

REGULATION GOVERNING GRADUATE EDUCATION

PART 1

Aim, Scope, Basis, and Definition of Terms

Aim and scope

ARTICLE 1- (1) This document aims to regulate the principles that govern the procedures concerning all graduate education offered in the graduate programs consisting of master's, doctorate, and proficiency in art at higher education institutions.

Basis

ARTICLE 2- (1) This Regulation has been prepared based on Article 44 and Paragraph c of the Higher Education Law numbered 2547 and dated November 4, 1981.

Definitions

ARTICLE 3- (1) Wherever the following terms appear in this document, they shall be taken to refer to:

- a) ALES (Akademik Personel ve Lisansüstü Giriş Sınavı): The Academic Personnel and Graduate Education Entrance Examination,
- b) ECTS: European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System,
- c) ÖSYM (Ölçme, Seçme and Yerleştirme Merkezi): Student Selection and Placement Center
- d) Plagiarism: the practice of knowingly or unknowingly taking and using someone else's work, ideas, methods, or data without crediting the source and presenting them as one's own

PART 2

Master's Programs

General provisions

ARTICLE 4- (1) Master's programs are conducted in two modes, namely, Master's programs with a thesis and non- thesis Master's programs. Provisions regarding the Graduate School departments in which the programs will be instructed, the way they will be carried out, and the permission of transfer between the thesis and non-thesis master's programs, which are under the authority of higher education institutions, are conducted by the regulation issued by the senates.

(2) Upon the decision of the Council of Higher Education (YÖK), without an obligation of lecturer and students to be in the same place, postgraduate distance education programs can be offered at the University where teaching is planned and carried out based on information and communication technologies. Provisions regarding fields for which distance education programs can be offered, courses offered through distance education, their credits and ECTS credits, preparation of course materials, way of exams, Protocols to be signed between higher education institutions for this purpose, and other issues related to distance education are determined by YÖK.

Application and admission to graduate programs

ARTICLE 5- (1) In order to apply to the Masters programs, candidates must hold an undergraduate diploma and an ALES score determined by Senate, provided that it is no less than 55 in the score type relevant to the program applied for. However, an ALES score may not be required under the following circumstances:

- a) ALES score is not required for student admission to fine arts and the conservatory in the departments of the Graduate Schools which admit students only with special talent examination.

b) ALES score is not required for the graduates of doctorate / proficiency in art / specialty in medicine / specialization in dentistry / specialty in veterinary medicine / specialty in pharmacy to apply for master's programs.

(2) ALES score may not be required for admission to non-thesis master's programs. In case ALES score is requested, the minimum score is determined by the senates.

(3) The principles regarding the application of candidates who are/may be graduated, the weight of the ALES score no less than 50%, and other issues regarding student admission to graduate education are determined by the Senate.

(4) Higher education institutions can admit students with only ALES score. In addition to ALES score, undergraduate grade point average, written exam and/or interview results may be evaluated for student admission to master's program.

(5) The following provisions are valid for the evaluation procedures of the candidates within the scope of sub-clause (b) of the first paragraph:

a) A score, no less than 55, but no more than 75, is determined by the university senates, regardless of the type of score for admission to the graduate program or the field of specialization, and it is announced in the requirements of the relevant program.

b) These candidates can apply in a different field than doctorate/proficiency in art/specialization they have previously received or with a different type of score.

c) The announced score is counted towards the calculations as ALES score regardless of the score type.

(6) For student admission to programs with Turkish-medium-of-instruction in the conservatory and fine arts in the Graduate School departments which admit students only with special talent examination, a foreign language score is not required in the following cases in order to apply, provided that it is documented with a health report obtained from a state hospital or a state university hospital. These candidates are deemed to have met the minimum foreign language requirement asked by the university as a foreign language score:

a) Candidates with impaired hearing who have an unrecovered disability level of at least 70% or a recovered disability level of at least 40%,

b) Candidates with mental retardation with a disability level of 50% and above,

c) Disabled candidates who have a disability level of 40% or more with a diagnosis of "pervasive developmental disorder" (Autism spectrum disorder/childhood autism/atypical autism, Rett Syndrome, Asperger's Syndrome).

