

## Procedures for Application for Early Completion of the Doctoral Program

(Decided by the Graduate School Faculty Assembly on June 22, 2005)

(Latest revision: March 3, 2021)

With regard to the period of enrollment in the Doctoral Program, it is provided for in the clause starting with "However," in Paragraph 35.3 of the RULING ON THE UNIVERSITY OF AIZU GRADUATE SCHOOL; 1) that enrollment of at least three years at THE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL shall be sufficient, with respect to those enrolled at the Master's Program and 2) that enrollment at least one year at THE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL shall be sufficient, with respect to those who have obtained a Master's degree overseas if the Graduate School Faculty Assembly recognizes relevant students as "having demonstrated outstanding achievements."

"Students having demonstrated outstanding achievements" have been defined by the Graduate School Faculty Assembly as those who are first author of at least two papers based on research achievements made during enrollment in the Doctoral Program that have been accepted for and/or were published in major scientific journals. These papers must include the main part of the students' doctoral dissertations, and in addition, the students must be the main contributor to the papers. Regarding items which are not outlined here will be provided for in the "Guidelines for the Doctoral Program."

### (1) Application based on the expectation of outstanding achievements

#### ① Period for application and documents necessary for submission

Students wishing to apply for early completion of the Doctoral Program must submit the predetermined form, "Application for Early Completion of the Doctoral Program," to the Dean of the Graduate School by early July (for those who plan to complete the program in March of the same academic year,) or by early February (for those who plan to complete the program in September of the following academic year.)

⇒ 【1-3-d08】 Application for Early Completion of the Doctoral Program  |  

#### ② Requirements for application

With consent from his/her research advisor and faculty members scheduled to be referees for the relevant dissertation review, a student may apply for early completion based on the expectation of outstanding achievements during his/her enrollment period in the Doctoral Program. However, applicants must have at least one paper that has been accepted and/or published by a major academic journal, and have at least one more paper that has been submitted to a major academic journal, etc. as of the time of the application.

#### ③ Acceptance of applications

Students applying for early completion of the Doctoral Program shall be informed of results of reviews regarding their qualifications for application, following deliberation and authorization by the Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee and the Graduate School Faculty Assembly. For the successful applicants, dissertation review committees may be established based on the description in the "Guidelines for the Doctoral Program," and the preliminary review of the relevant dissertation may be conducted.

#### ④ Confirmation of outstanding achievements

Applicants who have passed the preliminary dissertation review, by way of deliberation by the Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee based on the report on the preliminary dissertation review by the relevant dissertation review committee, must submit documents proving that their achievements are equivalent to "outstanding achievements" to the Dean of the Graduate School, after obtaining approval from the relevant research advisor and the faculty members who are scheduled to be referees of the dissertation review.

Doctoral dissertation review (final dissertation review) may be conducted for those who have been regarded as having "outstanding achievements" by way of deliberation and authorization by the Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee and the Graduate School Faculty Assembly.

#### ⑤ Completion of the Doctoral Program and conferment of a doctoral degree

Applicants who pass the doctoral dissertation review and the review result is finalized by way of deliberation and authorization by the Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee and the Graduate School Faculty Assembly, must submit the final draft of the doctoral dissertation and the Application Form for the Academic Degree to the Dean of the Graduate School. Students who are to be conferred a doctoral degree shall be determined by way of deliberation on and approval of the final draft of the doctoral dissertations and the application form for the academic degree by the Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee and the

(2) Application after outstanding achievements have been made

① Period for application and documents necessary for submission

Students planning to apply for early completion of the Doctoral Program must submit the predetermined form, "Application for Early Completion of the Doctoral Program," to the Dean of the Graduate School by early July (for those who plan to complete the program in March of the same academic year,) or by early February (for those who plan to complete the program in September in the following academic year.)

⇒ 【1-3-d08】 Application for Early Completion of the Doctoral Program  |   

② Requirements for application

With the consent from his/her research advisor and faculty members scheduled to be referees for the Doctoral dissertation review, a student may apply for early completion after he/she has made achievements regarded as "outstanding achievements."

③ Acceptance of applications

Students applying for early completion of the Doctoral Program shall be informed of results of reviews regarding recognition of their achievements as being "outstanding achievements" following deliberation and authorization by the Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee and the Graduate School Faculty Assembly. For those who are given approval for application for early completion, dissertation review committees shall be established based on the "Guidelines for the Doctoral Program," and preliminary review of the relevant dissertation may be conducted.

④ Completion of the Doctoral Program and conferment of a doctoral degree

A doctoral dissertation review (final dissertation review) may be conducted for applicants who have passed the preliminary dissertation review; the Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee approves the results of the preliminary reviews based on the reports submitted by the relevant dissertation review committees.

Applicants who have passed the doctoral dissertation review and whose review result is finalized and authorized by the Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee and the Graduate School Faculty Assembly, must submit the final draft of the doctoral dissertation and the Application Form for the Academic Degree to the Dean of the Graduate School for early completion of the Doctoral Program. Based on the applications for conferment of a doctoral degree, the Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee and the Graduate School Faculty Assembly shall finalize the conferment of the degree.

(3) Other

Applicants whose applications for early completion of the Doctoral Program were not accepted must re-apply for early completion if they wish again to request early completion. For applicants re-applying for early completion who have passed the preliminary dissertation review but failed the final dissertation review before, they may be exempted from preliminary reviews by way of deliberation by the Graduate School Faculty Assembly if they re-apply with the same dissertation title as that of the previous application. If such individuals are enrolled in the Doctoral Program for three years or more for conferment of a doctoral degree without applying for early completion, they may in the same way be exempted from the preliminary dissertation review by way of deliberation by the Graduate School Faculty Assembly.