



DANUBE PRIVATE UNIVERSITY  
Austria

## **Examination Regulations**

A postgraduate programme at Danube Private University  
**POSTGRADUATE CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMME**  
for the title of **ACADEMIC EXPERT**  
in the field of **ORTHODONTICS**

### **General**

#### **Section 1: Objective**

The Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics is intended for practising dentists. The programme builds on participants' previous study of dentistry to convey up-to-date knowledge and support specialisation in the field of orthodontics. This programme is based on the acquisition of scientific fundamentals, updates to theoretical and practical education, and is taught by the renowned professors and scientists at Danube Private University GmbH (DPU).

#### **Section 2: Qualification Profile**

The Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics aims to provide advanced scientific, methodologically excellent and practical education that enables its graduates to pursue further training and employment in the field of orthodontics and renders them internationally competitive.

While professional experience is not a precondition for admission to the Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics, participants must be professionally active as dentists (on at least a part-time basis) during the programme.

### **Section 3: Duration and Structure**

The Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics has a duration of four semesters and comprises 80 ECTS credits.

The workload per year of study is 40 ECTS credits, comprising five modules of four days each, and is taught from 9:00am to 12:30pm and from 1:30pm to 6:00pm each day. Two modules take the form of distance learning (i.e. taught live, with participants attending remotely).

The standard period of study is four semesters. This postgraduate continuing education programme is taught on a part-time basis alongside the participant's professional practice. The programme is taught in German.

- 6 ECTS credits for mandatory modules (20 days per year of study; 8 hours per day)
- 29 ECTS credits for independent study
- 5 ECTS credits for a total of 12 patient cases

### **Section 4: Admission Requirements**

Admission to the Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics requires that candidates

- provide evidence that they have successfully completed university studies in dentistry or equivalent studies at a post-secondary educational institution, whether in Austria or abroad. Equivalence is determined by ENIC-NARIC with due regard for legal requirements.
- hold a license to practise dentistry at the place of treatment provision, because the programme participants must treat patients and document their cases outside Danube Private University GmbH (DPU) in their own dental practices, in line with the criteria covered in the curriculum, to produce the requisite 12 patient case studies.
- demonstrate German language proficiency of at least Level B2 in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). This can be demonstrated through internationally recognised language certificates, other educational certificates such as school leaving certificates if teaching was held in English, or by completing studies in German. Applicants do not need to submit evidence of language proficiency if the language of instruction is their first language.
- are computer literate to ensure problem-free use of a teaching and learning platform (e.g. e-Learning) and literature databases.
- submit an admission application form, a cover letter, a CV with a passport photo, a copy of their passport or a copy of their E-Card (if their primary residence is in Austria) together with the educational certificates specified above.

The programme's Academic Director evaluates each applicant's suitability based on the submitted application documents. Admission is only possible prior to commencement of the programme. The programme's Academic Director determines the number of participants per programme intake based on the number of study places available with regard to educational and organisational aspects. The Rector decides whether to admit applicants to the

programme based on the recommendation of the programme's Academic Director, subject to the availability of places in the programme and dependent on applicants' qualifications.

### **Section 5: Practice**

Participants in the Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics shall ensure their ability to treat patients outside of the programme, either independently or under instruction/supervision if required, in order to meet the professional practice requirements (on at least a part-time basis) required for successful completion of the programme. Participants will not perform any patient treatments at the DPU Dental Clinic in Krems as part of the programme.

Participants do not require authorisation to treat patients in Austria if they treat patients abroad. Participants in the postgraduate continuing education programme are responsible for ensuring their compliance with legal requirements regarding the independent treatment of patients, under instruction/supervision if required. The professional dental activities required for successful completion of this programme (i.e. 12 case reports in accordance with curricular requirements) must be performed at the participants' own practice or in the organisational unit in which they are employed as dentists.

### **Section 6: Recognition of Achievements**

The Rector decides on the recognition of certificates following consultation with the Academic Director of the Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics.

### **Section 7: Attendance Requirement**

The individual modules are designed as courses with ongoing assessment. Successful participation in each module is therefore essential and compulsory for participants to progress in their studies. The extent of absences justified by a doctor's note or approved in advance (for a compelling reason) by the programme's Academic Director may not exceed 20% of scheduled attendance in a single year of study.

