



UNIVERSITY OF PIRAEUS

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

MSc PROGRAM

**«ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION AND MANAGEMENT OF
EDUCATIONAL UNITS»**

M5.4 Policy for Support and Development of the MSc Program

As part of the Strategic Development Plan, the Policy, and the Quality Objectives of the University of Piraeus, as well as the Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) of the Institution, it is recognized that the academic, administrative, and other staff constitute the cornerstone of its pursuit of continuous improvement in the educational and research services it provides and its further development.

Consequently, supporting the advancement and continuous development of staff across all levels of study and all academic and administrative services offered is a standing commitment at the institutional level.

Given this commitment, each Academic Unit and each MSc Program, by implementing the prescribed processes and specific procedures of the IQAS, sets specific objectives, the achievement of which leads to the acknowledgment that it bears the responsibility of encouraging and supporting the development of its academic personnel.

More specifically, the Department of Economics, recognizing the undeniable contribution of its staff to its broader advancement, states that the MSc Program "*Economics of Education and Educational Unit Management*" is committed to:

- Establishing appropriate quality conditions concerning the tripartite teaching-research-learning.
- Providing opportunities through the design and implementation of initiatives aimed at the academic/professional advancement of its teaching staff.
- Focusing, within the learning process, on the dual aspects of teaching and research, ensuring appropriate preparation to strengthen academic activity.
- Encouraging and enhancing, both quantitatively and qualitatively, research output by offering substantial incentives.
- Monitoring compliance with the prescribed procedures related to the framework of responsibilities, obligations, and rights, as well as evaluating the effectiveness and efficiency of the academic staff through various methods (e.g., self-assessment, targeted training activities, etc.).

To fulfill these commitments, the MSc Program "*Economics of Education and Educational Unit Management*" has adopted a series of objectives. Indicatively:

1. The integration of research methodology into the Program's curriculum.
2. The promotion and connection of academic research with the teaching material of all Program courses.
3. The attraction and inclusion of faculty members with a rich and recognized research background in the Program's academic staff.
4. The strengthening of collaborations with lecturers/researchers from domestic and international institutions engaged in educational or research establishments of acknowledged prestige.

At this point, it should also be emphasized the commitment to:

- Focusing on staffing with Specialized Technical Personnel who possess the necessary skills to support the research work of faculty members.
- Adopting practices oriented toward group-based research activities within the framework of collaboration between instructors and students.
- Funding the research of the Program's academic staff through participation in conferences and the submission of articles to scientific journals relevant to the MSc Program's field.
- Adopting collaborative teaching practices between the academic staff of the Program and faculty from institutions abroad, both in Europe and the United States.
- Encouraging collaboration between instructors and students in research production and its publication in relevant academic journals.

Support and Development of Teaching Staff

For the support and development of its teaching staff, the MSc Program "*Economics of Education and Educational Unit Management*" recognizes the importance of setting objectives framed by corresponding actions, such as:

- Training in innovative teaching techniques and pedagogical methods.
- Training in the effective use of ICT in teaching and learning.
- Skill development through targeted seminars to ensure meaningful communication between instructors and students and to provide effective support for the latter.
- Dissemination of innovative research practices and encouragement to leverage opportunities for high-quality research and academic activities that promote the distinction of faculty at both national and international levels.

The success of these actions necessitates seamless collaboration between the Department of Economics, the MSc Program "*Economics of Education and Educational Unit Management*", and the Teaching and Learning Support Center. This center enhances participation in knowledge networks, encourages interdisciplinary collaborations, focuses on and promotes best practices in teaching and learning experiences, continuously monitors developments within the European Higher Education Area, and deepens its engagement with the principles and framework of Lifelong Learning.

Finally, the Department of Economics and the MSc Program "Economics of Education and Educational Unit Management", in collaboration with the Institution, undertake the responsibility of providing the necessary infrastructure and resources, including:

- Essential equipment for the fulfillment of teaching and research activities.
- Financial resources necessary for access to software and databases, which are fundamental to both high-quality learning and academic/research excellence.