

## National Science and Technology Council Scholarships for Exceptional Doctoral Students

Passed on July 17, 2019 at the first meeting of the Academic Directors Council of the 2018 academic year

Passed on May 20, 2020 at the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Student Admissions Council of the 2020 academic year

Passed on June 10, 2020 at the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Student Admissions Council of the 2020 academic year

Passed on October 21, 2020 at the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Student Admissions Council of the 2021 academic year

Passed on September 14, 2022 at the first meeting of the Student Admissions Council of the 2022 academic year

Passed on May 17, 2023 at the first meeting of the Student Admissions Council of the 2023 academic year

1. To actively cultivate high-level researchers needed by this country and its people and to reward outstanding doctoral students showing significant research potential and support them in allowing them to concentrate on their research and study without distractions, in accordance with the *National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Scholarships for Exceptional Doctoral Students* these implementation guidelines have been formulated.
2. Scholarship Recipients:
  - (1) First-year doctoral students admitted and registered in the current year (including those who have enrolled before February)
  - (2) Recipients **do not** include students from Mainland China, Hong Kong, or Macau.
3. Scholarship Grant Period and Amount:
  - (1) Each doctoral student shall receive a monthly stipend of NT\$40,000 with the scholarship period to run from September 1<sup>st</sup> of the student's first year to August 31<sup>st</sup> of his/her fourth year, for a maximum of four years. For those students who graduate within four years, the scholarship shall end the month they graduate.
  - (2) The scholarship shall be supported by the NSTC, NTNU, and the student's department (graduate institute). In the first two years, NT\$30,000 will be given by NSTC, with NTNU and the student's department (graduate institute) each contributing NT\$5,000 in matching funds. For the third and fourth years of the scholarship, NSTC will contribute NT\$20,000, with NTNU and the student's department (graduate institute) each contributing NT\$10,000 in matching funds.
  - (3) The matching funds mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall be drawn

from the University Affairs Fund. The department (graduate institute) contributions shall come from funds allocated to the department (graduate institute) from the University Affairs Fund. These funds may not be those previously contributed by MOST.

- (4) If the department (graduate institute) has insufficient funds to allocate for a student's scholarship, NTNU may hold back the department's (graduate institute's) quota for the year, with the quota to be given to another department (graduate institute).

#### 4. Scholarship Quota Allocation Rules:

- (1) During the first Student Admissions Council meeting of the first semester of every academic year, department (graduate institute) rankings for the next year will be allocated according to the quotas approved by NSTC in the current year.
- (2) NTNU will allocate rankings in line with the amount each department (graduate institute) received in funding from NSTC's programs over the previous four years, as well as in consideration of the average yearly funding received by each department's or graduate institute's faculty members through NSTC (with research in the humanities weighted at 150%) over the previous four years. In general, a department will only have one scholarship recipient.
- (3) Before June of every year, each department (graduate institute) in accordance with the number of scholarships assigned to it, will send to the Office of Academic Affairs a list of recommended students (including a wait list), as well as an explanation of its sources for scholarship funding. For departments (graduate institutes) which are unable to offer funding sources as outlined in Article 3, Paragraph 1, Sub-paragraph 3, the next department (graduate institute) will be chosen according to the ranking system outlined in the preceding paragraph.

#### 5. Selection Criteria and Periodic Assessment Mechanisms:

- (1) Each department (graduate institute) may use a self-screening method in accordance to these Guidelines. They may also use academic grades, master's theses, published works in academic journals, published works, completed works, patents, academic results, proof of winning international competitions, or other favorable materials as selection criteria.
- (2) Scholarship recipients, in years one through three of their scholarship, before the end of July, shall submit to their department (graduate institute)

a report including their academic transcript for the year, academic results, production of works, participation in international events, and any other information required by their department (graduate institute) in order to apply to be recommend to continue receiving scholarship funding. After assessing and reviewing the submitted materials, a list of names of those who have passed assessment shall be sent to Office of Academic Affairs in application for scholarship funding for the next academic year.

- (3) Scholarship recipients in their fourth (and last) year, before the end of July, shall submit to their department (graduate institute) a report including their academic transcript for the year, academic results, production of works, participation in international events, and any other information required by their department (graduate institute) to complete the scholarship program.

6. Scholarship Beneficiary Follow-up Mechanism:

- (1) These Guidelines shall be adjusted every academic year in accordance with each department's or graduate institute's student recruitment and enrollment status, and departmental or graduate institute's evaluations of student academic research and foreign language abilities, and the direction and development of graduated students.
- (2) Each department (graduate institute) shall be required to follow-up (either through phone interviews, questionnaires, or other methods) with scholarship recipients within three years following their graduation from NTNU, with the recipient's academic research results or workplace contributions/directions sent to the Office of Academic Affairs for review before the end of July. Scholarship recipients may not refuse to participate in this follow-up.

7. During the scholarship period, if one of the following situations arises, the recipient shall no longer be eligible for the scholarship and the scholarship shall be terminated in the month following the occurrence of the event. The scholarship may not be resumed, and a new recipient shall be chosen from a wait list submitted by the department (graduate institute). If there is not another suitable candidate in the department, then, in accordance with the ranking system outlined in Article 4, Paragraph 1, Sub-paragraph 2, a new candidate from a new department (graduate institute) will be selected to receive the scholarship funding:

- (1) Engaged in full time work at a private/public institution
- (2) Applied for suspension of schooling or to withdraw for school
- (3) Student studying on a PhD track returned to a master's track

(4) Did not receive recommendation from department (graduate institute) to continue scholarship

8. If documents submitted by the scholarship recipient are found to have been forged, false, altered, or untruthful in any manner, his/her scholarship eligibility shall be revoked and any funds that have already been given shall be returned and legal action may be pursued in accordance with the attending circumstances.
9. For matters not covered in these Guidelines, they shall be handled in accordance with the relevant regulations as put forth by NSTC or this University.
10. These Guidelines shall be implemented following their approval at a meeting of the Student Admissions Council, with a copy send to the National Science and Technology Council for their records. The same shall apply to any revisions of these Guidelines.