Master's program with a thesis

ARTICLE 6- (1) The master's program with a thesis allows the student to access information using scientific research methods and enables them to gain the ability to compile, review, and discuss information.

(2) The Master's program with a thesis consists of at least seven credit courses with no less than twenty-one total credits, one seminar course, and thesis work. The seminar course and thesis work, which are non-credit, are evaluated as successful or unsuccessful. Master's program with a thesis consists of minimum 60 ECTS credits for one academic year, covering at least eight courses, including the seminar course, and the thesis work, corresponding to a minimum total of 120 ECTS credits. After a thesis advisor is assigned, the student should register for thesis work every semester.

(3) At most two courses may be taken from undergraduate programs provided that they were not taken during undergraduate education. Students can take a maximum of two graduate courses offered in other institutions of higher education, by recommendation of the Graduate School Department and with the approval of the Graduate School Administrative Board.

(4) A Master's with a thesis program can also be instructed as an evening education program.

Period of education

ARTICLE 7- (1) The normal duration of master's programs with a thesis is four semesters, while the maximum duration is six semesters, excluding the time spent in scientific preparation. It starts from the semester in which the related courses are offered, regardless of whether they are registered for each semester or not.

(2) Students who have not completed all credit curriculum courses and the seminar course successfully at the end of the four semesters or those who fail to fulfill the success requirements/criteria determined by the University within this period, those who fail in their thesis work, or do not participate in thesis defense at the maximum allowed duration shall be dismissed from the University.

(3) The regulations regarding the students who may graduate from the master's program before the minimum duration are determined by the regulation accepted by the Senate.

Assignment of an advisor

ARTICLE 8- (1) For master's programs with a thesis, the Graduate School Department must assign a thesis advisor among the staff of the relevant department for each student by the end of the first semester following the registration date. The students propose the thesis topic that they determine together with their advisor to the Graduate School by the end of the second semester at the latest. Thesis topic and advisor are finalized with the approval of the administrative board.

(2) The thesis advisor is selected among the faculty members with the qualifications to be determined by the senate. If there is no faculty member with the specified qualifications at the university, an advisor can be selected from another higher education institution from the faculty members working in the relevant department. In cases where the nature of the thesis work calls for more than one advisor, a second advisor may be assigned as co-advisor from a faculty member of the University or a person from outside the University holding at least a Doctoral degree.

Finalization of a master's thesis

ARTICLE 9- (1) A student studying in a master's program with a thesis writes the thesis in accordance with the spelling rules determined by the Graduate School and defends the thesis orally before the jury.

(2) Before the defense of the master's thesis and after the revision in the thesis for which revision is given, the student completes the thesis by revising the relevant issues and presents it to his/her advisor. The advisor submits the thesis to the Graduate School with his/her opinion that the thesis is ready to be defended. The Graduate School receives the plagiarism software program report related to the thesis and sends it to the advisor and jury members. If an actual case of plagiarism is detected in the data in the report, it is sent to the Graduate School Administrative Board for a decision together with its justification.

(3) The master's thesis jury is appointed upon the suggestion of the thesis advisor and Graduate School Department with the approval of the Graduate School Administrative Board. The thesis jury shall be made up of three or five faculty members, one being the thesis advisor of the student and at least one

being from outside the University. If the jury is made up of three people, the co-advisor cannot be a jury member.

(4) The student who completes the thesis work submits the thesis in the requested number of copies to the thesis advisor. The advisor sends copies of the thesis to the Graduate School through the department with the opinion that they state in writing in terms of compliance with the writing rules of the thesis.

(5) The thesis jury convenes within one month at the latest as of the date they receive the thesis to have the student defend it. The thesis defense comprises the presentation of the thesis work and the consecutive question and answer session. The thesis exam is held in an environment open to the participation of lecturers, graduate students, and field experts.

(6) After the thesis defense is completed, the jury decides, in absolute majority, whether the result is "approval", "revision" or "refusal". The Graduate School Department notifies the concerned GS about the decision of the jury latest within three days after the thesis examination through an official jury report.

(7) The student whose thesis is not approved is dismissed from the Higher Education Institutions.

