

## **Excerpt from Rules of MU-Plovdiv on**

### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF PHD STUDENTS, FOREIGN CITIZENS**

Art. 18. (1) Persons, who are not Bulgarian citizens and nationals of other countries - EU Member State, to another Member State – a part of the Agreement on the European Economic Area, or the Swiss Confederation, may apply to study in PhD programs:

1. pursuant to intergovernmental agreements on educational and scientific exchange;
2. acts under the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria;
3. under Art. 95, para. 7 of the Act.

(2) Persons under par. 1. can apply for PhD and procedures for adoption of Bulgarian citizens if they:

1. have the status of permanent residents of the Republic of Bulgaria;
2. have refugee status;
3. are of Bulgarian nationality.

Art. 19. (1) Applicants under Art. 18, para. 1, submit in person or by courier at the Research Department the following documents:

- Application form with statement of field of research interests, the PhD program they wish to enroll in and the department in which they wish to study;
- A CV and a certificate for language skills and competence;
- Copy of diploma for university education, which shows that the applicant holds a master's degree;
- Medical certificate issued within one month before the date of application and certified by the relevant authorities in the country of the applicant;
- List of publications, if any;
- A copy of the citizenship documents - for applicants with dual citizenship, one of which is Bulgarian;
- Statement of recognized higher education if the diploma was issued by a foreign university;
- Two photographs.

The reports under paragraph 1 should be legalized, translated and certified in accordance with international treaties of the Republic of Bulgaria and the country in which they are issued, and in absence of such - the general procedure for legalization, translation and certification documents and other papers.

(3) Applicants under Art. 18, para. 1, Items 1 and 2 submit documents under par. 1 Ministry of Education and Science.

Art. 20. Candidates for PhD students foreigners if taught in Bulgarian language, should be well prepared in Bulgarian language, as determined after an examination before a committee of professors at the Language Department of MU-Plovdiv. If education is in a foreign language, they have to present an internationally recognized document of proficiency or pass an exam before a committee of professors at the Language Department of MU-Plovdiv .

Art. 21. The Rector appoints a commission for receiving and discussing documents consisting of: Chairman - Vice Rector for research and members: Vice Dean for research of the respective faculty, head of the department in which the training will be done, director of the Language Department, and a lawyer.

Art. 22. After consideration of documents submitted on the basis of the decision, the Rector issues an order for enrollment in a PhD program without passing entrance exams. The Vice Rector for research notifies the Dean of the Faculty.

Art. 22. (1) The presentation and defence of PhD thesis is held publicly in Bulgarian language or in the foreign language in which the education is conducted.

(2) Foreign nationals enrolled in PhD programs and presenting in foreign language should obey the following conditions:

- to provide a translation of the abstract in Bulgarian;
- to present the thesis in the language in which the education was conducted;

## **RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PhD STUDENTS**

Art. 31. The rights and duties of doctoral students are governed by the National law, and its enforcement, Rules and Procedure of MU-Plovdiv and with this Regulation.

Art. 32. A PhD student is a member of the Department in which the study is conducted. He has full access to the library, computer rooms, laboratories and offices during the the preparation of the dissertation. He could participate in conferences, seminars, symposia, etc. related to his research.

Art. 33. PhD students in the regular public contract, regardless of age, are due to health insurance contributions.

Art. 34. A PhD program is discontinued by decision of the Faculty Council after a request from the student and a report from his scientific supervisor due to the following objective reasons:

- Pregnancy and maternity;
- Prolonged illness;
- Continued specialization abroad;
- Serious welfare problems.

Art. 35. Extension of the PhD program is permitted by the Faculty Council by exception, after a reasoned proposal by the scientific supervisor, but for not more than six months and without a scholarship.

Art. 36. The enrollment of PhD students from one scientific organization to another, is possible after decision of the Academic Council, according to a motivated proposal by the Faculty Council.

Art. 37. The PhD students, working in harmful environment, have the rights of the employees in the same unit.

Art. 38. (1) PhD students can take up full-time work during, lasting no more than half from the legal working time for the same unit.

(2) The PhD students selected for assistants, continue to work the doctoral dissertation on self-study basis, after the decision of the Academic Council, upon a proposal of the Faculty Council.

(3) After the first year, the regular PhD students are assigned to teach, up to one third of the workload of the assistants in the relevant department.

Art. 39. (1) A PhD student, who does not meet his individual and group training plan without a reasonable cause, is suspended from the doctoral program.

(2) The suspensions are made on the basis of a report from the scientific supervisor and decision of the AC.

Art. 40. (1) A PhD student in the MU-Plovdiv, suspended the training by his own will, or suspended by the AC, have to return the financial support, provided by the scholarships.

(2) A regular PhD student in the MU-Plovdiv, suspended due to serious illness, with proven relevant medical documents does not return the amounts of the scholarship.

Art. 41. (1) A PhD student, who has passed the exams following his individual plan, but did not defend his dissertation in time, is suspended with the possibility to defend his thesis after a report and decision of the Departmental and Faculty Councils.

2) The passed exam on the subject of the doctorate is valid until at least five years after the expiration of the regular term of the PhD program.