



Regulations on Continuation in Doctoral Programmes (modified from V.09/11/2018)

Approval date: January 2025.

The special characteristics of the PhD give rise to a wide variety of student profiles, each with different needs and requirements. For this reason, it seems necessary to draft specific regulations stating the conditions for remaining in a PhD programme at the University of Navarra.

These regulations complement the indications of Royal Decree 99/2011, modified by RD 576/2023, of 4 July, and the Regulations on the Organisation of Doctoral Studies at the University of Navarra (NODUN), of 3 July 2024.

1. Deadline for the completion and defence of the doctoral thesis (*NODUN, Articles 27 to 31*).

Full-time students will have a period of 4 years to defend their thesis. The academic committee in charge of the programme may authorise the extension of this period for one additional year.

Part-time students will have a period of 7 years, extendable by one additional year on the basis of a favourable report from the relevant Academic Committee and the Board of Directors.

When the doctoral student is a person with a degree of disability equal to or greater than 33%, the duration of the doctoral studies will be a maximum of six years full-time and nine years part-time.

The period begins on the date of the student's first enrolment and ends with the start of the thesis deposit procedure. Absences due to illness, pregnancy or any other causes foreseen by the current regulations will be taken into account and deducted.

The doctoral student may request a temporary interruption in the programme for a maximum period of two years. This request must be addressed and justified to the academic committee in charge of the programme, which will decide whether or not to grant the student's request.

2. Approval of the Research Plan and Training Plan (*NODUN, Articles 45 to 50*).

The Research Plan and the Training Plan must be submitted to the academic committee for approval before the deadline determined by each doctoral programme, with the approval of the thesis supervisor.

The Research Plan must include a) status of the subject (with bibliography), b) working hypothesis, (c) specific objectives, (d) methodology, (e) time planning and (f) means available with which to achieve the objectives. In all cases, the student must



present an appropriate structure and elements to demonstrate the scientific quality of the project.

The Training Plan must contain a forecast of the different training activities to be carried out during the doctoral thesis (courses, seminars, mobility, etc.) and must guarantee that the doctoral student will acquire all the competences, capabilities and personal skills set out in the regulations in force.

The necessary complementary training must be completed within a maximum period of one academic year following the student's first enrolment in the doctoral course.

3. Annual monitoring of the doctoral student (*NODUN, Article 50*).

Each year, the programme's academic committee must evaluate the doctoral student's Research and Training Plans, with the activities document, together with the report that must be issued by the supervisor and tutor, when appropriate. A positive evaluation will be a prerequisite for continuing on the programme. In the event that the academic committee detects significant shortcomings, the doctoral student must be reevaluated within a maximum period of six months. In the event that the shortcomings continue to exist, the academic committee must issue a reasoned report, after speaking with the interested party, and the doctoral student will be permanently withdrawn from the programme.

4. Expiry of deadlines and other causes for definitive withdrawal (*NODUN, Article 52*).

The reasons listed in the Regulations on the Organisation of Doctoral Studies, Article 52, Sections 1 and 2, will be grounds for definitive withdrawal from the programme:

1. Expiry of the deadlines established for the duration of studies for each type of workday regime. These deadlines are indicated in articles 27 to 31 (completion of the thesis), 59 (deposit) and 61 (defence) of NODUN.
2. Failure to complete the enrolment process and pay for academic tutoring within the established deadlines, without good cause.

Furthermore, as stipulated by Article 52, Section 3 of NODUN, these regulations establish additional grounds for definitive withdrawal from the programme:

3. Failure to comply with the academic regulations of the University of Navarra, published together with the rest of the basic regulations on the website of the University of Navarra.
4. In the event that the doctoral student is an employee of the University of Navarra, failure to comply with employment obligations and duties as set out in Royal Legislative Decree 2/2015, of 23 October, which approves the revised text of the Workers' Statute Law and Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March, which approves the Statute for Pre-Doctoral Research Staff in Training.



5. A declaration of Failure in Academic Integrity issued by the academic committee. Lack of academic integrity is understood to be any form of dishonesty, as well as plagiarism; falsification or appropriation of third-party data and fraud or fabrication of academic results; failure to declare conflicts of interest or to disclose information that could influence the interpretation or evaluation of research work.
6. Inappropriate behaviour of the doctoral student which has public repercussions: any behaviour of the student that generates scandal or public controversy, or negatively affects the image of the institution, may be grounds for expulsion from the doctoral programme. By way of example, the following actions are considered inappropriate behaviour:
 - a. Behaviour which could be qualified as harassment or discriminatory.
 - b. Involvement of the doctoral student in illegal activities that could constitute a very serious administrative offence or crime.
 - c. Issuing public statements or comments that are detrimental to the university community or society in general.
 - d. The publication on social media of offensive, defamatory or hateful posts or posts inciting hatred and violence.

In the event of the aforementioned causes, the University, either ex officio or at the request of the committee, will proceed to initiate disciplinary academic or employment proceedings in accordance with the applicable regulations and procedures.