(8) Students who are asked to review their theses after the defense may be given an extension of maximum three months by the jury. The student makes the required revisions and defends the thesis once again before the same jury. At the end of this period, students whose thesis is not approved after the defense are dismissed from their programs.

(9) If students whose thesis is rejected make a request, they may be given a non-thesis master's program diploma, provided that they fulfill the course credit load, project writing and similar requirements of the non-thesis master's program.

Diploma

ARTICLE 10- (1) Within one month from the date of the defense, the student found successful in her/his thesis defense and meeting the graduation requirements determined by the Senate must submit to the concerned Graduate School at least three bound copies of the thesis found appropriate as per format by the concerned Graduate School. Students who meet these requirements are entitled to a Master's degree. Upon the student's request, the submission deadline may be extended a maximum of one month by the Graduate School Administrative Board. Students who fail to meet these requirements cannot receive their diplomas until they do so, nor can they enjoy the rights granted to students. Such students are dismissed from their programs when their maximum period for study expires.

(2) On the master's diploma with a thesis, it is written the name of the program approved by YÖK in which the student is registered. Graduation date is the date when the signed copy of the thesis is submitted by the examination jury commission.

(3) Within three months after the submission of the thesis, the relevant Graduate School sends a copy of the master's thesis to YÖK on an electronic medium to serve in scientific research and activities.

A non-thesis master's program

ARTICLE 11- (1) The aim of non-thesis Master's programs is to have students gain expert-level knowledge in the related field and the ability to use their existing knowledge in professional applications.

(2) A non-thesis Master's program consists of at least ten courses no less than thirty credits, a Semester Project course, corresponding to at least 60 ECTS. The student must register for the semester project in the semester it is offered and submit a written project and/ or report at the end of that semester. The semester project is a non-credit course and is evaluated as "Successful" or "Unsuccessful".

(3) Maximum three courses from undergraduate programs may be taken, provided that they were not taken during undergraduate education.

(4) According to the principles determined by the Senate, a comprehensive exam can be taken at the end of the non-thesis master's program.

(5) Non-thesis master's programs can also be carried out as evening education program.

Period of education

ARTICLE 12- (1) The normal duration of a non-thesis Master's program thesis is two academic semesters, while the maximum duration is three semesters, excluding the time spent in scientific preparation. It starts from the semester in which the related courses are offered, regardless of whether students are registered for each semester or not. Students who are unsuccessful or unable to complete the program at the end of this period are dismissed from the University.

Assignment of an advisor

ARTICLE 13- (1) In the first semester, either a faculty member or a member of the academic staff holding at least a doctoral degree with qualifications determined by the relevant Senate is assigned as an advisor for that student by the Graduate School Department for the purpose of course selection and supervising the project work.

Diploma

ARTICLE 14- (1) Students who successfully complete the course load (credit courses) and the project course are entitled to a Master's degree without thesis.

(2) On the non-thesis Master's diploma, it is written the name of the program approved by YÖK in which the student is registered.

(3) Those who continue to the non-thesis master's program can transfer to the master's program with thesis, provided that they fulfill the minimum requirements for the master's program, if any. In this case, the courses taken in the non-thesis master's program can be counted towards the course load in the master's program with a thesis with the decision of the Graduate School Administrative Board.

PART 3

Doctoral Programs

General provisions

ARTICLE 15- (1) Doctoral programs aim to provide students with skills necessary to conduct independent research, to comment on scientific phenomena using a wide and deep point of view, to analyze, and determine the steps to develop new syntheses.

(2) For students with a Master's degree, a Ph.D. program consists of the phases of at least seven credit courses with no less than twenty-one total credits and minimum 60 ECTS for one semester, one seminar course, the doctoral comprehensive examination, the thesis proposal, and thesis work, corresponding to a total of minimum 240 ECTS-credits. The phases of Ph.D. on Bachelor's degree programs consist of at least fourteen credit courses with a cumulative total of at least forty-two credits, one seminar course, the doctoral comprehensive examination, the thesis proposal, and thesis work, corresponding to a total of a minimum of 300 ECTS-credits.

