

National Taiwan Ocean University

Regulations for Direct Doctoral Degree Enrollment by Students

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- Article 1 These regulations are established in accordance with the Guidelines for Students to Directly Pursue a Doctoral Degree issued by Ministry of Education.
- Article 2 Undergraduate students of the University who are recent graduates (including those applying for early graduation) and master's students who have completed at least one semester with outstanding academic performance and research potential, and whose grades meet the requirements of their respective departments, colleges, or degree programs, may apply to directly enroll in a doctoral degree program. (The specific requirements of each department, college, or degree program shall be implemented after approval by the Academic Affairs Meeting).
- Article 3 Applications for direct doctoral degree enrollment shall be processed in two phases. The first phase occurs at the end of December to early January (exact dates to be announced), and the second phase in July (exact dates to be announced), subject to available quotas in each department, college, or degree program. Late applications will not be accepted.
- Article 4 Students applying for direct doctoral degree enrollment must submit the following documents:
 1. An application form for direct doctoral degree enrollment.
 2. A proposal for the doctoral degree, including an autobiography, motivation, research plan, and other relevant information for review.
- Article 5 Upon receiving applications for direct doctoral degree enrollment, each department, college, or degree program must obtain approval from its corresponding departmental, college, or degree program meeting. The first phase must be approved by January 30 and the second phase by August 20, after which the application is forwarded to the Dean of Academic Affairs and the President for final approval.
 Students approved in the first phase will begin their doctoral studies in the second semester (spring semester), and those approved in the second phase will begin in the first semester (fall semester).
- Article 6 The quota for direct doctoral degree enrollment for each department is calculated as forty percent of the general doctoral student admission quota approved by the Ministry of Education for that academic year. Fractions are rounded up. However, if the approved quota is less than five, the quota for direct doctoral degree enrollment is set at two. This limitation does not apply if quotas are transferred from other departments, colleges, or degree programs within the same college during the second phase of application.
 However, the total approved admission quota for each department, college, college, or degree program cannot be entirely filled through direct doctoral degree enrollment, except in the following cases:

1.If the approved doctoral admission quota for a department, college, college, or degree program is one.

2.As approved by the Ministry of Education for talent development programs or projects.

The aforementioned quotas should be included within the total admission capacity approved by the Ministry of Education for the academic year, including domestic students, foreign students, overseas Chinese students, students from Hong Kong and Macau, and students from Mainland China.

Departments that have not been approved to admit students from Mainland China must obtain special approval from the Ministry of Education in January of each year.

Article 7

Students approved for direct doctoral degree enrollment will be considered as first-year doctoral students of the institution from the approved academic year and must follow the curriculum requirements of their respective departments, colleges, colleges, or degree programs.

Students approved for direct doctoral degree enrollment are not eligible to defer their admission.

Master's students approved for direct doctoral degree enrollment, unless they apply for withdrawal from the direct enrollment status, are not eligible to take the master's degree examination.

Undergraduate students who are expected to graduate must obtain their bachelor's degree within the academic year of their approved direct doctoral degree enrollment. Failure to obtain the bachelor's degree before the start of the doctoral program will result in the revocation of their eligibility for direct doctoral degree enrollment.

Students who graduate one semester or one academic year early may enroll in the doctoral program in the semester following their bachelor's degree conferral.

Article 8

Students directly enrolled in a doctoral program who meet one of the following conditions may apply to return to their original department, college, or degree program to continue pursuing a master's degree, subject to the approval of the departmental, college, or degree program committee:

1.Discontinuation of doctoral studies due to circumstances after completing at least one academic year.

2.Failure to pass the doctoral candidacy assessment.

3.Failure to pass the doctoral degree examination and not meeting the criteria outlined in Article 9.

Students approved under the aforementioned conditions may return to their original master's program in the subsequent semester. They must complete the required coursework for the master's program, submit a thesis, and pass the examination conducted by the Master's Degree Examination Committee. Upon passing and meeting the grading criteria, they will be awarded a master's degree. The time spent in the doctoral program will not be counted towards the maximum duration of study for the master's program.

Applications for direct doctoral degree enrollment are limited to one time only, and students may not reapply for direct doctoral degree enrollment as a master's student.

Article 9

Students who have completed their doctoral program, passed the doctoral candidacy qualification assessment, but failed to pass the doctoral degree examination, may be awarded a master's degree if their doctoral thesis is adjudged by the Doctoral Degree Examination Committee to meet the standards of a master's degree. This award is contingent upon receiving a passing grade evaluation.

Article 10

Graduate students approved for direct doctoral degree enrollment must complete at least thirty credits of doctoral-level courses counted towards the degree. This includes undergraduate students directly enrolled in a doctoral program after graduation and master's students directly pursuing a doctorate. The duration of study and performance evaluation for these students will be governed by the regulations of the doctoral program.

Article 11

The application forms for direct doctoral degree enrollment are to be prepared by the Academic Affairs Office, and recommendation letters are to be individually formulated by each college.

Article 12

These regulations shall be implemented following approval by the Academic Affairs Meeting and subsequent announcement.

Note: These regulations are formulated in Chinese. In case of any discrepancies between the English and Chinese versions, the Chinese version shall prevail.