

Regulations on Special Entrance and Admission Requirements for the Doctoral Degree Programmes and Structured Doctoral Programmes of School V: School of Mathematics and Science and School VI: School of Medicine and Health Sciences of the Graduate School for Science and Technology of the University of Oldenburg – UNOFFICIAL VERSION –

Basis: Official Notices (ON) 7/2008, ON 7/2010, ON 3/2013, ON 3/2014, ON 3/2016, ON 69/2017, ON 028/2019

The Faculty Council of School V: School of Mathematics and Science and the Faculty Council of School VI: School of Medicine and Health Sciences of the University of Oldenburg have on 11 April 2018, in accordance with Section 44 (1), p. 2 of the Lower Saxony University Act (NHG), adopted the following fourth amendment of the Regulations on Special Entrance and Admission Requirements for the Doctoral Degree Programmes and Structured Doctoral Programmes of School V: School of Mathematics and Science and School VI: School of Medicine and Health Sciences of the Graduate School for Science and Technology of the University of Oldenburg. The Regulations were approved on 26 February 2019 by the Presidential Board in accordance with Section 44 (1), p. 3 of the Lower Saxony University Act (NHG).

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**Section 1
Scope of application,
purpose**

(1) These Regulations govern the competences and the admission procedure for the doctoral degree programmes and structured doctoral programmes of the Graduate School for Science and Technology (currently: Neurosensory Science and Systems, Molecular and Nanoscale Science, Environmental Sciences and Biodiversity, Renewable Energy and Mathematics and

Fundamental Physics, Medicine and Health Sciences“). By a decision of the responsible Faculty Council, the scope of application of these Regulations can also be extended to other doctoral degree programmes and structured doctoral programmes of the School of Mathematics and Science, as well as to the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, given the permission of the Presidential Board and the Faculty Council of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

(2) The doctoral degree programmes and structured doctoral programmes prepare the doctoral students for independent advanced scientific work.

**Section 2
Competences**

(1) Doctoral degree programmes and structured doctoral programmes of the Graduate School for Science and Technology are assigned to School V or School VI of the University of Oldenburg.

(2) The curriculum of doctoral degree programmes and structured doctoral programmes is planned and carried out in an interdisciplinary manner by the teaching staff involved in the doctoral programme concerned.

**Section 3
Section Scope and duration of
studies**

(1) Doctoral programmes usually comprise six semesters, in which courses of at least 30 ECTS (credit points) must be accumulated, according to the European Credit Transfer System.

(2) The form and content of the courses are regulated by the examination regulations.

(3) The studies end with the initiation of the doctoral degree procedure.

**Section 4
Start of studies**

Doctoral degree programmes and structured doctoral programmes start in the summer and winter semesters.

**Section 5
Admission requirements**

(1) Applicants for doctoral degree programmes or structured doctoral programmes will be admitted if they:

a) submit evidence of studies at an institution of higher education and a Master's, Diplom, Magister or Staatsexamen certificate in the subjects listed

in the subject-specific annexes. In exceptional cases, the Admissions Committee may admit candidates without such a qualification. However, in such cases, the required degree certificate must be available before application for admission to the doctorate under Section 8 of the Joint Doctorate Degree Regulations of School II: School of Computing Science, Business Administration, Economics and Law (for its Department of Computing Science), School V: Mathematics and Science and School VI: School of Medicine and Health Sciences. As for the rest, reference is made to Section 6 (2) of these Regulations,

- d) prove their eligibility according to Section 6 (4) of these Regulations,
- (2) Students of the Master's degree programmes of one of the schools of the University of Oldenburg or comparable degree programmes at another university may apply to the Admissions Committee for admission to the doctoral degree programme or structured doctoral programme after successfully completing the required coursework in accordance with the examination regulations for the Master's programmes of the University of Oldenburg, even before completing the Master's degree programme with a Master's thesis. Decisions on the equivalence of coursework at other schools and universities to the substantively similar Master's programmes of School V: Mathematics and Science and School VI: Medicine and Health Sciences of the University of Oldenburg will be taken by the responsible Admissions Committee of the corresponding doctoral degree programme or structured doctoral programme of the University of Oldenburg.
- (3) Using the fast-track option, particularly qualified and motivated German and international applicants with a related Bachelor's degree may be admitted to a doctoral degree programme or to a structured doctoral programme by the Admissions Committee following a test of eligibility for the PhD phase. The requirements for admission to the fast track and the admission procedure are governed by the Regulations on the Conditions of Admission for Fast-track Programmes for Doctoral Studies at School V of the University of Oldenburg in the current version.
- (4) Re (1): Equivalent final examinations that applicants have passed in an EU country are recognized by the Admissions Committee. Final examinations passed in non-EU countries require recognition by the study and Examination Committee, bearing in mind the equivalence agreements approved by the Standing Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder of the FRG (KMK) and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK) or other intergovernmental agreements. Deviations from the provisions of Sentences 1 and 2 are possible if the applicant provides evidence of prior academic education equivalent to the scientific degree referred to in (1) and the majority of the members of the Admissions Committee agrees.