(3) Of the graduate courses offered in other institutions of higher education, students in Ph.D. programs can select a maximum of two, and those in Ph.D. on Bachelor's degree programs can select a

maximum of four courses by recommendation of the Graduate School Department and with the approval of the concerned Graduate School Administrative Board.

(4) Undergraduate courses cannot be counted in the course load or towards doctoral credits.

(5) Doctoral programs cannot be offered in evening education.

(6) The authentic thesis to be prepared following doctoral work must bear at least one of the following qualities: Introducing innovation to science by generating new knowledge, developing a new method of scientific research, and developing a new application of a well-known method.

Application and admission

ARTICLE 16- (1) The requirements for candidates to apply to the doctoral program are as follows:

(a) To have a master's degree with a thesis and have an ALES score to be determined by the Senate providing it is not less than 55 points in the score type of the program they apply. However, ALES is not required for graduates of doctorate / proficiency in art / specialty in medicine / specialization in dentistry / specialization in veterinary medicine / specialty in pharmacy to apply for doctoral programs. For these candidates' evaluations, the following steps are taken:

(1) A score, no less than 55, but no more than 75, is determined by the university senates, regardless of the type of score at the entrance to the graduate program or the field of specialization, and it is announced in the requirements of the relevant program.

(2) These candidates can apply in a different field than doctorate/proficiency in art/specialization they have previously received or with a different type of score.

(3) The announced score is counted in the calculations as ALES score regardless of the score type.

(b) For those who have a bachelor's degree with at least ten semesters in the faculties of medicine, dentistry, veterinary, pharmacy and preparatory classes, or those who have expertise gained in a laboratory branch according to the principles regulated by the Ministry of Health, it is required to have an ALES score determined by the university senates, no less than 55 in the score type of the program they apply from.

(c) Candidates who apply for a doctoral program with a bachelor's degree must have a Cumulative Grade Point Average of minimum 3 or an equivalent point out of 4.00 and an ALES score determined by the Senate, no less than 80 points in the score type of the program they are applying for. In the student admission to the doctoral program with a master's degree, graduate grade point average, ALES score and the result of a written scientific evaluation exam and/or interview shall be evaluated. Issues related to this assessment, application requirements, and other issues regarding student admission are determined by the Senate principles.

(2) Except for the preparatory classes, those who have a ten-semester undergraduate education are deemed to have a master's degree.

(3) The weight of the ALES score (provided that it is weighted at no less than 50% in the final mark) is determined by the Senate. Higher education institutions can accept students with only ALES score. Equivalent scores, which are accepted as equivalent to ALES and announced by the Council of Higher Education, can be increased with the decisions of the senate of each university.

(4) ALES score is not required for student admission to Graduate Schools departments in fine arts and the conservatory which admit students only with special talent examination. However, an ALES score

may be required for admission with the decision of the Senate. In case an ALES score is requested, the minimum score is determined by the Senate.

(5) In the admission of students to the doctoral program, it is obligatory to get at least 55 points from the international foreign language exams accepted as equivalent to the central foreign language exams accepted by YÖK for a language except for their mother tongue, or an equivalent score from the international foreign language exams whose equivalence is accepted by OSYM. If necessary, it is decided by the university senates to increase these minimum scores according to the characteristics of the programs to be entered.

(6) In order to be able to apply to doctoral programs in basic medical sciences, medical faculty graduates are required to have a bachelor's degree and a basic medical score from the Medical Specialization Education Entrance Exam to be determined by the decision of the Senate no less than 50 points, or ALES score to be determined by the decision of the Senate no less than 55 points in the numerical score type of ALES. Those who are not graduated from medical school are required to have a master's degree (undergraduate degree for graduates of dentistry and veterinary faculties) or have an ALES score determined by the decision of the Senate, provided that it is not less than 55 points in the numerical score type of ALES. The basic medical score is evaluated by multiplying the standard score obtained from the Basic Medical Sciences Test-1 section in the Medical Specialization Education Entrance Examination and the standard score obtained from the clinical medical sciences test by 0.7 and 0.3, respectively, which are finally added. In admission to doctoral programs, in addition to the basic medical score or ALES score, undergraduate and/or graduate grade point averages, scientific evaluation and/or interview results can also be evaluated if necessary. Issues related to this evaluation and other documents that candidates are required to provide for application (reference letter, letter of intent, international standard exams, and similar documents) are determined by the regulation made by the Senate. However, in student admission to the doctoral program in basic medical sciences, it is obligatory to get at least 55 points from the international foreign language exams accepted as equivalent to the central foreign language exams accepted by YÖK for a language except for their mother tongue, or an equivalent score from the international foreign language exams accepted by ÖSYM. The Senate decides to increase these minimum scores, if necessary, according to the programs to be entered. The weight of the basic medical score or ALES score, provided that it is not less than 55%, is determined by the Senate. The university can accept students only with the basic medicine score or the ALES score.

