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**CERTIFIED TRANSLATION OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
PREPARED IN POLISH**

Remarks of the translator have been entered in italics and included in square brackets

Annex to the Ordinance No. 65 of the Rector of the University of Silesia in
Katowice of 11 May 2020.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF

SOCIAL BENEFITS

for students of

the University of Silesia
(consolidated text)

CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 1

1. The terms used in the Rules and Regulations and the annexes to these Rules and Regulations shall have the following mean:

- 1) UŚ - University of Silesia in Katowice;
- 2) KS – Scholarship Committee;
- 3) OKS – Scholarship Appeal Committee;
- 4) WRSS - Faculty Council of the Student Government;
- 5) URSS – the University Student Government Council;
- 6) DS – Student Residence Hall;
- 7) ZUS - Social Insurance Institution;
- 8) RP - Republic of Poland;
- 9) MNiSW - Ministry of Science and Higher Education;
- 10) CWFiS - Physical Education and Sports Centre;
- 11) AZS - University Sports Association;
- 12) KISM - College of Interdisciplinary Individual Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice ;
- 13) NAWA - National Agency for Academic Exchange;
- 14) USOS - University Study Services System;
- 15) USOSweb - an Internet-based information system associated with the USOS system;
- 16) Study Rules and Regulations - Regulations for Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice, annexed to the Resolution No. 368 of the Senate of the University of Silesia of 30 April 2019;
- 17) settlement period - the period from 1 January to 31 December of the year preceding the beginning of a given academic year;
- 18) Actual guardian - a person who actually takes care of a child if he or she has applied to a family court for adoption of a child;
- 19) single parent - means a spinster, bachelor, widow, widower, a person separated by a valid court judgment, a divorced person, unless he or she is raising at least one child together with his or her parent;
- 20) an institution providing 24-hour maintenance - a social welfare home, a youth education centre, a hostel for minors, a correctional institution, an investigation centre, a prison, a military school or other school, if these institutions provide full maintenance free of charge;
- 21) agricultural holding - area of land referred to in Article 2(1) of the Act of 15 November 1984 on Agricultural Tax, with a total area exceeding 1 ha or 1 conversion ha, owned or held by a natural person, legal person or organisational unit, including a company, without legal personality;
- 22) pension - old-age and disability pensions and pensions provided due to inability to work, including training pensions specified in the regulations on pensions provided by the Social Insurance Fund, on social insurance of farmers, on pension provision for officers of the Police, Internal Security Agency, Foreign Intelligence Agency, Military Counterintelligence Service, Military Intelligence Service, The Central Anti-Corruption Bureau, the Border Guard, the State Protection Service, the State Fire Service, the Customs and Fiscal Service and the Penitentiary Service and their families, about the retirement supplies of professional soldiers and their families, on pension provision for war and military invalids and their families, on veterans and some people who were victims of war and post-war repressions, as well as on remuneration for retired public

servants specified in the law on the system of common courts, the law on public prosecutor's office and the law on the Supreme Court, and training pensions and pensions for inability to work specified in the law on social insurance for accidents at work and occupational diseases, pensions for inability to work specified in the law on pensions for accidents or occupational diseases arising in special circumstances, as well as structural pensions as defined in the rules on support for rural development from the Guarantee Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund and in the rules on support for rural development with contributions from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

2. A student may apply for the following benefits:
 - 1) social allowance;
 - 2) scholarship for the disabled;
 - 3) Rector's scholarship;
 - 4) financial aid.
3. A student may also apply for accommodation in the DS [*Student Residence Hall*] as well as for the accommodation for his/her spouse or child in the DS. The rules for allocating a place in a *Student Residence Hall* are set out in Annex 9 to these Rules and Regulations..
4. The benefits referred to in section 2 may also be provided to a student of the University of Silesia who is enrolled on part of a degree programme in other higher education institutions in Poland and abroad, provided that he or she meets the conditions necessary to receive such benefits laid down in these Rules and Regulations.
5. Subject to § 22, international students enrolling on a degree programme and completing a degree programme in Poland may apply for the Rector's scholarship, a scholarship for disabled students and a social allowance if they fulfil the conditions necessary for the award of individual benefits laid down in the Act of 20 July 2018. - The Law on Higher Education and Science and these Rules and Regulations.
6. Subject to § 22, international students who are not charged a tuition fee may apply for a social allowance if they meet at least one of the conditions:
 - 1) they have a permanent residence permit, or are long-term residents of the European Union;
 - 2) they have a temporary residence permit in connection with the circumstances referred to in Article 159(1) or Article 186(1)(3) or (4) of the Act of 12 December 2013 on foreigners;
 - 3) they have the refugee status granted in the Republic of Poland or enjoy temporary protection or subsidiary protection on the territory of the Republic of Poland;
 - 4) they have a certificate confirming the knowledge of Polish as a foreign language, referred to in Article 11a(2) of the Act of 7 October 1999 on the Polish language, at least at language proficiency level C1;
 - 5) they have The Polish Card or a decision on the determination of Polish origin;
 - 6) they are the spouse, ascendant or descendant of a citizen of the Republic of Poland, living on the territory of the Republic of Poland;
 - 7) they have a temporary residence permit in connection with the circumstances referred to in Article 151(1) or Article 151b(1) of the Act of 12 December 2013 on foreigners, or are staying on the territory of the Republic of Poland in connection with the use of short-term researcher mobility under the conditions set out in Article 156b(1) of that

Act or have a national visa to carry out scientific research or development work.