(5) If essential requirements for admission to the doctorate at School V have not been met, the Admissions Committee responsible for the doctoral degree programme or the structured doctoral programme may also revoke the admission to the doctoral degree programme or structured doctoral programme.

Section 6 Application for admission, selection procedure

- (1) The applicant will submit a written request for admission to a doctoral degree programme or a structured doctoral programme via the University to the chair of the responsible Admissions Committee. It will only be valid for the allocation of study places for the admission date concerned.
- (2) If the applicant has already submitted their application for admission to the doctoral programme or if the applicant has already been admitted to the doctorate at School V, the applicant will submit the notification of acceptance as a doctoral candidate. With the consent of the applicant, copies of the documents enclosed with the application for admission will be forwarded to the Graduate School for Science and Technology by the responsible Doctorate Committee. The subject-specific annexes may stipulate different provisions.
- (3) If no application for acceptance as a doctoral candidate has so far been submitted to the responsible Doctorate Committee, the following documents must be enclosed with the application:
- a) a CV,
 - b) the topic of the thesis (working title), with a brief description of the research plan, which has been agreed by the intended supervisor,
 - c) proof of higher education entrance qualification,
 - d) certificates and evidence in accordance with Section 5 (1) (a) and (2) and, if applicable, applications with certificates and related evidence pursuant to Section 5 (3),
 - e) a list of work already published by the applicant,
 - f) a statement of any earlier unsuccessful doctoral applications with details of the date of the first application, the university and the school or department to which the thesis was submitted, and the topic of the thesis,
 - g) a statement by a professor, a junior professor or a habilitated member of the University of Oldenburg, or another supervisor, in accordance with Section 11 (1) of the Joint Doctoral Degree Regulations of School II: School of Computing Science, Business Administration, Economics

and Law (for its Department of Computing Science), School V: School of Mathematics and Science and School VI: School of Medicine and Health Sciences, confirming their willingness to supervise a planned doctoral thesis by the applicant, and

- h) confirmation from the supervisor that the materials and equipment and, if applicable, an experimental work station required for the preparation of the doctoral thesis will be provided by the supervisor to the candidate for the time customarily required for a doctoral thesis in this field of studies,
- i) if applicable, an application for a bi-national doctorate or another joint doctoral degree procedure (Section 3 of the Joint Doctoral Degree Regulations of School II: Computing Science, Business Administration, Economics and Law (for its Department of Computing Science), School V: Mathematics and Science and School VI: Medicine and Health Sciences) with the name of the cooperation partner,
- j) a declaration that the candidate is aware of, and following, the guidelines for good scientific practice of the University of Oldenburg,
- k) a statement that no commercial placement or consulting services (PhD counselling) have been used in connection with the doctoral project,
- l) if applicable, a supervision agreement between the doctoral candidate and the first supervisor or a Supervisory Committee containing a statement on (b), (c), (g), (h), (i) and (j).

(4) Upon receipt of the complete documents pursuant to (2) and (3) (a)-(l) and the result of the hearing in accordance with Section 6 (5) (c), the Admissions Committee shall decide on the applicant's eligibility.

(5) The extent of eligibility will be determined as follows:

a) Grade of the last qualifying degree

Grades from 1 to 1.49 = 2 points
Grades from 1.5 to 2.5 = 1 point
Grades above 2.5 = 0 points

Relation of the completed studies to the doctoral project and the letter of motivation

0 points to 1 point,
(0 points, 0.5 points or 1 point can be awarded)

Result of the interview with a 15-minute presentation in English followed by a discussion

0 points to 1 point,
(0 points, 0.5 points or 1 point can be awarded)

The degree of eligibility is calculated by the sum of (a) to (c), whereby at (b) and (c) at least 0.5 points must be achieved.

