



University of Piraeus

Department of Economics

**MSc in “Economics of Education and Management
of Educational Units”**

**M1.1 Quality Policy of the Department of Economics, University of Piraeus,
for the Development and Improvement of the MSc Program "Economics of
Education and Management of Educational Units"**

Introduction

This document briefly describes the quality policy that guides the design and implementation of the MSc program “Economics of Education and Management of Educational Units” at the Department of Economics, University of Piraeus. The quality policy of the Department for the MSc program is always aligned with the legal and regulatory framework of the state. Additionally, as it complements the institutional quality policies adopted and implemented by the University (<https://www.unipi.gr/unipi/el/diasfalish-poiothtas/politikh-poiothtas.html>) and the Department (<https://www.unipi.gr/unipi/el/oik-spoudes/oik-propt-spoudes/politiki-diasfalisis-poiotitas.html>), this policy is continuously adjusted and refined based on the strategic quality goals of the University and the Department.

Quality Commitment of the Department of Economics

The Department of Economics is committed to ensuring quality in all its academic, educational, and research activities by providing modern, reliable, and competitive postgraduate programs. The Department prioritizes: Innovation, Specialization in the academic fields of Economics, Utilization of applied research. The Department recognizes the critical role of quality in ensuring equitable access to knowledge, enhancing international recognition, promoting research excellence, and strengthening collaboration with stakeholders in society.

Quality Principles and Goals

The primary goal of the Department for the MSc program “*Economics of Education and Management of Educational Units*” is to provide students with a high-quality education that prepares them for a successful career in the management and administration of educational institutions, research in education-related fields, and the design, implementation, and evaluation of educational programs and policies. To achieve this, the Department follows the quality policy of the University of Piraeus, committing to implementing the processes, procedures, and work guidelines outlined in the **Internal Quality Assurance System (IQAS) Manual** of the University (<https://www.unipi.gr/unipi/el/diasfalish-poiothtas/eswteriko-susthma-diasfalishs-poiothtas.html>), in collaboration with the Department’s **Internal Evaluation Team (OMEA)** and the University’s **Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP)**. At the same time, the quality policy aligns with the standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the **European Higher Education Area (EHEA)** (European_Standards_and_Guidelines_for_Quality_Assurance_in_the_EHEA_2015_MC_613_727.pdf) and complies with the specific standards of the **Hellenic Authority for Higher Education (HAHE)**, aiming for the continuous improvement of the program.

Guided by the quality objectives of the University of Piraeus and the institution's strategic development plan, the quality policy of the Department of Economics for the development and improvement of the MSc program "Economics of Education and Management of Educational Units" focuses on the following key objectives:

The production, dissemination, and application of cutting-edge knowledge, along with the continuous adaptation of the curriculum to scientific advancements, are central objectives of the MSc program. To achieve this, the Department employs highly specialized teaching staff, including both faculty members and adjunct instructors, who are experts in their respective fields and dedicated to teaching, research, and student support. Additionally, the Department fully utilizes the University's annual internal evaluation processes and maintains direct engagement between the Program's Coordinating Committee and the labor market to ensure the curriculum is continuously upgraded and aligned with societal needs. Within this framework, the MSc program "*Economics of Education and Management of Educational Units*" aims to attract high-caliber, internationally recognized academic staff who combine theoretical knowledge with organizational experience. By recruiting distinguished scholars, the program seeks to cultivate professionals with strong values who can address contemporary research, social, economic, and technological challenges. Through its structured processes, the MSc program ensures the periodic modernization of academic subjects in response to emerging research trends, scientific developments, and the evolving demands of the education labor market. At the same time, the program provides incentives for recognizing and promoting academic excellence.

The provision of high-quality university education and training is guided by the European and National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education. To achieve this, the MSc program continuously promotes students' analytical, synthetic, critical, and creative thinking by utilizing modern methods, techniques, and tools, with a strong emphasis on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). The goal is to continuously enhance the quality and effectiveness of teaching through ongoing interaction with students, setting clear and measurable objectives within a well-structured and organized program designed to provide in-depth understanding of various fields in education economics, including theory, methodology, and practical applications. The MSc program ensures high-level university education and training by extensively utilizing ICT to develop highly qualified educators, even in the most remote areas of Greece. The MSc in "*Economics of Education and Management of Educational Units*" has established and implements a mechanism for updating and upgrading its curriculum in accordance with modern educational approaches and international standards. It aims to create summer schools to provide specialized knowledge in education economics and management to students and trainees. Additionally, it organizes seminars and lectures with international scholars from both Europe and the United States, aiming to provide students with contemporary knowledge in the field. The development of highly skilled educators will result in an overall enhancement of the knowledge and skills they impart to their students, significantly impacting their human capital and yielding long-term benefits in their future lives.