7. Student benefits shall be awarded from the scholarship fund referred to in Article 412 of the Act of 20 July 2018. - Law on higher education and research.
8. Benefits are awarded on a documented request of a student. Applications for benefits shall be submitted by students to a Dean's Office of their faculty, except for KISM students [*College Interdisciplinary Individual Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice*] who submit their applications to the Dean's Office of that faculty, which is consistent with the degree programme chosen by them on the basis of the submitted declaration.
9. Benefits shall be awarded and refused by an administrative decision within the meaning of the Act of 14 June 1960, Code of Administrative Procedure.
10. Registration of an electronic form in the USOSweb service does not initiate administrative proceedings for awarding benefits. It is a technical activity and does not constitute an application.

§ 2

1. Decisions concerning the granting of benefits shall be taken by a dean/deputy-dean under the authority of the Rector. When making a decision, a dean/vice - dean may consult the WRSS – [*Faculty Student Government Council*] or bodies designated by it.
2. In respect of a decision made by a Dean/Deputy-Dean, a student is entitled:
 - 1) to submit a request to the Rector to reconsider his/her case. A student submits a reasoned application to a Faculty Dean's Office within 14 days of receiving a decision. A student has the right to complain against the Rector's decision to the competent Provincial Administrative Court. Such a complaint is submitted to a Dean's Office within 30 days of receiving the decision;
 - 2) to make a complaint to a relevant Provincial Administrative Court without the need to submit a request to the Rector to reconsider the case. The complaint shall be submitted to a Dean's Office within 30 days of receiving the decision.
3. If a student submits a request for reconsideration, a Dean's Office is obligated to immediately (no longer than 7 days) forward the request together with a certified copy of the documentation to the head of the Student Social Affairs Office. The documentation should include a decision from which a student submits a request for reconsideration of the case, along with the set of documents on the basis of which a decision was made, and the position of a Dean/Deputy-Dean regarding the complaints raised in the request.
4. Requests for reconsideration of a case shall be considered by the Vice-Rector, acting under the authority of the Rector, whose responsibilities include student affairs or doctoral student affairs.
5. A decision to grant benefits shall expire on the last day of the month in which a student lost his or her entitlement to the benefit due to the acquisition of the professional title referred to in § 5, section 3, subsection 2, and section 4, was deleted from the list of students in the degree programme in which he or she received the benefit, or the period referred to in § 5,

section 3, subsection 1 has expired.

6. At the written request of the URSS [*University Student Government Council*] submitted to the Rector through the head of the Students Social Affairs Office by 15 September, the Rector transfers the rights to grant benefits to the KS [*Scholarship Committee*] and OKS [*Scholarship Appeal Committee*] appointed at a Faculty.
7. The Rector appoints the KS and OKS by 5 October from among the students indicated in the application of the URSS and the faculty staff, with the students constituting the majority of the board. The board is appointed for the period of the academic year.
8. The KS and OKS shall act in a composition of at least five members, electing a Chairman from among their members, who is an employee, a Vice-Chairman and a Keeper of the Minutes. The KS and OKS are obliged to take the minutes of the meeting and to draw up the rules of procedure.
9. The order regulations referred to in paragraph 8 should include in particular: a schedule and a venue of the KS and OKS meetings, the method of notification in the case of off-schedule meetings, the method of mutual transfer of documentation between a Dean's Office and the KS and OKS.
10. Decisions issued by the KS and OKS shall be signed by the Chair of the Committee or a Vice-Chairman authorised by him/her. A student has the right to appeal against a decision made by the KS to OKS within 14 days from the date of receiving a decision, through the KS. A student submits a reasoned appeal to a Faculty Dean's Office.
11. The supervision over the activities of the KS and the OKS is exercised by the Rector, who may overrule, by way of an administrative decision, decisions of the KS and the OKS that are not in compliance with the law. In justified cases, the Rector, after consultation with the URSS, may revoke the KS, the OKS or their member.

§ 3

1. The Rector, in consultation with the URSS Board or a body appointed by him/her in each semester, shall determine:
 - 1) the amount of income entitling to a social allowance;
 - 2) the amount of the social allowance;
 - 3) the amount of the social allowance increase;
 - 4) the amount of the scholarship for the disabled;
 - 5) the amount of the financial aid;
 - 6) distribution of funds from the scholarship fund for individual benefits, however, the funds allocated for the Rector's scholarships may not exceed 60% of the total funds allocated for the Rector's scholarships, social allowances and financial aids.
2. The proportion referred to in section 1, subsection 6 shall be supervised by the Student Social Affairs Office through an analysis of the benefits paid, at least twice a year after the end of each semester.
3. In the event of an irregularity in the proportion referred to in section 1, subsection 6, the head of the Student Social Affairs Office shall inform the Rector in order to decide on

corrective measures.

4. The Rector shall inform the public about the arrangements referred to in section 1.
5. If the financial resources at the disposal of the URSS are not sufficient to cover all the benefits granted, the Rector, after consulting the URSS Board, may decide to reduce or abandon their payment.

§ 4

1. Scholarships: social allowances, scholarships for the disabled and the Rector's scholarships, may be received by a student for up to 10 months in an academic year, and when the last year of studies lasts one semester such a scholarship may be received for up to 5 months.
2. The Rector decides about the payment of a scholarship for the tenth month, its amount and date of payment based on the financial possibilities of the scholarship fund.
3. Grants shall be paid monthly except that the grants referred to in paragraph 1 for October shall be paid in November together with the grant for November and for March in April together with the grant for April.
4. Payment of scholarships shall be made on dates consistent with the schedule set by the Head of the Student Social Affairs Office, in consultation with the Head of the Finance Department, to the students' personal accounts. A student shall be required to submit a document at a Dean's Office confirming his/her bank account and its number.
5. The scholarships referred to in paragraph 1 shall be awarded per semester. The amount of all scholarships in each semester may be changed in accordance with § 3 section 1 point and § 14 section 5.
6. The total monthly amount of social allowances and Rector's scholarships may not be higher than 38% of a Professor's remuneration.
7. If the amount of the scholarships referred to in section 6 is exceeded, the Rector's scholarship shall be reduced first by the amount of the excess.