(6) The prerequisite for admission to the doctoral programme is an assessed degree of eligibility of at least 2.5 points. The Admissions Committee may decide to waive a hearing pursuant to Section 6 (5) (c) if, pursuant to Section 6 (5) (a) and (b), the sum is 3 points and an English language certificate has been submitted at level B2 of the European Framework of Reference. A statement that the programme of the present degree was conducted entirely in English or that the supervisor confirms adequate language skills can also serve as evidence. The requirement to submit proof of adequate skills in English may be waived if English is the mother tongue of the applicant.

(7) If the applicant has already been accepted as a doctoral candidate, the subject-specific annexes may provide that assessment of eligibility according to Section 6 (5) may be waived.

(8) If there are more applicants than available study places, the Admissions Committee shall rank the applicants according to the scores referred to in (5) and allocate places accordingly.

(9) Admitted persons must report, at the latest 14 days after notification of the decision, whether they accept the place of study.

(10) Applicants who are not admitted will receive, within two months of the interview, a reasoned letter of rejection, with a notification of their right to appeal.

Section 7 Admissions Committee

(1) The Admissions Committee responsible for a doctoral degree programme or a structured doctoral programme will consist of three members of the professors' group and one doctoral candidate of the School responsible for the respective doctoral degree programme or structured doctoral programme. At

least one member will be a member of the teaching staff in the doctoral degree programme or structured doctoral programme concerned. The doctoral candidate has an advisory vote in the evaluation of the applicants. The Admissions Committee has a quorum if at least two members from the professors' group are in attendance.

(2) The members of the Admissions Committee who belong to the professors' group will be elected by the competent Faculty Council at the suggestion of the teaching staff, and the doctoral candidates at the suggestion of the doctoral students of the relevant doctoral programme or structured doctoral programme. The term of office of the members of the Admissions Committee is two years, but one year for the student members. The re-election of members is permitted.

Section 8 Effective date

(1) These Regulations will enter into force after approval by the Presidential Chair on the day after publication in the Official Note of the University of Oldenburg. They will be valid for the first time for the admission procedure in the winter semester of 2018/19.

(2) With the entry into force of these Regulations, the Regulations on Special Entrance and Admission Requirements for Doctoral Degree Programmes and Structured Doctoral Programs of the Graduate School for Science and Technology of School V of the University of Oldenburg of 14/10/2010 (ON 7/2010) shall be suspended.

Annexes to the Regulations:

- Annex 1: Special features of the doctoral degree programme in Neurosensory Science and Systems
- Annex 2: Special features of the doctoral degree programme in Molecular and Nanoscale Science
- Annex 3: Special features of the doctoral degree programme in Environmental Sciences and Biodiversity
- Annex 4: Special features of the structured doctoral programme in Renewable Energy
- Annex 5: Special features of the structured doctoral programme in Mathematics and Fundamental Physics
- Annex 6: Special features of the structured doctoral programme in Medicine and Health Sciences“

Annex 1

Special features of the doctoral degree programme in Neurosensory Science and Systems

Re: Section 2 (1):

The Department of Neuroscience of the University is responsible for the administration and organization of the programme.

Re: Section 5 (1)

Applicants will be admitted to the doctoral degree programme if they:

- a) submit evidence of a relevant university degree. Relevant study in the areas of biology, physics, computer science, psychology or related subjects is recommended.

Re: Section 7 (2):

The members of the Admissions Committee who belong to the professors' group are elected by the Faculty Council at the recommendation of the teaching staff. The PhD candidates on the Committee are elected by the Faculty Council at the suggestion of the PhD students of the doctoral degree programme concerned, in agreement with the Executive Board of the Research Centre for Neurosensory Science.

Annex 2

Special features of the doctoral degree programme in Molecular and Nanoscale Science"

Re: Section 2 (1):

The Centre of Interface Science (CIS) of the University is responsible for the administration and organization of the degree programme.

Re: Section 5 (1)

Applicants will be admitted to the doctoral degree programme if they:

- a) submit evidence of a relevant university degree. Relevant study in the fields of chemistry, physics, materials science, computer science, biochemistry, biology or related subjects is recommended.

