

The **Doctoral School of Administration and Public Policy** is a young doctoral school, established in 2015. Its establishment is linked to a need for master's graduates who wanted to continue their doctoral studies in Romania, given that at that time there was only one such school, namely within SNSPA Bucharest. The doctoral school of Administration and Public Policies is designed on the model of interdisciplinary schools, given the fact that the field of administrative sciences by its nature requires such an approach. The main areas that give the interdisciplinary character of the doctoral school are listed below:

1. Management –it is important because it enhances the proper functioning of public administration. In the contemporary context described by the unclear boundaries between the public and private sectors, transfers from private management to the public sector are becoming increasingly important. Good governance is the key factor for public administration and, for this reason, it has emerged as a new field of study.

2. Sociology - because public administration is part of the general societal system and also because research in public administration borrows the methods and techniques used by sociology.

3. Economy and public finances, considering that the public administration raises and allocates resources to meet the needs of citizens and society.

4. Political science - is important because public administration cannot be separated from politics, the latter being the one that outlines the tasks to be performed by public administration. The relationship with the political sciences is also strengthened by the fact that public administration operates in a democratic environment, whose values and principles must be understood and assimilated. However, the relationship with the political sciences explains the concept of "public" rather than the concept of "administration".

5. Public law - most of the administrative and European law; it is important because public administration can be seen as the "law in action" and also because the legislative framework defines and restricts the capacity of public administration institutions to act. However, public administration is more than law - good legislation does not necessarily lead to good public administration.

Currently, accredited coordinators in the field of administrative sciences are co-opted within the accredited school, but with an extremely varied training in the above fields (including at the doctoral level) as well as a qualified leader in the field of finance.

In terms of research, the doctoral school aims to develop students' skills to substantiate public policies and decisions in the public sector based on empirical data and / or secondary data analysis. Administrative sciences have an applied character and therefore empirical research, data collection, processing and communication to various audiences is essential.

The main objectives of the doctoral school subject to accreditation are:

- Permanent updating and alignment of the doctoral study program, in terms of curricula, research directions, quality assurance procedures, ethics, to international standards in the field, as they are defined and promoted by EAPAA (Europe) and NASPAA (USA) etc.

- Promoting modern, interdisciplinary approaches, based on coherent quality mechanisms.
- Building a doctoral study program that focuses on the development of skills and abilities and not just on the assimilation of theoretical information. Students must be able to solve complex problems, be oriented towards finding creative solutions, which can overcome legal, institutional, financial barriers, etc. which may exist in the public sector.
- Development of partnerships with prestigious international universities, including doctorates in co-tutoring.
- Development of competitive research activities in the field of administrative sciences, based on the collection and analysis of empirical data.
- Disseminate research results internationally so that there is a significant impact. Encourage students and young researchers to attend conferences and other scientific events.
- Encourage the mobility of teachers and students at EU and non-EU level.

Within the Doctoral School of Public Administration and Management, there are currently a number of 9 full-time PhD supervisors at Babeş-Bolyai University. 8 of them are qualified in the field of administrative sciences and one in finance.

The scientific research of the accredited doctoral school follows three major directions, which correspond to the profile of affiliated doctoral supervisors - public administration (with subfields such as public management, strategic planning, national and European public law, evaluation of programs and projects, urban planning, public policies , finance, etc.), conflict studies and public health.

The doctoral school annually establishes priority research directions, meant to ensure the visibility of the school, but also the effective contribution of research to the administrative reality in Romania, including the communities, and the alignment of the educational process to the latest challenges and trends in administrative sciences. The proposed topics are broad and allow the integration of specific topics in related and relevant fields for administrative sciences (economics, law, sociology, different types of public policy).

Public Administration

- Innovation and change in public and non-profit organizations
- Metropolitan governance, including services to the community
- Quality of life and well-being
- Sustainable public procurement
- Sustainable community development in rural and per-urban areas
- E-government and technologies, the use of open data and big data

Public health

- The health workforce

- Health policy
- Smoking during pregnancy
- Maternal and child health
- Environmental health
- Injuries resulting from road traffic
- Prevention of fragility
- Physical activity and health

Conflict studies

- Traditional methods of conflict resolution (materialized in case studies on communities in Romania, Albania, Greece, Nigeria, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan and the Philippines).
- Conflicts in the contemporary world (materialized in conflict analyzes that have as subject the conflicts in five areas of major interest: Africa, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East and the Far East).
- Conflicts of property - project together with Mediators Beyond Borders for property conflicts in Uganda.
- Community mediation - project with Cluj City Hall to implement a more efficient system for managing community conflicts.