Participants must catch up on the content of any classes they miss. In exceptional cases, participants must adequately compensate for absences as specified by the Academic Director. Regardless of whether absences have been approved, participants must pass all module examinations.

### **Section 8: Examination Regulations**

The examinations and coursework on the Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics comprise:

- Written examinations on Topics 1 to 8, held at the end of each module (single-choice questions, with 20 questions per topic)

- Submission of 12 patient case reports and defence of one of these patient case reports before the Examination Board in accordance with the curricular requirements defined by the programme's Academic Director. This examination may be taken online.

Participants may only sit a module examination after successfully completing all ongoing assessments in that module. The module examination at the end of each module is a written examination that covers multiple topics. Participants shall be suitably informed of examination methods before the start of each module.

The grading system is based on the provisions of Section 72(2) of the Austrian Universities Act 2002 (Universitätsgesetz 2002 – UG) and relevant guidelines of Danube Private University GmbH (DPU). In accordance with the grading system, examinations are graded with the following grades:

very good (1)  
good (2)  
satisfactory (3) or  
sufficient (4)

as pass marks, along with the grade

not sufficient (5)

as a fail mark.

The overall grade is calculated as a weighted average of the results of the written module examinations (40%) and the assessment of the 12 submitted case reports and oral defence in front of the Examination Board (60%).

Evaluation scale: A grade of “sufficient” corresponds to  $\geq 60\%$  correct answers in individual examinations.

Participants may repeat examinations on a maximum of two occasions, after which point they are deemed to have failed the module. Participants may repeat examinations no less than six weeks after a failed examination, calculated from the date of the failed examination.

Participants may repeat their case report defence no less than six weeks after a failed defence, calculated from the date of the failed defence.

## **Section 9: Graduation and Academic Title**

A certificate confirming successful completion of the Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics is issued following successful completion of the individual written examinations in Topics 1 to 8, submission and positive assessment of the 12 patient case reports by the Examination Board, and successful defence of one of the 12 patient case reports before the Examination Board.

The certificate of completion lists the individual topics with the number of ECTS credits and the specific grade for each module. The certificate also lists classes for which successful completion is confirmed with the grade “completed successfully”.

## **Section 10: Entry into Force**

The Examination Regulations for the Postgraduate Continuing Education Programme for the title of Academic Expert in the field of Orthodontics shall enter into force on 1 May 2025.

## Programme Content

The programme comprises eight topics:

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| Topic 1 | General biological and medical subjects      |
| Topic 2 | Basic orthodontic subjects                   |
| Topic 3 | General orthodontic subjects                 |
| Topic 4 | Orthodontic treatment techniques             |
| Topic 5 | Multidisciplinary treatments                 |
| Topic 6 | Specific treatment procedures                |
| Topic 7 | Management of health and safety              |
| Topic 8 | Office management, administration and ethics |

| Topics            | Class type | ECTS credits | WL (h)      | SH        | Classroom teaching (h) | Independent study (h) |
|-------------------|------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Topic 1           | L          | 16           | 400         | 7         | 80                     | 320                   |
| Topic 2           | L, CT      | 14           | 350         | 6         | 70                     | 280                   |
| Topic 3           | L, CT      | 14           | 350         | 6         | 70                     | 280                   |
| Topic 4           | L, CT      | 11           | 275         | 4         | 50                     | 225                   |
| Topic 5           | L          | 2            | 50          | 1         | 5                      | 45                    |
| Topic 6           | L, CT      | 10           | 250         | 3         | 30                     | 220                   |
| Topic 7           | L          | 1            | 25          | 1         | 5                      | 20                    |
| Topic 8           | L          | 2            | 50          | 1         | 10                     | 40                    |
| Case presentation |            | 10           | 250         |           |                        | 250                   |
| <b>Total</b>      |            | <b>80</b>    | <b>2000</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>320</b>             | <b>1680</b>           |

### Key:

L = lecture

CT = clinical training

WL = workload

SH = semester hours

ECTS = European Credit Transfer System