

Operating Rules for Direct Admission to the Doctoral Program

Department of Psychology, National Cheng Kung University

Revised and approved at the Department Affairs Meeting on September 20, 2017.

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Operating Rules

1. These Operating Rules are formulated to govern the procedures for students of the Department to pursue the doctoral degree through direct admission, in accordance with the University's "Regulations for Direct Admission to Ph.D. Programs of National Cheng Kung University."
2. Applicants for direct admission to the doctoral program in the Department shall be recommended by two Assistant Professors or above from their original or related department(s), institute(s), college(s), or degree program(s). Upon submission of an application, passing the screening examination and being approved by the departmental review meeting, and after submission to and approval by the President of the University, the applicant may pursue the doctoral degree through direct admission.
3. The annual quota for direct admission to the doctoral program in the Department shall not exceed 40% of the doctoral admission quota approved by the Ministry of Education (MOE) for the Department in the corresponding academic year. If the MOE-approved doctoral admission quota is fewer than five (5) students, the maximum number of direct-admission students shall be two (2). The quota specified herein shall be counted within the University's total admission quota approved by the MOE for that academic year.
4. Eligibility criteria for applicants for direct admission to the doctoral program in the Department are as follows:
 - (1) Final-year undergraduate students (including those applying for early graduation) who meet one of the following conditions:
 - a. An overall academic average of 80 or above and demonstrated research potential; or
 - b. Ranked within the top one-third (1/3) of the department or class and demonstrated research potential.
 - (2) Master's students who have completed at least one semester of study and whose academic performance in the first semester meets one of the following conditions:

Master's students who have completed at least one semester shall have passing grades in required master's courses during the period of study and demonstrate research potential.

5. Matters related to screening and review shall be handled by the Department Admissions Committee. The screening examination for this case may be conducted concurrently with the doctoral admissions examination. The screening method, grading, and examination administration shall be handled in accordance with the University's common guidelines for doctoral student admissions. After the screening, the Committee shall convene to finalize the list of successful applicants and submit the results to the Office of Academic Affairs for consolidated processing of relevant approvals and endorsements.

6. Undergraduate applicants approved for direct admission to the doctoral program shall obtain the bachelor's degree prior to the beginning of the semester; otherwise, the direct-admission status shall be revoked. Final-year undergraduate students approved by the Department shall submit, in early July, their four-year undergraduate transcripts; first-year master's students shall submit the transcript of the first semester of the master's program. If the applicant fails to meet the eligibility requirements set forth in Item 4, the direct-admission status shall be revoked. Students approved for direct admission to the doctoral program may not apply for reservation of student status.

7. A student admitted through direct admission may, upon review and approval by the Department Admissions Committee and with the approval of the President of the University, apply to return to the original department/institute/college/degree program to continue master's study, or transfer to a related department/institute/college/degree program to pursue the master's degree, under any of the following circumstances:

- (1) Discontinuation of doctoral study for justified reasons;
- (2) Failure to pass the Ph.D. candidate qualifying examination; or
- (3) Failure to pass the Ph.D. degree examination and failure to meet the requirements set forth in Item 8.

Students described above shall, upon review and approval by the original or related department/institute/college/degree program, complete the required courses for the master's degree in accordance with applicable regulations, submit a thesis, and pass the master's degree examination in order to be awarded the master's degree. The period of doctoral study shall not be counted toward the maximum period of study for the master's degree.

8. A master's student who has been approved by the University for direct admission to the doctoral program shall not participate in the master's degree examination unless the student has formally applied to withdraw and has been approved to revoke the direct-admission status.

9. Matters not specified herein shall be handled in accordance with the University's "Regulations for Direct Admission to Ph.D. Programs of National Cheng Kung University."

10. These Operating Rules shall take effect upon approval by the Department Affairs Meeting. Amendments shall be handled in the same manner.

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This English translation is provided for reference only. In the event of any discrepancy or inconsistency between this translation and the original Chinese text, the Chinese text shall prevail.