

Providence University Regulations on Direct Pursuit of Doctoral Degree Study

Amended at the Academic Affairs Meeting on December 10, 2025.

- Article 1 The Providence University Regulations on Direct Pursuit of Doctoral Degree Study (hereinafter the “Regulations”) are established in accordance with Paragraph 4, Article 23 of the University Act and the provisions of the Ministry of Education’s Regulations on Direct Pursuit of Doctoral Degree Study.
- Article 2 The “Department” in the Regulations refers to the department, graduate institute, class, college, and degree-seeking program.
1. The applicants applying for direct pursuit of doctoral degree must meet one of the following credentials:
 - (1) The undergraduate students in the final year of study (including those applying for early graduation) evidencing superior academic performance and research potential.
 - (2) The graduate students in the Master’s program who have enrolled for a minimum of one semester evidencing superior academic performance and research potential.
 - (3) Provide at least two Letters of Recommendation by associate professors or above of the enrolled or related departments.
 2. The criteria for the “superior academic performance and research potential” prescribed in the preceding subparagraph is subject to the pertinent departmental meetings and should be forwarded to the Academic Affairs Meeting for approval.
- Article 3
1. The admission quota for the direct pursuit of doctoral degree study is limited to 40% of the quota for overall doctoral admission of the pertinent department approved by the MOE for the current academic year. The unfilled admission quota for direct pursuit of doctoral studies allocated from the other programs within the college is not included.
 2. **After completing the final channel of external student recruitment for doctoral programs of each department, institute, college, or degree program in the given academic year, any remaining admission vacancies may be calculated and relocated to the quota for the direct pursuit of a doctoral degree. However, the number regarding the relocation of direct pursuit of doctoral studies is limited to 40% of the quota for overall doctoral admissions in the pertinent department, as approved by the MOE for the current academic year. The unfilled admission quota for direct pursuit of doctoral studies allocated from the other programs within the college is not included.**
 3. **The quota for doctoral programs in the aforementioned departments shall not be filled entirely through direct admission to doctoral programs. However, the prescribed condition does not apply to any of the following circumstances:**
 - (1) The approved admission quota for doctoral studies is one person.
 - (2) Talent Cultivation Program or Project approved by MOE.
 4. The admission quota prescribed in the preceding subparagraph shall be included in the total University admission quota for the current academic year approved by the MOE.
- Article 4 The students applying for direct admission to doctoral study should abide by the schedule stipulated in the Academic Calendar and apply to the department of interest with necessary documents. Upon the approval of relevant departmental meetings, the related materials should be collated by the Office of Academic Affairs and submitted to the president of the University for final approval.
- Article 5 The students applying for direct admission to doctoral program should submit the following

documents:

Application Form for Direct Pursuit of Doctoral Degree Study.

The undergraduate students in their final year of study should submit one copy of the complete undergraduate transcripts; the graduate students should submit one copy of the transcript with a minimum of one semester of graduate study.

Two Letters of Recommendation by two associate professors or above.

Materials specified by the respective departments.

- Article 6 The undergraduate students in their final year of study who have been approved for direct admission to doctoral program shall acquire their Bachelor degree in the academic year of approval. If the said students failed to acquire the said Bachelor degree prior to the beginning of the graduate study, their qualification for direct admission to doctoral program shall be revoked.
- Article 7 The students who are approved for direct admission to doctoral program shall not apply for deferred admission; their registration, enrollment, and other matters shall be handle in accordance with the regulations on the new admission to doctoral programs.
- Article 8 Subject to the approval of the pertinent department meetings and the final approval of the president of the University, with one of the following conditions, the students admitted to a doctoral program by direct admission may petition to return to the Master's program of the same department or transfer to the Master's program of a related department:
Terminating the study in doctoral program.
Failed to pass the doctoral candidacy review.
Failed to pass the Doctorate Examination and the provision in Article 9.
The prescribed students may be conferred a Master's degree providing they have been approved by the transfer review meeting of the current department or the related transfer-in department, fulfilled the requirements for a Master's course studies and presented a quality Master's thesis, and passed the examination by the Master's Degree Examination Committee. The time the student enrolled in the doctoral program shall not be included in the student's maximum duration of a Master's study.
- Article 9 Subject to the approval of Doctorate Examination Committee, the students with direct admission to doctoral program who pass their comprehensive examination but fail to pass the doctorate examination shall be conferred a Master's degree, in lieu of a doctoral degree, providing that their thesis meet the standards appropriate for a Master's degree.
- Article 10 The Regulations are enforced upon the approval of the Academic Affairs Meeting; the same procedure applies to the amendments.

Adopted at the Academic Affairs Meeting on October 3, 2007

Amended at the Academic Affairs Meeting on June 4, 2008

Amended at the Academic Affairs Meeting on June 19, 2019

Amended at the Academic Affairs Meeting on March 1, 2023

***The Chinese version of the document shall prevail in case of any discrepancy or inconsistency between the Chinese version and its English translation.**