§ 5

1. A student carrying out his/her studies simultaneously in several degree programmes can receive a social allowance, a scholarship for the disabled, the Rector's scholarship and a financial aid only in connection with pursuing one degree programme indicated by him/her.
2. A student shall be required to submit a declaration of non-delivery of benefits in connection with pursuing more than one degree programme.
3. Benefits:
 - 1) are available for students of first cycle studies, second cycle studies and long-cycle studies, but for no longer than 6 years. The total period in which a student may apply for benefits as part of his/her studies, regardless of their type and duration, as well as the universities where they are provided, may not exceed 6 years. This period shall run from the beginning of studies for the first time, and in the case of interruption of studies and

re-entry, the counting of the indicated period shall continue. The indicated 6-year period during which benefits may be claimed shall also include periods of study prior to 1 October 2019;

- 2) are not available to a student with the following professional titles:
 - a) Master of Arts; Master of Science or equivalent,
 - b) Bachelor of Arts; Bachelor of Engineering or equivalent if/she resumes first cycle studies.
4. The provisions of paragraph 3 shall apply to persons holding professional titles obtained abroad.
5. A student claiming benefits or receiving such benefits shall immediately notify UŚ [*the University of Silesia*] of the occurrence of a circumstance resulting in the loss of the right to the benefits referred to in section 3.
6. If a disability has arisen during the course of studies or after obtaining a professional title, a student may receive a grant for disabled persons only in one subsequent degree programme he/ she follows, but for no longer than 6 years according to the rules described above.

§ 6

1. A student who has been awarded a social benefit shall be obliged to notify the granting authority of any change in his or her family and material situation which may affect the benefits granting as well as the benefit amount.
2. A student may resign from all or part of the benefits granted to him/her upon written request. He or she may also return to UŚ the benefits already received, especially if it enables him or her to obtain benefits from other sources.
3. The right to receive benefit shall be suspended in the case of a decision to suspend student rights pursuant to Article 312, section 5 of the Act of 20 July 2018. - The Law on Higher Education and Science, starting from the month following the month in which such a decision has become final. In the event of the final discontinuation of an explanatory or disciplinary proceedings, or a final decision of the disciplinary committee to acquit a student or to impose a penalty other than that provided for in Article 308, subsection 4 or subsection 5 of the Act, the suspended benefits shall be paid.
4. A student shall lose his/her right to receive benefits in the event of a final decision of the disciplinary committee imposing a penalty as provided for in Article 308, subsection 4 of the Act of 20 July 2018. - The Law on Higher Education and Science, to the extent and for the period specified in the ruling, shall start from the month following that in which the ruling becomes final.
5. A student who has received a benefit on the basis of false data shall be deprived of the undue benefit and the undue amounts collected shall be refunded in full.

CHAPTER II SOCIAL ALLOWANCES**§ 7**

1. A social allowance may be awarded to a student in a difficult financial situation whose income per capita in the family is not higher than the amount set by the Rector pursuant to § 3 section 1 item 1.
2. In particularly justified cases, a student may receive an increased social allowance. This allowance shall be awarded in particular to a student who is a full-time orphan or has reached the age of majority in foster custody.
3. The amount of income per capita in a student's family giving entitlement to a social allowance may not be lower than 1.30 of the amount referred to in Article 8, section 1, subsection 2 of the Act of 12 March 2004 on Social Welfare, and higher than 1.30 of the sum of the amounts referred to in Article 5, section 1 and Article 6, section 2, subsection 3 of the Act of 28 November 2003 on Family Benefits.
4. The amount of monthly per capita income in a family of a student applying for a social allowance shall be determined pursuant to the rules laid down in the Act of 28 November 2003 on Family Benefits, except that when determining it:
 - 1) revenue generated by:
 - a) a student,
 - b) a student's spouse,
 - c) student's parents, legal or factual guardians,
 - d) dependent persons referred to in points a-c, underage children, children in education up to the age of 26 or, if the age of 26 falls in the final year of studies, up to their completion, and children with disabilities, regardless of age, shall be taken into account
 - 2) the following are not included:
 - a) benefits referred to in Article 86(1), Article 359(1) and Article 420(1) of the Act of 20 July 2018. Law on higher education and science,
 - b) scholarships received by pupils, students and doctoral students as part of:
 - the European Union Structural Funds,
 - non-recoverable aid granted by Member States of the European Free Trade Agreement (EFTA),
 - international agreements or implementation programmes drawn up pursuant to those agreements or international scholarship programmes,
 - c) financial aid benefits received by students on the basis of regulations on the educational system,
 - d) scholarships of a social character awarded by entities referred to in Article 21, section 1, subsection 40b of the Act of 26 July 1991 on Personal Income Tax,
 - e) social welfare benefits under the Act of 12 March 2004 on social welfare,
 - f) not received maintenance payments to which a family member is entitled on the basis of a court judgment, court settlement or settlement before a mediator, documented by:
 - a certificate of the authority conducting the enforcement proceedings of total or

