

## Guidelines Governing Direct Admission into Doctoral Programs at NCHU

Enacted in in the 52<sup>nd</sup> Academic Affairs Meeting on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Amended (Articles 2 & 3) in the 56<sup>th</sup> Academic Affairs Meeting on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Amended (Article 3) in the 57<sup>th</sup> Academic Affairs Meeting on May. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Article 1 These regulations were established according to Section 3 and 4, Article 23 of University Law.

Article 2 Students who wish to apply for direct admission into the doctoral programs shall fulfill one of the following requirements:

- (1) Undergraduate students who are about to graduate and who have studied for at least 6 semesters are eligible to apply. The said applicants' grade in specific subjects (as determined by the department, graduate institute or degree program) must rank in the first 50% of the entire class they are within and the applicants are regarded to have strong graduate student potentials.
- (2) Graduate student applicants having completed at least one year of master's program courses, have excellent grades, and are regarded as having strong graduate student potentials.

Definition of "excellent grades" and "research potential" in the aforementioned paragraph will be determined by each department, graduate institute, college, or degree program.

Article 3 Students applying for direct admission into doctoral degree programs must submit the following documents to the department, graduate institute, college or degree programs which they wish to enter.

- (1) One application form for Direct Admission into the Doctoral Degree.
- (2) One transcript of the applicant's grades each year (including class ranking).
- (3) Recommendation letters from at least two professors (or associate professors) of the department, graduate institute, or degree program in which the particular applicants are enrolled in currently or from two professors (or associate professors) in programs related to the field of study.
- (4) The application shall be reviewed during relevant meetings in the department, graduate institute, college, or degree programs and approved by the president of NCHU.

Article 4 The number of students who are granted direct admission into each doctoral program shall no exceed 40 % of the total number of doctoral students in that program. Only two students can be granted direct admission into the doctoral program when a total of less than 5 students are admitted into the said program.

The number of students who are granted direct admission into the doctoral program shall be included in the total student enrollment quota approved by the Ministry of Education.

Article 5 The undergraduate students mentioned in the Section 1, Term 1 of Article 2 must complete their undergraduate study and receive their undergraduate degree in the same year when they are granted direct admission into doctoral programs. If the said students fail to receive a bachelor's degree before entering the doctoral program, the admission will then be revoked.

Article 6 Doctoral students who have completed all of the required courses and passed the PhD candidate qualification evaluation, but failed the degree examination, are granted a Master's Degree as long as the students' thesis is deemed to meet the master's thesis requirements by the thesis committee.

Article 7 Students who are granted direct admission into the doctoral program may ask to return to a department/graduate program/degree program or be transferred to another department/graduate program/degree program to pursue a Master's Degree under the following circumstances:

- (1) The student has ceased pursuit of PhD Degree for compelling reasons.
- (2) The student has failed to pass the examination of PhD candidate qualification.
- (3) The student has failed to pass the PhD dissertation exam and has violated Article 6 of these regulations.

The student's application for returning to a master's program or transferring to another program shall be reviewed in relevant meetings of the department/graduate program/degree program and must be approved by the president of the college, with approval from the departments, institutes, departments and having received the president's recognition.

The said students shall be granted a Master's Degree once they complete all required courses and submit their thesis approved by the thesis committee. The period in which the said student studied for their PhD Degree is not considered as part of the permitted school year for the Master's Degree.

Article 8 These regulations and any amendments hereto shall be approved in meetings of the Office of Academic Affairs and publicly announced before taking effect.

