General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Brief note about nature of change: To reflect changes in college involvement in progression processes.

Effective date
With effect from MT 2019

Location of change

Detail of change
Amend citation reference 1.20. Inserted text has been underlined.

§4. Confirmation of Status as a Student for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

1. A candidate who has been admitted to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy must, not later than the ninth term or normally earlier than the sixth term after that in which he or she was initially admitted to the status of a Probationer Research Student or to the status of a student for another higher degree of the University, or the eighteenth and twelfth terms respectively in the case of a part-time student, complete the assessment process prescribed by the relevant board for confirmation of his or her status as a D.Phil. Student. A board or committee may, for good reason, and with the support of the student’s college, permit a candidate to defer for a maximum of three terms his or her application for confirmation of status. A student who has been admitted to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy after successfully completing the requirements for the Degree of Master (or Bachelor) of Philosophy, or having held the status of Student for the M.Litt. or M.Sc. by Research,
may be exempted by the board or committee concerned from the requirement for confirmation of status. With the exception of students who have been exempted under this provision, all Students for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy must have their status confirmed before making an application for the appointment of examiners.

Amend citation references 1.52-1.56. Inserted text has been underlined, deleted text has been struck through.

§7. Examination of Students for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

2. Such applications should be made to the board concerned through the Registrar. They shall include:
   (i) a certificate from the student’s college that the application has the approval of that college;
   (ii) a certificate from the supervisor that the student has pursued his or her course of study in Oxford in accordance with the provisions of §6 of this section;
   (iii) a statement by the candidate of what part, if any, of the thesis has already been accepted, or is concurrently being submitted, for any degree or diploma or certificate or other qualification in this University or elsewhere;
   (iv) a statement by the candidate that the thesis is his or her own work, except where otherwise indicated.

Explanatory Notes

At its Trinity Term 2018 meeting, Research Degrees Panel agreed changes to the roles of colleges in graduate student progression as part of the Student Progression Project to digitise paper-based graduate progression forms and as supported by the Graduate Committee of Conference of Colleges. The regulation changes

(i) remove the requirement for formal college support to submit an application for Transfer of Status, Confirmation of Status or Appointment of Examiners;
(ii) require formal college support for applications to defer Transfer or Confirmation of Status except where permitted through Special Regulations;
(iii) require formal college support for applications for extension of time but not require college support for applications for extensions of time for minor/major corrections.