

Proceedings started before April 30, 2019

**Q&A for doctoral students pursuing doctoral programme who started the procedure for the award of a doctoral degree before April 30, 2019 (not completed before April 30, 2019)**

- **Where can I find information on the procedure to confer a doctoral degree?**

The procedure for the award of a doctoral degree initiated and not completed before April 30, 2019 is carried out on the basis of the existing regulations, but the degree is awarded in the areas of study and disciplines specified in the regulations issued on the basis of art. 5 sec. 3 of the Act of 20 July 2018 – Law on Higher Education and Science (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 742, as amended). Completion of the procedure for the award of a doctoral degree means that the Academic Council of Discipline adopts a resolution on awarding the degree of doctor. The procedure must be completed by December 31, 2024. Otherwise, the procedure will be discontinued by operation of law.

We encourage you to get acquainted with [Resolution No. 157 of the Senate of the University of Warsaw of 29 June 2022 on determining the procedure for the award of a doctoral degree and a habilitated doctor degree at the University of Warsaw \(Monitor UW of 2022, item 159\)](#).

Detailed information can be obtained from the head of the doctoral programme or at the office of doctoral programme at your Faculty.

- **Where can I get help with administrative matters?**

As before, administrative support for the procedure for the award of a doctoral degree started before April 30, 2019 is provided by the relevant secretariat/section for the doctoral programme at your faculty. Full documentation related to the procedure for the award of a doctoral degree is stored at the faculty.

In matters relating to a study programme, doctoral scholarships, obtaining funds for research, as well as in social matters (health insurance, accommodation in student dormitories, student loans) please contact the Student Welfare and Support Office ([Biuro ds. Pomocy Materialnej](#)).

- **Who awards a doctoral degree?**

The bodies authorized to award the degree of doctor are the Academic Councils of Disciplines (or the Academic Council of the Areas of Study). There are 22 Academic Councils of Disciplines at the University of Warsaw in the fields of humanities, social sciences, exact and natural sciences, and the Academic Council of the Areas of Study.

- **Which Council will award me a degree?**

The Academic Councils of Disciplines award degrees in accordance with the new classification of scientific fields and disciplines. Link to the Regulation of the Minister of Education and Science of October 11, 2022 on the fields of science and scientific disciplines and artistic disciplines: <https://isap.sejm.gov.pl/isap.nsf/DocDetails.xsp?id=WDU20220002202> .

If the doctoral dissertation covers scientific issues from more than one scientific discipline within a given field of science and it is not possible to indicate one discipline in which the degree is awarded, the degree is awarded in the field by the Academic Council of the Areas of Study).

- **What decisions are made by the Academic Councils in the course of doctoral proceedings?**

The competencies of the Councils include, in particular:

- appointment of an examination commission,
- appointment of a doctoral commission,
- appointment and change of reviewers of the doctoral dissertation,
- changing the supervisor
- awarding a degree,
- closing/discontinuation of proceedings.

- **Where are the decisions of the Academic Councils published?**

Decisions of the Academic Councils are made in the form of resolutions. Resolutions are published in the Journal of the University of Warsaw ([Dziennik UW](#)).

- **What is the deadline for completing the procedure for the award of a doctoral degree?**

All the procedures for the award of a doctoral degree started before April 30, 2019 and not completed by December 31, 2024 will be discontinued by operation of law. The date of December 31, 2024 is the final date by which the Academic Council of Discipline should adopt a resolution on awarding a doctoral degree. To make this possible, the defense of the doctoral dissertation should take place well in advance. Therefore, it is recommended that the candidates submit their doctoral dissertation at the beginning of 2024 at the latest and take the doctoral exams so that the required activities can be carried out by the Doctoral Committees and Academic Councils of Disciplines. Those, who do not complete the procedure for the award of a doctoral degree by December 31, 2024 will be able to start a new procedure for the award of a doctoral degree based on the provisions of the Act of July 20, 2018 - Law on Higher Education and Science. Those, who have completed the last year of doctoral studies at the University of Warsaw are not charged a fee for conducting the procedure.