

Finalisation of the doctoral school

mgr Przemysław Mroczkowski

Local Ambassador of Doctoral Rights, University of Warsaw

Aim of the training

- ▶ To familiarise you with the legal regulations concerning the rules for the completion of training in doctoral school.
- ▶ To outline the requirements for the completion of training in doctoral school.
- ▶ To indicate the way to initiate proceedings for the award of the doctoral degree.

Legal regulations

- ▶ Act of 20 July 2018. - Law on Higher Education and Science (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 574 as amended, hereinafter: 'PSWiN'):

Article 204 (1) The training of a doctoral student shall end with the submission of a doctoral dissertation.

- ▶ The definitive content of the provision means that the doctoral subject may not impose additional requirements on the doctoral student.
- ▶ It is not a prerequisite for the completion of training at the Doctoral School that the entire programme of training at the Doctoral School has been completed.

Doctoral dissertation

- ▶ According to the PSWiN, a doctoral dissertation is "an original solution to a scientific problem, an original solution to the application of the results of one's own scientific research in the economic or social sphere, or an original artistic achievement" (Article 187(2) PSWiN).
- ▶ The doctoral dissertation should present (1) the candidate's general knowledge in the discipline and (2) the ability to conduct scientific or artistic work independently (Article 187(1) PSWiN).
- ▶ A doctoral dissertation may take various forms, including: a scientific monograph, a collection of published and thematically related scientific articles, a design, construction, technological, implementation or artistic work, as well as an independent and isolated part of a collective work (art. 187 para. 3 PSWiN).

Doctoral dissertation

- ▶ The doctoral thesis at the University of Warsaw should be submitted to the Office for Scientific Councils: <https://radynaukowe.uw.edu.pl/> (website only in Polish).

Certificate of achievement of learning outcomes at PRK level 8

- ▶ Every person who has completed training at a doctoral school, i.e. has submitted a doctoral thesis, obtains a certificate of achievement of learning outcomes at level 8 of the Polish Qualifications Framework.
- ▶ The certificate is required in order to initiate and conduct proceedings for the award of a doctoral degree.

Doctoral dissertation and doctoral degree proceedings

- ▶ The proceedings for the award of a doctoral degree are administrative proceedings.
- ▶ In accordance with the Code of Administrative Procedure, these proceedings are initiated at the request of a party, i.e. a person, applying for the award of a degree (Article 189 PSWiN).
- ▶ Upon completion of the doctoral school, the proceedings for the award of a degree are free of charge (Article 182(4) PSWiN).
 - ▶ This entitlement applies to proceedings before any doctoral awarding entity in Poland in any discipline.

Doctoral dissertation and doctoral degree proceedings

In order to initiate proceedings for the award of a doctoral degree, it is necessary:

- ▶ Submission of an application for the initiation of these proceedings.
- ▶ Submission of a doctoral dissertation with a favourable opinion from the supervisor(s).
 - ▶ A positive opinion from an auxiliary supervisor is not necessary.
- ▶ Submission of evidence of achievement of learning outcomes at PRK level 8.
- ▶ Submission of evidence of knowledge of a modern foreign language at a level of at least B2.
 - ▶ As a general rule, such evidence is a university degree of at least Bachelor's level.

Submission of a dissertation for the purpose of completing the training does not constitute initiation of this procedure.

Other requirements specified by the doctoral subject

- ▶ The doctorate-awarding entity may also impose other requirements on the candidate for the doctoral degree.
- ▶ At the University of Warsaw one has to pass the exam (or two at maximum) regarding the knowledge of the discipline methodology and the most recent discoveries in the research field.
 - ▶ The exam is conducted during the procedures. It can be conducted before an appointment of the referees or after that (most favourable option).

When is the dissertation due?

- ▶ The term is defined in the IRP.
- ▶ The deadline cannot be more than 4 years from the date of commencement of training.

What if I need more time -> suspension of the doctoral training

- ▶ The PSWiN regulations provide for the possibility of suspending training for a period corresponding to:
 - ▶ Maternity leave,
 - ▶ Leave on maternity leave conditions,
 - ▶ Parental leave,
 - ▶ Paternity leave.
- ▶ The effect of granting the leave of absence is to postpone the dates specified in the IPB.
- ▶ The Regulations of the Doctoral School may specify additional grounds for the suspension of training/ granting of a break in training.
 - ▶ At the University of Warsaw it may happen for „important reasons”.

Training extension

- ▶ According to the law, a doctoral candidate is entitled to extend his/her training by a maximum of two years.
- ▶ The extension is granted for one year each time.
- ▶ Application for the extension must include the opinion of supervisor(s).
- ▶ Extension is granted by the director of doctoral school.

Scholarship

- ▶ You are only entitled to the scholarship for a period of 4 years.
- ▶ In case of early submission of a job - you can only collect the scholarship for 6 months from that date.
- ▶ The right to the scholarship is a public

More questions?

doktoranci@samorzad.uw.edu.pl