- partial ineffectiveness of the enforcement of maintenance payments, as well as the amount of maintenance recovered during the settlement period, or
- information of the competent court or competent institution that a person entitled has taken steps to enforce the enforcement order abroad or has not taken such steps, in particular due to the absence of a legal basis for doing so or the impossibility for a person entitled to indicate the place of residence of the maintenance debtor abroad if such a debtor resides abroad,
 - g) family benefits with supplements under the Family Benefits Act of 28 November 2003,
 - h) direct payments to farmers under the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union.
5. A student who does not run a joint household with any parent, legal or factual guardian may apply for a social allowance without showing the income earned by those persons and their dependent minors, children under 26 years of age, or, if the 26th year is in the final year of studies, until their completion, and disabled children regardless of age, if they meet one of the following conditions:
 - 1) a student was 26 years old;
 - 2) a student is married;
 - 3) a student has dependent children referred to in paragraph 3 point. 1(d);
 - 4) a student has reached adulthood, being in foster care;
 - 5) a student has a fixed source of income and its average monthly income in the previous tax year and in the current year in the months preceding the month of submission of the declaration referred to in section 6 is higher than or equal to 1.15 times the sum of the amounts specified in Article 5 section 1 and Article 6 section 2 point 3 of the Act of 28 November 2003 on Family Benefits.
 6. A student referred to in section 5 shall make a declaration that he/she does not run a joint household with any parent, legal or factual guardian.
 7. A Dean/Deputy-Dean **shall refuse to award** a social allowance to a student whose monthly per capita family income does not exceed the amount laid down in Article 8, section 1, subsection 2 of the Act of 12 March 2004 on Social Welfare if he or she does not attach to the application for a social allowance a current certificate from a social welfare centre about his or her income and financial situation and that of his or her family.
 8. A Dean/Deputy dean **may refuse to** grant a social allowance to a student if it is evident from a certificate submitted by a social welfare centre that the income and financial situation of such a student and his/her family does not meet the criteria referred to in section 1.
 9. A Dean/Deputy dean **may grant** a social allowance to a student in the case referred to in section 7 if the reasons for not attaching to the application for a social allowance a certificate from a social welfare centre about the income and financial situation of a student and a student's family were justified and a student has documented the sources of support for his/her family.
 10. A student applying for a social allowance in a given academic year shall specify the income for the settlement period.

§ 8

1. A detailed list of documents necessary to determine a student's income is set out in Annex 1 to these Rules and Regulations. Detailed rules for calculating the student's family income are laid down in Annex No. 2 to these Rules and Regulations.
2. Where the circumstances of the case affecting the establishment of the right to social benefits require confirmation by a document other than those listed in the annex referred to in the first sentence of paragraph 1, the entity establishing student's family income may request such a document.

§ 9

1. An application for a social allowance in a paper form together with the required documentation should be submitted to a Dean's Office by the 10th day of a given month, after the application has been completed in electronic form in the USOSweb service.
2. If an application is submitted by the 10th day of a given month, a social allowance is also paid for the month in which the application was submitted, and if an application is submitted after that date from the following month without any compensation for the previous month. These deadlines refer to the submission of an application in paper form.
3. A student applying for a social allowance in a summer semester, who received such a social allowance in a winter semester and whose income and financial situation has not changed, shall submit to a Dean's Office by 10 March an application generated in the USOSweb service together with a declaration without the need to submit documents. A declaration form is available on the USOSweb website.
4. A change in a student's financial situation caused by gaining or losing income, or by a reduction or increase in the number of family members during a semester in which a student receives a social allowance shall be taken into account only when granting a social allowance for the following semester.

CHAPTER III SCHOLARSHIP FOR DISABLED STUDENTS**§ 10**

1. A scholarship for disabled students may be awarded to a student who has a disability certificate, a disability degree certificate or a certificate referred to in Article 5 and Article 62 of the Act of 27 August 1997 on Vocational and Social Rehabilitation and Employment of Disabled Persons.
2. The certificates referred to in paragraph 1 are
 - 1) a certificate on the degree of disability, according to which a student was classified as having a significant, moderate or mild degree of disability, issued by a District Disability Evaluation Board, or
 - 2) a certificate from a ZUS [*Social Insurance Institution*] certifying physician, in which a student was recognised as a person with total inability to work and independent existence, total inability to work or partial inability to work, or
 - 3) a Social Insurance Institution [*ZUS*] certificate on the inclusion in the disability group.

3. The amount of a scholarship for disabled persons shall be determined in accordance with the procedure referred to in § 3 section 1 item 4 and shall depend on the type of disability certificate referred to in section 1.
4. The highest amount of a scholarship may be granted to persons with a significant degree of disability, 1st disability group or total inability to work and live independently.
5. A correspondingly lower amount of a scholarship may be granted to persons with a moderate degree of disability, group II disability or total inability to work.
6. The lowest amount of a scholarship may be granted to persons who have been declared to have a mild degree of disability, group III disability or partial inability to work.
7. A certificate of permanent or long-term inability to work on an agricultural holding (if it was issued before 1 January 1998 and has not ceased to have effect after that date), if it entitles to a nursing allowance, is treated in the same way as a certificate of substantial disability. Other certificates of incapacity for work on an agricultural holding are treated equally to a certificate of mild disability.
8. A scholarship for the disabled is granted at the request of a student submitted to a Faculty Dean's Office together with relevant documentation referred to in section 1 by the 10th day of the month following the prior completion of an electronic application form on the USOSweb website.
9. If an application is submitted by the 10th day of a given month, a scholarship for disabled students is also paid for the month in which the application was submitted, and if an application is submitted after that date, from the following month without any compensation for the previous month. The deadlines in question refer to the submission of an application in a paper form.
10. If a student has a disability certificate or a permanent equivalent which has been attached to the first application for a scholarship for disabled persons, it shall not be required to be attached when applying for that scholarship in subsequent years.
11. A scholarship for the disabled is granted for a semester, not longer than the period of validity of a disability certificate. If a certificate confirming a disability expires during a semester, a student shall be entitled to compensation for the period that has elapsed since the date of expiry of the previous certificate, provided that the new certificate shows an uninterrupted disability.

