

Regulations for Granting Scholarships to the Best Doctoral Students of the KUL Doctoral School within the Framework of the Project ‘Highest Quality Doctorates at the KUL Doctoral School’ under the NAWA Programme ‘STER – Internationalisation of Doctoral Schools’

§ 1

1. Scholarships are awarded to the outstanding foreign and Polish doctoral candidates enrolled at the Doctoral School of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, engaged in international cooperation as part of an international doctoral project.
2. Priority in the awarding of scholarships shall be given to doctoral candidates conducting research projects with the aim of obtaining a doctoral degree in a *joint degree* or *double degree* mode.

§ 2

1. The Director of the Doctoral School of the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, hereinafter referred to as the ‘Director’, shall announce a competition for the awarding of scholarships to the best doctoral candidates.
2. In the competition notice referred to in section 2.1, the Director shall specify the deadlines for the submission of applications, the meetings of the evaluation committee, the resolution of the competition, the submission of requests for reconsideration, and the final awarding of scholarships.
3. If the competition referred to in paragraph 1 is not resolved, or if the available scholarship funds are not fully allocated, the Director may announce further competitions, subject to sections 2.4 and 2.5.
4. Scholarship payments must conclude by 30 September 2026, subject to paragraph 2.5.
5. In cases justified by the specific nature of the research conducted by a doctoral candidate receiving a scholarship, the start and end dates of the scholarship payments may be extended by the Director, but no later than 31 December 2026.

§ 3

1. Foreign doctoral candidates applying for a scholarship must meet the following criteria:
 - 1) maintain ongoing cooperation with a foreign university or research institution, particularly in the form of conducting a doctoral project in a joint degree or double degree mode;
 - 2) have a formalised collaboration with a supervisor, co-supervisor, or assistant supervisor employed at a foreign university or research institution;
 - 3) prepare their dissertation in English or another modern foreign language, provided this is substantively justified.
2. Doctoral students who are Polish citizens applying must conduct their doctoral project in a *joint degree* or *double degree* mode.

§ 4

1. The scholarship is awarded in addition to the doctoral scholarship granted under Article 209.1 of the Law on Higher Education and Science of 20 July 2018 (Journal of Laws 2008, item 1668, as amended).

2. The scholarship is awarded for a period of 12 months.
3. A single individual may not receive the scholarship more than twice.
4. The scholarship amounts to PLN 4,000 gross per month.
5. A total of four scholarships may be awarded in the competition:
 - 1) two scholarships for foreign doctoral candidates,
 - 2) two scholarships for doctoral candidates who are Polish citizens.

§ 5

1. Applications for the scholarship shall be submitted to the Director either in paper form or electronically. If submitted electronically, the application and its annexes must bear the applicant's qualified electronic signature.
2. The application must include:
 - 1) the applicant's personal details,
 - 2) a description of the applicant's research project,
 - 3) an opinion from the applicant's supervisor(s),
 - 4) the applicant's academic achievements, including scientific publications, conference presentations, and research projects funded by external sources,
 - 5) documents confirming that the applicant meets the criteria outlined in section 3.

§ 6

1. Once the formal correctness of the application has been verified, the Director shall forward it for substantive assessment.
2. The substantive evaluation is carried out by an evaluation committee comprising:
 - 1) the Director, as chairperson,
 - 2) at least two subject-matter experts appointed by the Director from the project's oversight team,
 - 3) the project evaluator.
3. The committee shall assess applications based on the applicant's academic achievements, as outlined in section 5.2.4.
4. The committee may also consider the opinion of the applicant's supervisor(s).
5. The committee shall submit a detailed assessment and recommendation to the Director.
6. The Director shall make the final decision on the awarding of scholarships, taking into account the committee's recommendation.
7. Applicants who are not awarded a scholarship have the right to submit a request for reconsideration, accompanied by a justification.
8. The request for reconsideration shall be reviewed by the project's oversight committee, chaired by the Director. If consensus cannot be reached, the Director shall make the final decision, which shall be binding.

§ 7

1. Doctoral students awarded a scholarship must submit a report on their research to the Director no later than one month after the final scholarship payment.
2. The report shall be evaluated by the project evaluator, who will provide a recommendation to the Director.

3. A positive assessment of the report is a prerequisite for the doctoral student to be eligible for another scholarship in future competitions announced under section 2.3.

§ 8

The Director shall present the results of the evaluations of scholarship recipients' reports to the project's steering committee.

§ 9

Any matters not covered by these Regulations shall be resolved by the Director.

Dyrektor Szkoły Doktorskiej KUL



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