Ενίσχυση του ανθρώπινου δυναμικού και ανάπτυξη ενός περιβάλλοντος ευνοϊκού για την επιτυχία όλων των συμμετεχόντων. Το Τμήμα αξιοποιεί θεσμούς, όπως ο Σύμβουλος Καθηγητής, ο Συνήγορος του Φοιτητή κ.α., προκειμένου να μεριμνά σε διαρκή βάση για την

επαρκή υποστήριξη των σπουδαστών του ΠΜΣ καθ' όλα τα στάδια της φοίτησής τους. Επιπρόσθετα, το διδακτικό προσωπικό του ΠΜΣ ενισχύεται συνεχώς, τόσο μέσω της στελέχωσης του Τμήματος Οικονομικής Επιστήμης με μέλη ΔΕΠ στα αντικείμενα, που θεραπεύει το Τμήμα, όσο και με αξιοποίηση των πόρων του ΠΜΣ για τη σύναψη συνεργασιών με εξωτερικούς διδάσκοντες υψηλής κατάρτισης και δεξιοτήτων. Το ΠΜΣ «Οικονομική της Εκπαίδευσης» και διαχείριση Εκπαιδευτικών Μονάδων» συμβάλλει στην ενίσχυση του ρόλου του Ιδρύματος ως ανοιχτού πόλου για κοινωνικές και πολιτιστικές εκδηλώσεις των φοιτητών του και στην ενίσχυση του ρόλου της εσωτερικής αξιολόγησης, εμπλέκοντας ενεργά όλα τα ενδιαφερόμενα μέρη, αξιοποιώντας τα αποτελέσματα ως μοχλό βελτίωσης της ακαδημαϊκής και διοικητικής λειτουργίας του Ιδρύματος. Τέλος το ΠΜΣ «Οικονομική της Εκπαίδευσης και Διαχείριση Εκπαιδευτικών Μονάδων» συμβάλλει στη διαμόρφωση κουλτούρας διαρκούς βελτίωσης γνώσεων και δεξιοτήτων του ανθρώπινου δυναμικού.

Strengthening human resources and fostering an environment conducive to the success of all participants is a key objective of the MSc program. The Department utilizes institutional mechanisms such as the Academic Advisor and the Student Ombudsman to ensure continuous and adequate support for MSc students at all stages of their studies. Additionally, the teaching staff of the MSc program is continuously enhanced, both through the recruitment of faculty members in the Department of Economics in relevant fields and by utilizing the program's resources to establish collaborations with highly qualified external instructors. The MSc program "*Economics of Education and Management of Educational Units*" contributes to reinforcing the University's role as an open hub for social and cultural events for its students while also enhancing the internal evaluation process, actively involving all stakeholders and using evaluation results as a mechanism for improving the academic and administrative functions of the institution. Finally, the MSc program plays a crucial role in shaping a culture of continuous knowledge and skills development, ensuring the ongoing advancement of human resources.

Extroversion and Internationalization

The MSc program "*Economics of Education and Management of Educational Units*" leverages the existence of a dynamic alumni community, which maintains strong ties with the program, serving both as a feedback mechanism for quality assurance and as a means of developing collaborations with social partners. Student mobility is also encouraged through participation in Erasmus+ initiatives. The MSc program organizes lectures, seminars, and workshops featuring members of the European and U.S. academic communities, fostering international academic exchange. Additionally, the program has established a strong alumni network that remains closely connected with the University and aims to keep graduates informed about events, conferences, and seminars featuring speakers from Greece and abroad. Finally, the MSc program continuously develops strategic collaborations (MoUs) with internationally renowned academic institutions, further strengthening its global engagement and academic outreach.

Infrastructure and Services Upgrade and Expansion

The Department provides modern infrastructure to the students of the MSc program "*Economics of Education and Management of Educational Units*", supporting them with state-

of-the-art or renovated classrooms, computer labs, and research facilities. Additionally, the Department offers access to a wide range of academic resources, including online databases, electronic journals, and books. The MSc program utilizes its available financial resources while also seeking funding from external sources to enhance and expand the infrastructure and services necessary for the program's operation. This ensures that students have access to the resources they need to succeed in their studies.

Strengthening Community Engagement and Enhancing Social Impact

The Department has developed and implemented a comprehensive Communication Strategy for the program, focusing on establishing collaborations with private and public, local and national organizations to facilitate the transfer of knowledge in addressing social, economic, and technological challenges. The MSc program "Economics of Education and Management of Educational Units" has successfully gained recognition from the Economic Chamber of Greece (ECG), allowing its non-economist graduates to register, acknowledging that the program's curriculum is primarily economics-oriented. The MSc program seeks to engage with various local and social organizations through its students and alumni to establish partnerships and offer services that benefit society. Additionally, the MSc program signs Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with social and professional organizations to undertake joint initiatives, ensuring student participation and benefit while strengthening the program's ties with the community.