

PhD TRACK

In 2015 the Schools of the MUMC⁺, including CARIM, implemented a web-based application, PhD TRACK. This platform aims to improve the transparency of PhD trajectories and to monitor the progress of PhD projects and the quality of the supervision. This safety net results in the early detection of problems (of any kind) and allows CARIM to act timely.

Aims

The main aims of PhD TRACK are:

- to offer **transparent ways of communication** between PhD candidates and their supervisors
- to **monitor the progress** of PhD projects
- to gain **insight into the quality** of the supervision
- to easily extract summative data about the PhD program for **reporting**

How it works

PhD candidates and Supervisors can access PhD TRACK on <https://carim.phdtrack.nl/> PhD candidates can compose and update their Training and Supervision Plan digitally, upload documents (e.g. manuscripts, preliminary thesis) to create a portfolio, and make agreements with their supervisors. They also complete the Annual Questionnaire via the PhD TRACK system.

Supervisors also log in via the CARIM website and only have access to the general data of their PhD candidates, and their annual progress reports. They cannot access the confidential section in which feedback is given by the PhD candidate on their supervision.

Each year, the supervisor(s) should mark the progress of the project of each of their PhD candidates with a color and evaluative comments. The aim of this database is to support CARIM to signal problems in the project, the supervision or the performance of the PhD candidate in an early stage, and to provide adequate support by making agreements for improvements with the PhD candidate and/or the supervisor(s).

Security and confidentiality

The information provided by the PhD candidates and their supervisors is securely stored. PhD candidates only have access to their individual data via a secured website. A back-up of all data is made every 24 hrs and is available anytime, anywhere via the internet. PhD TRACK is managed by the PhD coordinator, who is the only person having full access to the data and who is bound to treat all information as confidential.

Problems?

When you notice incorrect or incomplete information, please notify the PhD coordinator marc.vanbilsen@maastrichtuniversity.nl or the CARIM office secretariaat-carim@maastrichtuniversity.nl