CHAPTER IV FINANCIAL AID

§ 11

1. A student who is temporarily in a difficult life situation can be provided with a financial aid.
2. A difficult life situation justifying the granting of a financial aid should be understood as a whole range of conditions (e.g. material, family, social, health) in which a student's family

found itself, causing temporary problems in meeting family's material needs. The causes of the student's difficult life situation may be in particular illness, accident or death of a member of the closest family, damage caused by another random event (e.g. theft, fire, natural disaster, catastrophe).

3. Financial aid may be granted no more than twice a year.
4. The body granting the financial aid shall assess individually, on the basis of documents attached to an application, whether student's life situation justifies granting a financial aid. The same circumstances cannot be the basis for granting another financial aid.
5. An application for a financial aid shall be submitted to a Dean's Office together with appropriate documentation, which may include in particular: death certificate, hospital discharge, appropriate medical certificate of a past illness or accident, named invoices confirming expenses related to a random event, certificates issued by authorized institutions confirming the fact of a random event.
6. A application for a financial aid shall be submitted no later than 6 months after the events referred to in paragraph 2 have occurred.
7. The amount of a financial aid depends on the situation in which a student finds himself/herself. At the request of a Dean/Deputy Dean, the Rector may increase the amount of a financial aid in justified cases. The amount of such a financial aid is determined by the Rector in accordance with §3 section 1 point. 5.

CHAPTER V RECTOR'S SCHOLARSHIP

§ 12

A. GENERAL RULES

1. The Rector's Scholarship **may be granted to** a student who:
 - 1) has achieved outstanding scientific, academic or artistic or competitive sporting achievement at least at a national level, and
 - 2) has completed the year of studies by 25 September or 15 March in the case of studies ending in a winter semester, in accordance with § 24, section 5 of the Rules and Regulations of Studies at the University of Silesia - applies to students of a second cycle studies and a long-cycle studies.
2. The Rector's Scholarship **is granted to** a student admitted to the first year of studies **in the year of taking secondary school exam** [*high school – A-level exam*], who is:
 - a) a winner of an International Contest or a winner or finalist of a contest at a National Level referred to in the legislation on the education system,
 - b) a medalist at least of a sports competition for the title of the Polish Champion in a given sports discipline referred to in the sports regulations.
3. Students who have been admitted to the first year of the first cycle studies and long- cycle

studies after graduation from a secondary school present their learning, sporting and artistic achievements during their education in a high school in order to apply for the Rector's scholarship. Other students shall present their achievements of the last year of their studies or of the last semester if the last year of studies lasted one semester.

4. A student may apply for a scholarship only in connection with one degree programme indicated by him/her pursued at one university on the basis of an application submitted.
5. The achievements shown in an application shall be examined on their merits by the following persons:
 - 1) a Dean of a Faculty - in the category of scientific/academic and artistic achievements;
 - 2) a director of the CWFIS [*Physical Education and Sports Centre*] or his/her deputy - in the category of sporting achievements.
6. When applying for the Rector's scholarship, each of the achievements referred to in section 1 shall be examined separately according to the following range of points:

| category | Type of achievement | Number of points |
|-----------------|--|-------------------------|
| A. | Distinctive academic performance - average of grades | 0-10 |
| B. | Scientific achievements | 0-10 |
| C. | Sporting achievements | 0-10 |
| D. | Artistic achievements | 0-10 |

7. The Rector's scholarship is awarded to students depending on their place on the ranking list.
8. The number of points which determines a student's place on the ranking list is the sum of points from all the achievement categories obtained, in accordance with the scoring method specified in section 6.
9. Detailed rules, criteria for substantive assessment and the method of documenting achievements in the application for the Rector's scholarship are included in Annex 3 to the these Rules and Regulations.
10. The confirmation of all types of achievements should be supported by originals or certified copies of relevant documents.

§ 13

1. An application for the Rector's scholarship shall be submitted to a Dean's Office of a given Faculty together with relevant documentation by 15 October or 30 March if second-cycle studies begin in a summer semester. Applications for the Rector's scholarship shall constitute the Annexes 5 and 6 to these Rules and Regulations .
2. In particularly justified cases, a Dean may decide to restore the deadlines referred to in paragraph 1.
3. The scholarship application form consists of four parts:
 - 1) Part A - contains personal data, data on the status of a student, a grade average and dean's notes;
 - 2) Part B - contains a description, list and assessment of student's scientific/academic achievements, as defined in detail in § 16;
 - 3) Part C - contains a description, list and assessment of student's sporting achievements, as defined in detail in § 17;
 - 4) Part D - contains a description, list and assessment of student's artistic achievements, as defined in detail in § 18.
4. Each student applying for the Rector's scholarship shall obligatorily submit an application in Part A and the remaining parts of application B, C or D, respectively.
5. A student who has completed a first-cycle studies outside the US [the *University of Silesia in Katowice*] is obliged to submit, together with an application for the Rector's scholarship, a certificate of average grades from all grades obtained in the last year of studies, calculated to two decimal places, without counting a grade for a diploma examination and a grade for physical education as part of the average grades.
6. A student with sporting achievements, with the exception of the student referred to in §12 section 2 letter b), shall submit a scholarship application to the director of the CWFis for substantive examination of such achievements before his/her application is submitted to a Dean's Office.
7. Applications for the Rector's scholarship submitted after the time limit specified in section 1 shall be left without consideration.

