

Recognition and valorisation of student engagement at EHESP

Appendix 3 to the Academic Regulations





SUMMARY

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Annex: The model application for recognition of student engagement

Law No 2017-86 of 27 January 2017 on equality and citizenship requires higher education institutions to make arrangements for the organisation and conduct of studies of students who have responsibilities in associations, trade unions, or who are in civic service or military volunteering.

At the same time, the aim is to be able to recognise the skills acquired in these extra-curricular activities.

The Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Santé Publique (EHESP), thanks to its various statutes and the values it upholds, wishes to be able to get involved in an ambitious policy that makes it possible to recognise the commitment of the school's students.

This document presents the institution's policy, first reviewing the context and challenges specific to the EHESP, and then defining its policy on the recognition of student engagement.

BACKGROUND AND CHALLENGES FOR THE EHESP

Successive legislative developments have advanced the consideration of student engagement. The aim here is to look at the regulatory obligations and the challenges for the EHESP.

1.1 Regulatory references

Law No. 2017-86 on Equality and Citizenship was promulgated on January 27, 2017. This text seeks to go beyond the logic of segregation by reconciling, at the national level, equal opportunities and social diversity. Fostering coexistence and combating the phenomena of withdrawal and intolerance is the indispensable foundation of fraternity and solidarity. This law incorporates many measures in different areas: Republican engagement, housing, land use planning, employment, food, education, media law.

Article 29 provides that the skills, knowledge and abilities acquired by a student during an extracurricular activity are to be valued in order to recognise student engagement. It is in this context that the EHESP has made a strong commitment to promoting the involvement of students in extra-curricular activities.

Decree No 2017-962 of 10 May 2017 on the recognition of students' involvement in associative, social or professional life specifies and supplements the Law. Thus, from the start of the 2017/2018 academic year, all higher education institutions had to set up a system for the recognition of skills and competences acquired as part of a voluntary activity within an association. Professional and military activities in the operational reserve, voluntary firefighters' engagements, civic service or voluntary service missions are also recognised and valued in the same way.

Circular No 2017-146 of 7 September 2017 on the recognition of student engagement in higher education institutions under the direct supervision of the Ministry in charge of higher education specified the detailed rules for the application of those regulatory provisions.

Finally, the circular of 23 March 2022 specifies several elements around student engagement and support for student initiatives in higher education institutions under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation.

1.2 Challenges for the EHESP

Beyond compliance with the regulations, the promotion of student engagement is part of the values promoted by the EHESP. The EHESP upholds fundamental collective values around public service ethics, the general interest, respect, openness and cooperation, and social and environmental responsibility.

For the school, the promotion of student engagement helps to take into account the many societal challenges linked to republican engagement around the notions of 'living together' and the openness of the university and academic world to the professional and associative world.

These challenges are also fully in line with the Objectives and Performance Contract (COP) signed by the EHESP and its line ministries for the period 2019-2023 and will be included in the next texts for the period 2024-2027. Thus, the school wished to highlight its commitment, particularly in defending the following values:

- The diversity and complementarity of its tasks.
- The sense of the general interest that should guide EHESP professionals on a daily basis in each of their tasks and the transmission of a number of professional values related to the nature of the public service and listening to our fellow citizens.
- Guiding professional values based on the principles of our law: continuity, commitment, integrity, legality, loyalty, neutrality, respect, responsibility.
- Adaptability, efficiency, quality and responsiveness of professionals.

POLICY FOR RECOGNITION AND PROMOTION OF THE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

2.1 Objectives

The EHESP has the following strategic objectives:

- Build and implement a coherent and transversal 'recognition and valorisation of student engagement' policy as part of an inclusive approach, making it possible to recognise all areas of student engagement activity, provided that it is consistent and appropriate with the values set out above: human resources, accessibility, course, awareness-raising, communication, digital development, etc.
- Promote the success of the career path of all students who are engaged by considering their specific needs, from reception to their professional integration.
- Create favourable conditions for students to successfully complete their courses in which they are enrolled.
- Promote and encourage research and teaching on the topic of student engagement.



Sustainable Development & Social Responsibility

One objective is particularly highlighted for the promotion and recognition of student engagement: participate in the development of the school's social responsibility and ecological transitions (social and environmental concerns in the various activities). The engagement evaluation committee will pay particular attention to the skills valued by the student in his/her file in relation to this topic.

2.2 Governance

The Student Life and Studies Department (DSVE) is responsible for distributing to students the documents enabling them to request recognition and validation of their skills by the school. The assessment and evaluation of applications are carried out under the responsibility of the Directorate of Studies, according to the procedures detailed below.

2.3 The operational organisation: promoting student engagement

A rule allowing the recognition of student engagement through an increase in the overall average grade has been introduced at EHESP. This rule is optional and may be invoked by all students, regardless of the master's programme in which they are enrolled.

2.3.1 The application for recognition by the student

In accordance with the regulations in force, the application for recognition and valorisation of the student commitment is the subject of a proactive approach by the student who must fill in a specific form to describe the nature of the commitment, a form completed with a covering letter and a CV.

Students who:

- Are active members of an association, inside or outside the university (excluding any political or ideological commitment);
- Are elected to the bodies of the EHESP,
- Carrying out military activity in the operational reserve,
- Be a volunteer firefighter,
- Perform a civic service mission,
- Make a volunteer commitment in the army,
- Have a paid activity.

Applications may, where appropriate, relate to another area related to student engagement. It is up to the Student Engagement Evaluation Committee to assess the relevance and adequacy of the student engagement with the school's values. Applications must be submitted to the Education Department before the 31st day of the current academic year.

A committee is responsible for deciding before the graduation juries of the academic year. The decision signed by all members of the committee shall be forwarded to the student.

2.3.2 The skills portfolio

The EU Student Engagement is based on the following 8 competences.

- 1. Commit, take a stand
- 2. Working as a team
- 3. Communicate
- 4. Organise
- 5. Being a force of proposal
- 6. Pilot, manage one or more projects
- 7. Lead one or more teams
- 8. Assume responsibilities

The student, after having been authorised to enrol in the "UE Student Engagement", is responsible for filling in the portfolio of competences of that UE.

This portfolio, for each skill to be acquired, describes precisely the nature of the commitment, the link between the commitment and the skill to be acquired.

The portfolio must be handed over to the Education Department by 31 May of the academic year.

2.3.3 The Student Engagement Evaluation Committee

A student engagement assessment committee is responsible for assessing the student's acquisition of skills. That committee is composed as follows:

- The Director of Cabinet
- The Director of Studies or his representative
- The Director of Education and Student Life and the Student Life Assistant
- A Master's teacher
- An elected student representative

It hears the students who have submitted an application and decides on the eligibility of the actions undertaken under the scheme.

In case of validation by the committee, the student engagement allows the potential achievement of an additional 0.25 points on the overall average of the student whose engagement has been presented and valued. A Teaching Unit entitled 'Student Engagement' appears on the student's transcript.

Associated attachment: The competency portfolio model