



GUIDELINES FOR THE CHANGE OF CANDIDATURE STATUS FROM MASTER'S PROGRAMME BY RESEARCH TO A DOCTORAL PROGRAMME BY RESEARCH

1. Introduction

The guidelines for change of candidature status from Master's programme by research to a Doctoral programme by research are for the purpose of standardizing implementation at the Responsibility Centre (RC). These guidelines also contain the format of the report and evaluation of the change of candidature status from the Master's programme by research to the Doctoral programme by research.

2. Terms and Requirements for Change Of Candidature Status From A Master's Programme by research to a Doctoral Programme by research.

- (1) A full-time Master's by research candidate may be considered for a change in his candidature status to a full-time Doctoral programme by research, subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) the duration of application for the change of candidature is between twelve (12) to fifteen (15) months from the commencement date of the registration for the Master's programme;
 - (b) submit a written application to the Supervisor using the form as in Appendix 1;
 - (c) submit one (1) research report not exceeding 6000 words regarding:
 - (i) introduction and scope of research;
 - (ii) research objectives;
 - (iii) research methodology;
 - (iv) research plans leading to the Doctoral programme.
 - (d) submit research findings during the duration of the Master's programme which is:
 - (i) a journal paper accepted for publication and a seminar presentation at the university or national or international level;

OR

 - (ii) a patent application pending approval or approved and a seminar presentation at the university or national or international level;
- (2) A full-time candidate must present their research findings in one (1) seminar in front of a panel of assessors consisting of two (2) experts from within or outside the University in the field concerned as determined by the RC.

- (3) The candidature duration of the Master's degree is taken into account in the duration of the Doctoral programme by research.
- (4) A full-time candidate who has been approved for a change in candidature status shall register for the Doctoral programme by research not later than the second lecture week of the following semester.
- (5) A full-time candidate who has been approved for a change in candidature status need not to retake the Research Methodology course at the Doctoral programme by research level.
- (6) A full-time candidate who has been approved for a change in candidature status shall meet the graduation requirements including the publication requirements of the Doctoral programme by research.

3. Application Process

- (1) A Full-time candidate must submit the application form as in Appendix 1 to the Supervisor.
- (2) One (1) Panel of Assessor appointed by the RC will evaluate the application of a full-time candidate recommended for the change of the candidature status.
- (3) The appointed panel will evaluate two (2) aspects:
 - (a) research report for conversion of status, and
 - (b) seminar presentation for the conversion of candidature.

The evaluation format for the research report and the seminar presentation for the change of the candidature status are as shown in Appendix 2.

- (4) A full-time candidate must present the research findings before the Panel of Assessors within one month from the date of application for the change in candidature status.
- (5) The RC shall submit the evaluation report of the Panel of Assessors (Appendix 2) for consideration and approval at the RC and Senate meetings.
- (6) A full-time candidate who has been approved for a change in candidature status by the Senate will need to register as a candidate for the Doctoral programme by research in the next semester.

4. Conclusion

These guidelines are provided as a reference for academic staff and the RC's Administrators in the process of change of the candidature status from the Master's programme by research to the Doctoral programme by research. It aims to quality assure and ensure the alignment of processes in each RC. These guidelines should be read in conjunction with the University of Malaya (Doctoral Degree) Rules and Regulations (latest version) and the University of Malaya (Master's Degree) Rules and Regulations (latest version).

The Graduate on Time schedule for a full-time candidate whose change of candidature status from the Master's by research programme to a Doctoral by research programme has been approved is as shown in Appendix 3.

These Guidelines are subject to amendments from time to time.

Approved by the Senate on 25.02.2021.