§ 14

1. On the basis of all submitted scholarship applications, examined in accordance with § 12 section 5, a Dean's Office creates ranking lists.
2. Ranking lists shall be created separately for each degree programme, jointly for all years, forms of studies and levels of education except for students referred to in § 12, section 2, for whom a separate list shall be created.
3. Ranking lists concerning individual degree programmes of a Faculty created in a paper form, after prior preparation in the USOS system, should be submitted to the Rector via the Student Social Affairs Office by 25 October or 5 April in the case of second-cycle studies starting from a summer semester.

4. Together with a ranking lists submitted by 5 April, a Dean's Office also provides the number of students starting and continuing second-cycle studies in a given degree programme in a given academic year.
5. Every year, the Rector, based on financial capacity of the University, shall determine the percentage of students eligible for a scholarship (no more than 10% of a given degree programme) and monthly amount of a scholarship, which may be changed in a summer semester. If the number of students in a given degree programme is less than 10, the Rector's scholarship may be awarded to one student. Students referred to in § 12, section 2 shall not be taken into account when determining the number of students referred to in the first sentence.
6. In calculating the percentage of those students entitled to the Rector's scholarship in a given academic year, the number of students in a given degree programme disclosed in the report to the Central Statistical Office from the previous year shall be taken into account, except for the cases referred to in section 7.
7. For studies beginning in a summer semester, the basis for calculating the percentage of students entitled to the Rector's scholarship in a given degree programme shall be the actual number of students who start and/or continue their studies from a summer semester.
8. The number of students eligible for the Rector's scholarship in a given degree programme calculated according to an established percentage shall be rounded off to the nearest unit according to the mathematical rounding off rule.
9. In the case of students who have obtained 20 or more points as a result of the examination of their achievements referred to in § 12, section 1, subsection 1, the Rector may increase the amount of the scholarship.

§ 15

1. A grade average for the Rector's scholarship for students from the second year of first-cycle studies and long-cycle studies shall be the arithmetic mean of all final grades of the modules obtained in the previous year of studies. A grade average does not include the grade for physical education as part of the grade average.
2. A grade average for the Rector's scholarship for students who, upon completion of first-cycle studies in UŠ, have been enrolled on the first year of second-cycle studies or long-cycle studies shall be calculated in accordance with the rules laid down in section 1 without counting the grade for the diploma examination as part of the average grade.
3. An grade average for the Rector's scholarship for students enrolled in the first year of first cycle or long-cycle studies after graduation of a secondary school [*A-level*] is the arithmetic mean calculated on the basis of all grades obtained on the high school-leaving certificate. A grade average does not include the grade from physical education as part of the grade average.
4. A high grade average on a grading scale of 2.00 to 5.00 as referred to in §26 section 1 of the Rules and Regulations of Studies shall be understood as a grade average of not less than

4.10 calculated to two decimal places in accordance with the mathematical rounding off rule. A grade average of less than 4.10 shall not be subject to scoring method.

5. A point value for grade average obtained is calculated according to the following formula: number of points for grade average = (grade average minus 4) x 10, e.g. (4.58 minus 4) x 10 = 5.8 points. Accordingly, the highest number of points for grade average of 5.00 is 10, and the lowest number of points for the lowest acceptable grade average of 4.10 is 1 point. Before awarding points for grade average obtained on a different grading scale than that specified in paragraph 4, it should be first reduced to a grading scale of 2.00 to 5.00 using appropriate coefficients.
6. The first-year student's grade average obtained on the grading scale, where the highest grade is e.g. 6.00 or 5.50, is calculated as follows:
 - 1) in the case of the grading scale of 6.00 - the grade average obtained by a student is divided by a coefficient of 1.2;
 - 2) in the case of the 5.50 grade scale, the grade average obtained by the student is divided by a coefficient of 1.1.

§ 16

B. SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

1. The catalogue of scientific achievements, developed in agreement with the URSS [*University Student Government Council*], which qualify a student to apply for the Rector's scholarship, includes the following scientific achievements:
 - 1) Scientific publications **issued**, which include:
 - a) reviewed scientific monographs and chapters in scientific monographs (in particular those published by scientific publishers included in the ministerial list of scientific publications),
 - b) articles in scientific journals and reviewed materials from international conferences (included in relevant ministerial lists;
 - 2) **active participation** in scientific events (e.g. conferences, debates, festivals, open scientific meetings, symposia, sessions) in the form of e.g. a paper, lecture, scientific workshops, experimental presentation, multimedia presentation, poster, participation in a moderated scientific discussion at university, national or international level;
 - 3) participation in scientific and research work;
 - 4) participation in contests, scientific competitions;
 - 5) other achievements of a scientific nature gained as part of a student research group, student organization, academic media, Student Legal Clinic or as part of a summer school and cooperation with other organizations in the form of results of scientific work, e.g. conducting research, publishing an article, an essay or a multimedia form with a scientific content, various forms of scientific presentation (including papers, scientific shows, lectures, posters) of a report or opinion.
2. Each of the scientific achievements referred to in paragraph 1 shall be evaluated separately and may be scored according to the point range referred to in Annex 3 to the Rules and Regulation. The total number of points for scientific achievements in each category shall not exceed 10 points.
3. The following do not constitute scientific achievements: membership and holding