Re: Sections 6 (5) and (6)

Eligibility for the doctorate, as determined by the Doctorate Committee of School V, is also applicable for the doctoral degree programme. If the doctoral candidate has not been admitted thus far by the Doctorate Committee of School V, eligibility according to Section 6 (5) must be determined.

Re: Section 7 (2):

The members of the Admissions Committee who belong to the professors' group are elected by the Faculty Council at the suggestion of the teaching staff. The PhD students on the Committee are elected by the Faculty Council at the suggestion of the PhD students of the doctoral degree programme in question, in agreement with the Executive Board of the Centre of Interface Science.

Annex 3

Special features of the doctoral degree programme in Environmental Sciences and Biodiversity

Re: Section 2 (1):

The Department of Chemistry and Biology of the Marine Environment (ICBM) of the University is responsible for the administration and organization of the doctoral degree programme.

Re: Section 5 (1)

Applicants will be admitted to the doctoral degree programme if they:

- a) submit evidence of a relevant university degree. Relevant study in the fields of environmental science, biology, chemistry, physics, computer science, mathematics or related subjects is recommended.

Re: Sections 6 (5) and (6)

Eligibility for the doctorate, as determined by the Doctorate Committee of School V, is also applicable for the doctoral degree programme. If the doctoral candidate has not been admitted thus far by the Doctorate Committee of School V, eligibility according to Section 6 (5) must be determined.

Annex 4

Special features of the structured doctoral programme in Renewable Energy

Re: Section 2 (1):

The Institute of Physics of the University is responsible for the administration and organization of the structured doctoral programme.

Re: Section 5 (1)

Applicants will be admitted to the structured doctoral programme if they:

- a) submit evidence of a relevant university degree. Relevant study in the fields of physics, chemistry, biology, engineering, computer science, mathematics, economics or related subjects is recommended.

Re: Sections 6 (5) and (6)

Eligibility for the doctorate, as determined by the Doctorate Committee of School V, is also applicable for the doctoral degree programme. If the doctoral candidate has not been admitted thus far by the Doctorate Committee of School V, eligibility according to Section 6 (5) must be determined.

Annex 5

Special features of the structured doctoral programme in Mathematics and Fundamental Physics

Re: Section 2 (1):

The Institute of Physics of the University is responsible for the administration and organization of the structured doctoral programme.

Re: Section 5 (1)

Applicants will be admitted to the structured doctoral programme if they submit evidence of a relevant university degree. A relevant programme in the fields of Physics, Mathematics or related subjects is recommended.

Re: Sections 6 (5) and (6)

Eligibility for the doctorate is determined by the Doctorate Committee of School V. If the doctoral candidate has been admitted to doctoral studies, a determination of eligibility according to Section 6 (5) shall not take place. If the applicant has not thus far been accepted as a doctoral candidate by the Doctorate Committee of School V, a determination of eligibility according to Section 6 (5) can be made.

Annex 6

Special features of the structured doctoral programme in Medicine and Health Sciences

Re: Section 2 (1):

School VI of the University is responsible for the administration and organization of the programme.

Re: Section 5 (1)

Applicants will be admitted to the structured doctoral programme (graduate programme) if they:

- a) submit evidence of a relevant university degree in medicine or in a subject relevant to medicine/health sciences.

Re: Sections 6 (5) and (6)

Eligibility for the doctorate is determined by the Doctorate Committee of School VI. If the doctoral candidate has been admitted to doctoral studies, a determination of eligibility according to Section 6 (5) shall not take place. If the doctoral candidate has not yet been admitted by the Doctorate Committee of School VI, a determination of eligibility according to Section 6 (5) can be made.

Re: Section 7 (2):

The members of the professors' group of the Admissions Committee are elected by the Faculty Council of School VI at the suggestion of the teaching staff, and the doctoral candidates at the suggestion of the doctoral students of the structured doctoral programme.

Chapter II

This amendment shall enter into force after the approval of the Presidential Board on the day following its publication in the Official Bulletin of the University of Oldenburg. It will be valid for the first time for the admission procedure in the winter semester of 2018/19.

<p>Please note: This is an unofficial translation provided for your convenience only and does not have any legal binding effects! Only the German version is legally binding!</p>
