including paediatric cardiac procedures, the curriculum is designed to push the boundaries of research in this field.</p> <p>Doctoral candidates have the opportunity to join international research groups focusing on the development, pathophysiology, and control of the cardiovascular system as well as exploring causes, consequences, and therapeutic approaches for cardiovascular diseases. The research spectrum of this programme spans from basic laboratory investigations to clinical trials, bridging</p>

natural science research with clinical medical studies.

The programme welcomes applicants from diverse backgrounds, including the life sciences, medicine, and related disciplines such as medical engineering, veterinary medicine, and epidemiology. The doctoral candidates work closely with a thesis advisory committee to define their research goals and curricular content, ensuring optimal subject and interdisciplinary qualifications tailored to specific needs.

Additional support is offered by the [GraduateCenter](#).

Course Details

Course organisation

Scope of the PhD Medical Research – Cardiovascular Science

Within the framework of this structured PhD programme, doctoral candidates need to obtain a total of 180 ECTS:

- 30 ECTS that each student can choose individually to improve knowledge and methodological skills directly related to the PhD project
- 120 ECTS within the scope of the research project, including study blocks in Munich and regular research progress meetings
- 20 ECTS for the dissertation
- 10 ECTS for the disputation conducted in Munich

In addition to the 30 ECTS required by the MMRS guidelines, PhD MR – CVS programme students have to earn extra curricular ECTS through the successful completion of pre-defined courses and the mandatory bi-monthly progress sessions (within the scope of the 120 ECTS).

Study Blocks in Munich

Upon joining the PhD programme, candidates commence their doctoral journey with Study Block I in Munich, held from October to early December in line with LMU's winter semester. All PhD MR – CVS programme students undergo the same curriculum to guarantee a consistent knowledge base across all candidates.

- Study Block I

Study Block I, lasting eight weeks, is an intensive period filled with daily lectures, workshops, and seminars, requiring full-time commitment from all doctoral students. The programme focuses on the biology, cardiovascular disease insights, treatment options, epidemiology, and associated risk factors of a healthy cardiovascular system. In addition, it provides an understanding of basic research methods, analytical tools for cardiovascular studies, and interdisciplinary skills like scientific writing. Each module will be concluded with a written exam.

- Study Block II

Study Block II, taking place in Munich in September and October of the following year, delves deeper into cardiovascular research and its methodologies, emphasising the latest advancements and current best practices in cardiovascular science. Furthermore, Study Block II overlaps with Study Block I for the new cohort of PhD candidates, providing a platform for networking and knowledge sharing among peers.

International elements

- Training in intercultural skills
- Projects with partners in Germany and abroad
- International guest lecturers
- Specialist literature in other languages
- Courses are led with foreign partners
- International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context

Integrated internships	None
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Course-specific, integrated German language courses	No
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Course-specific, integrated English language courses	No
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Costs / Funding

Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
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Semester contribution	85 EUR per semester + additional fee for public transportation (e.g. monthly ticket, "Deutschlandticket", etc.)
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Costs of living	Living costs (including accommodation and health insurance) in Munich range from 1,000 to 1,200 EUR per month.
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Funding opportunities within the university	Yes
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Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university	The PhD programme does not offer any scholarship opportunities right now. However, the LMU offers diverse funding possibilities. Please have a look at the LMU website: https://www.lmu.de/en/workspace-for-students/student-support-services/finance-your-studies/scholarships/scholarships-for-international-students/index.html .
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LMU Travel Grant, LMU Completion Grant

Requirements / Registration

Academic admission requirements	To apply for the PhD Medical Research – Cardiovascular Science, the following requirements must be met by all applicants:
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- Qualifying degree in medicine, veterinary medicine, life sciences, pharmacy, health sciences or a related discipline, encompassing a minimum of 240 ECTS (in most cases this corresponds to 8 semesters)
- Proof of English proficiency
- Very good academic record
- Strong scientific motivation, to be shown by the letter of motivation

For detailed information, please see our [website](#).

Language requirements	Applicants are required to fully understand and fluently communicate in written as well as spoken English. One of the following is required:
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- EU level of B2
- IELTS score of 5 – 6.5 (5 is borderline between EU level B1 and B2)

- TOEFL score 87 or more

Alternatively, diplomas of high school or university education with English as the major teaching language may be considered after individual assessment. If you are a native speaker, proof of English is not required.

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Submit application to Applications must be submitted via the online application portal of the LMU Munich Medical Research School (MMRS).

Link: <https://www.portal.graduatecenter.uni-muenchen.de/ocgc/mmrs>

Services

Possibility of finding part-time employment The programme is designed as a full-time curriculum. Therefore, there is no possibility of finding part-time employment.

Accommodation The International Office helps visiting academics, PhD students, and postdocs who are travelling to Munich for a set period of time to find accommodation.

For further information, please visit the following link:

<https://www.lmu.de/en/study/important-contacts/international-office/index.html>.

Rooms in shared flats are popular on the private market and reasonably priced at 400 to 600 EUR per month if located in central parts of Munich.

Structured research and supervision Yes

Research training / discussion Yes

Support for international students and doctoral candidates

- Welcome event
- Visa matters
- Help with finding accommodation
- Support with registration procedures

Contact

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

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🌐 Course website: <https://www.lmu-klinikum.de/kinderkardiologie/forschung-und-lehre/lehre/ph-d-program/72ee6b6f751af78f>

📘 <https://de-de.facebook.com/lmu.muenchen/>

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International Programmes in Germany - Database

www.daad.de/international-programmes
www.daad.de/sommerkurse

Editor

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