managerial positions in student research groups or other student organisations, non-scientific publications, scientific articles or publications that have not been published and are in the process of being reviewed or printed, individual organisation of studies (IOS), individual course of studies (ICT), studies pursued at the KISM – [*College of Interdisciplinary Individual Studies at the University of Silesia in Katowice*], internships, courses, voluntary work, professional practices, non-scientific practices (in legal information clinics, educational counselling centres, career counselling and other centres), passive participation in conferences, symposia, scientific sessions, participation in open lectures, workshops, summer schools, panel and popularization meetings and meetings with representatives of companies and institutions, participation in non-scientific competitions, organization of conferences, competitions, running classes and workshops for students, open days workshops, organization and conduct of cultural and media activities, etc.

§ 17

C. SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

1. The Rector's scholarship may be applied for by a student who has gained competitive sports achievements at least at a national level.
2. High sports achievements in competition at least at a national level shall be understood to mean achievements gained in the following categories:
 - 1) participation in the Olympics, World Championships, European Championships, Academic World Championships, European Academic Championships, Universiades, European Student Games;
 - 2) obtaining a medal place and participation in the Polish Championships and Academic Polish Championships;
 - 3) participation in national leagues at national level I, II and III;
 - 4) obtaining a medal place, participating in international competitions organized by AZS [*University Sports Association*];
 - 5) obtaining a medal place I-III at international or national mass events (running, downhill, etc.).
3. When assessing a student's sporting achievements, the highest sporting achievement gained by a student is taken into account. The maximum number of points that can be obtained for sports results is 10.
4. Students who participated in the I, II and III national league competitions and at the same time represented the University in the Polish Academic Championships can receive 2 additional points.
5. The following are not included in the sporting achievements that entitle a student to apply for the Rector's scholarship: membership in a sports section of the US, participation in the organization of sports events and participation in mass sports events.

§ 18**D. ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENTS**

1. The Rector's scholarship can be applied for by a student with artistic achievements in the following fields/areas: fine arts, music, audiovisual, literature, film, theatre, photography and dance.
2. Artistic achievements in the areas listed in paragraph 1 shall relate to winners of leading places and awards, winners of competitions, festivals, art shows, artistic exhibitions of international or national concern.
3. The maximum number of points that can be obtained for artistic achievements is 10. In the case of multiple artistic achievements based on the same work, the highest achievement that shall be subject to points awarding must be shown.
4. The following shall not be regarded as artistic achievements eligible for the Rector's scholarship: the realisation, co-realisation, production, co-production of artistic works completed within the degree programme which have not won the awards referred to in section 2.

CHAPTER VI BENEFITS FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS WHO STARTED THEIR DOCTORAL STUDIES BEFORE THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020**§ 19**

1. In the period from 1 October 2019 to 31 December 2023, the provisions of these Rules and Regulations concerning the granting of benefits shall apply accordingly to doctoral students who started their doctoral studies before the academic year 2019/2020.
2. The Rector's scholarship for the second and subsequent years of doctoral studies may be awarded to a doctoral student who in the previous year of studies has achieved outstanding scientific, academic or artistic achievements, or competitive sporting achievements, at least at a national level.
3. The Rector's scholarship shall be awarded at the request of a doctoral student submitted together with relevant documentation confirming his/her fulfilment of the required criteria by 10 October of a given academic year. An application for the Rector's scholarship for a doctoral student shall be attached as Annex 7 to these Rules and Regulations.
4. An application for the Rector's scholarship, which shall be received after 10 October, is left without consideration. In particularly justified cases, it may be decided to restore the deadline.
5. When applying for the Rector's scholarship, each of the achievements referred to in section 2 shall be examined separately in accordance with the rules laid down in Annexes 3, parts C and D and 4 to these Rules and Regulations.
6. A substantive examination of the achievements on the basis of the submitted documents shall be made by advisors/ supervisors. In the category of sporting achievements the

examination is made by the director of the CWFIS [*Physical Education and Sports Centre*] or his/her deputy.

§ 20

1. Based on the financial capacity of the University, the Rector shall determine annually the percentage of doctoral students eligible for a scholarship and its monthly amount. The amount of the scholarship may be changed in a summer semester.
2. The number of doctoral students eligible for the scholarship shall be rounded up to a natural number. The percentage of doctoral students entitled to a scholarship shall be calculated taking into account the number of doctoral students starting a given academic year.
3. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of a doctoral student's place on a ranking list. The number of points which determines a doctoral student's place on a ranking list is the sum of points obtained in each achievement category. The total number of points must be higher or equal to the limit score. The limit score is the lowest number of points obtained by doctoral students in the eligible percentage.
4. If the sum of the number of doctoral students who received higher than the limit score and half of the number of doctoral students who received limit scores does not exceed the percentage of those eligible, then the scholarship shall also be available for doctoral students who received limit scores.
5. If the sum of the number of doctoral students who received a higher than the limit score and half of the number of doctoral students who received a limit score exceeds the percentage of those eligible, doctoral students who received a limit score shall not receive a scholarship.
6. If the highest number of points is obtained by a greater number of doctoral students than the percentage of eligible persons, the scholarship shall be awarded to each of the doctoral students, provided that the amount of a scholarship shall be calculated in accordance with the following principle: a monthly scholarship established for a given semester multiplied by the number of doctoral students resulting from the applicable percentage of eligible persons divided by the number of doctoral students with the highest number of points. The amount calculated in this way shall be rounded off to the nearest whole 10 zlotys in accordance with the mathematical rounding off rule.
7. Ranking lists are prepared by the persons referred to in § 228 of the Statutes of the University of Silesia in Katowice (annex to the Resolution No. 374 of the Senate of the University of Silesia in Katowice of 28 May 2019).
8. Ranking lists in paper form, after prior preparation in the USOS system, are presented to the Rector by 15 October via the Student Social Affairs Office.
9. Decisions concerning the granting of the Rector's scholarship are taken by the person under the authority of and indicated by the Rector. The provisions of § 2(2) to (5) of the Rules and Regulations shall apply accordingly.

