

Regulations of the Solidarity Fund for PhD Candidates

Translated from the French version dated 17th October 2023, and approved by the General Assembly on 22nd October 2024

Art. 1 Purpose

The Solidarity Fund for PhD Candidates (*Fonds de solidarité des doctorant-e-s*, FSD) provides one-time assistance to PhD candidates at the University of Lausanne (UNIL) facing temporary financial difficulties.

The FSD in no way replaces ordinary funding bodies.

Art. 2 Endowment of the Fund

The FSD is annually funded by a budgetary allocation proposed by ACIDUL's Committee and voted on by ACIDUL's General Assembly (GA).

Third parties may make donations to the FSD.

Unless otherwise decided by the GA, unused capital in an accounting period is transferred to the available capital for the following period.

The allocation of aid is limited by the available capital of the FSD. It cannot exceed it under any circumstances.

Art. 3 FSD Committee

A Committee composed of the Secretary General (SG) and two members of ACIDUL's Committee is appointed annually by the members at the GA.

Art. 4 Composition and Frequency of Aid

The maximum amount of aid is 750 CHF per person per academic year.

Art. 5 Personal Conditions for Allocation

PhD candidates enrolled at UNIL are eligible for assistance.

Art. 6 Material Conditions for Allocation

Financial support may be granted exceptionally to PhD candidates experiencing financial distress.

Financial distress is assessed on a case-by-case basis by the FSD Committee.

The aid is supplementary to regular pensions and assistance. To qualify, applicants without salary, scholarship, or other funding related to doctoral activities must have taken steps with social insurance and social assistance agencies. The allocation of FSD aid does not depend on the decisions of these agencies.

Aid cannot be granted in competition with that awarded by the Federation of Student Associations at UNIL (*Fédération des associations des étudiant-e-s de l'UNIL*, FAE) within the framework of the Student Solidarity Fund (*Fonds de solidarité étudiant*).

Art. 7 Application for Allocation

The applicant submits a duly motivated application to ACIDUL's Secretariat by mail or email. This application includes:

- A certificate of enrollment (*attestation d'immatriculation*) as a PhD candidate at UNIL;

- A letter describing the financial situation;
- If applicable, copies of negative decisions from social insurance and social assistance agencies;
- The necessary banking details for payment.

The application and related documents may be submitted in French, German, Italian, or English.

Art. 8 Ordinary Allocation Procedure

The SG receives the applications, verifies the allocation conditions, and requests missing documents if necessary.

The SG dismisses applications that clearly do not meet the allocation conditions. They are made available to the Committee.

Applications that meet the allocation conditions are forwarded to the Committee, no later than during its meetings.

The Committee decides on applications by circulation, or, upon request of a Committee member, during an ad hoc meeting.

A Committee member may request that the applicant be heard during the session regarding their application.

The response time to the applicant is a maximum of 30 days.

The SG is responsible for the convocations and keeping minutes of ad hoc meetings.

Art. 9 Fraud

The Committee is competent to declare a case of fraud, characterized by intentional violation of these regulations or the presentation of false documents.

The Committee may decide to refer a case to UNIL's Disciplinary Council (*Conseil de discipline*).

Art. 10 Modification and Abolition of the FSD

Any modification to these regulations must be approved by two-thirds of the members present at ACIDUL's General Assembly.

The abolition of the FSD can occur under the same conditions. Unless explicitly decided otherwise, capital from the FSD in this case returns to ACIDUL.