CHAPTER VII EPISODIC, TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

§ 21

1. Deans/Deputy Deans and a Vice-Rector whose responsibilities include student affairs or doctoral student affairs shall exercise all powers under these Rules and Regulations on behalf of the Rector on the basis of an authorisation granted.
2. The Rector shall supervise compliance with the provisions of these Rules and Regulations.
3. In matters not regulated by these Rules and Regulations, the provisions of the Act of 20 July 2018 *The Law on Higher Education and Science*, the provisions of the Act of 14 June 1960 *Code of Administrative Procedure* and other legal acts in force in UŚ shall apply.
4. These Rules and Regulations shall enter into force on 1 October 2019.
5. As of 1 October 2010, the Rules and Regulations for determining the amount of granting and payment of financial aid benefits for students of the University of Silesia shall expire (annex No. 10 to Ordinance No. 138 of the Rector of the University of Silesia of 21 September 2018 amending the Ordinance on determining the amount, granting and paying financial aid benefits for students of the University of Silesia) and the Rules and Regulations on determining the amount, granting and payment of financial aid benefits for doctoral students of the University of Silesia (Annex 10 to Ordinance No. 139 of the Rector of the University of Silesia of 21 September 2018 amending the Ordinance on determining the amount, granting and payment of financial aid benefits for doctoral students University of Silesia).

§ 22

1. International students who have started education under the provisions of the Act of 27 July 2005. - The Law on Higher Education (Journal of Laws of 2017, item 2183, as amended) may receive benefits on the terms and conditions previously set out in that Law until the completion of a given level of studies, pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph.
2. International students beginning their studies and pursuing their studies under the rules applicable to Polish citizens may apply for benefits if they meet at least one of the conditions:
 - 1) they have been granted a permanent residence permit;
 - 2) they have a refugee status granted in the Republic of Poland;
 - 3) they benefit from temporary protection on the territory of the Republic of Poland;
 - 4) they are migrant workers who are nationals of a Member State of the European Union, the Swiss Confederation or a Member State of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) - parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, as well as members of their families if they live in the territory of the Republic of Poland;

- 5) they have been granted a residence permit for a long-term resident of the European Union on the territory of the Republic of Poland;
 - 6) they have been granted a temporary residence permit on the territory of the Republic of Poland in connection with a circumstance referred to in Article 127, Article 159, paragraph 1 or Article 186, paragraph 1, point 3 or 4 of the Act of 12 December 2013 on foreigners;
 - 7) they have been granted subsidiary protection on the territory of the Republic of Poland;
 - 8) they are nationals of the Member States of the European Union, the Member States of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) - parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area or the Swiss Confederation and members of their families with permanent residence.
3. International students holding the Polish Card may receive benefits if they have taken up studies under the rules applicable to Polish citizens.
 4. International students who are citizens of the Member States of the European Union, the Swiss Confederation or the Member States of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) - parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area and members of their families who have the funds necessary to cover their maintenance costs during their studies may receive a scholarship from the Rector, provided that they have taken up and pursue studies under the rules applicable to Polish citizens.
 5. Foreign nationals who hold a residence card with the endorsement "access to the labour market" or a Schengen visa, or a national visa issued with a view to work in the territory of the Republic of Poland, who enrol on degree programmes on the basis of a tuition fee or on the basis of international agreements on terms and conditions laid down in such agreements, or a decision of the minister responsible for higher education, may receive a scholarship from the Rector.

§ 23

1. During the period of limitation or suspension of the operation of a higher education institution, the provisions of the Act of 14 June 1960, The Code of Administrative Proceedings shall not apply to the granting of financial aids. A financial aid may be granted more than twice per academic year.
2. Until 30 September 2020, applications for social allowance, a scholarship for the disabled and financial aid may be submitted in electronic form. Applications must be completed in the USOSweb service, registered, printed, signed and then scanned together with attachments and sent electronically to the employees of Dean's Offices handling benefits. Alternatively, legible pictures of applications and attachments can be sent. Only the submission of applications and attachments is decisive for their submission.
3. Until 30 September 2020, students whose income does not exceed the amount laid down in Article 8, section 1, subsection 2 of the Act of 12 March 2004 on Social Welfare shall not be required to attach a certificate from a social welfare centre, or, in the case of a transformation of a social welfare centre into a social services centre, a certificate from such a social services centre, concerning their income and financial situation and that of their family, to applications for a social allowance.

4. In a summer semester of the academic year 2019/2020, the restriction referred to in § 5, section 3, subsection 1 shall not apply to awarding a social allowance, scholarship for the disabled and financial aid.
5. Until September 30, 2021, a reduction in salary for employment or other paid work or a reduction in income from non-agricultural business activities due to counteracting COVID-19 constitutes a loss of income.

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I, Jaroslaw Kusior, sworn translator of English

hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document submitted in **POLISH**

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