Period of education

ARTICLE 17 – (1) Starting from the semester in which the related courses are offered, regardless of whether they are registered for each semester or not, the duration of the doctoral program for those with master's degree with thesis is eight semesters, while the maximum duration is twelve semesters, excluding the time spent in scientific preparation. For those admitted with a bachelor's degree, it is ten semesters, and the maximum completion period is fourteen semesters.

(2) The maximum time to successfully complete the required credit courses for the doctorate program is four semesters for those who are accepted with a master's degree with thesis and six semesters for those who are accepted with a bachelor's degree. Those who cannot successfully complete the required credit courses within this period or cannot achieve the minimum grade point average required by the University are dismissed from the University.

(3) Those who successfully complete credit courses, are successful in the doctoral comprehensive examination, and whose thesis proposal is accepted, but cannot complete the thesis work by the end of the twelve or fourteen semesters specified in the first paragraph, are dismissed from the program.

(4) For students who have applied to a doctorate program with a bachelor's degree, those who cannot complete their credit courses and/or the thesis work within the maximum period, or those who have not been successful in their doctorate thesis, provided that they have fulfilled the credit load, project and other similar requirements for the non-thesis master's degree, can be given a non-thesis master degree diploma upon their request.

Assignment of an advisor

ARTICLE 18- (1) The Graduate School Department assigns a thesis advisor for each student from the staff of the relevant department and submits the thesis topic and the thesis title that the student and the advisor determine together to the Graduate School. Thesis topic and advisor are finalized with the decision of the Graduate School Administrative Board.

(2) The thesis advisor is selected among the faculty members with the qualifications to be determined by the senate. If there is no faculty member with the specified qualifications at the university, an advisor can be selected from another higher education institution among the faculty members. In order to qualify as a thesis advisor in doctoral programs, the faculty member should have supervised at least one Master's thesis which should have been successfully completed, excluding the departments in the faculties of dentistry, pharmacy, medicine, and veterinary. In cases where the nature of the thesis work calls for more than one advisor, a second advisor may be assigned as co-advisor from a faculty member of the University or a person from outside the University holding at least a Doctoral degree.

The doctoral comprehensive examination

ARTICLE 19- (1) The doctoral comprehensive examination (DCE) is the assessment of whether the students who have completed the courses and seminar have the knowledge of the depth of scientific research related to the basic topics and concepts in the field and doctoral work. A student may take the DCE twice a year the most.

(2) The time when the student will take the proficiency exam is determined by the regulation accepted by the senate. However, students admitted with a master's degree must take the examination the latest by the end of the fifth semester. Students admitted with an undergraduate degree must take the examination the latest by the end of the seventh semester.

(3) The DCEs are organized and executed by a Doctoral Comprehensive Committee of five faculty members suggested by the chair of the Graduate School Department and approved by the Graduate School Administrative Board. The committee shall establish examination juries tasked with the preparation, the administration, and the evaluation of examinations in various fields. The examination jury shall be made up of five faculty members including the advisor with at least two members from an outside institution. The relevant Graduate School Administrative Board decides whether the advisor has the right to vote. In case the advisor does not have the right to vote, the jury consists of six faculty members. The DCE meetings shall be open to audiences made up of faculty members, graduate students, and experts in the field.

(4) The DCEs are administered in two parts; written and oral. Students who are successful in the written exam take the oral exam. The weights and grades of the exams are calculated according to the regulations of the higher education institution. Exam juries evaluate the success of the student in the written and oral exams and decide with absolute majority whether the student is successful or unsuccessful. This decision is reported to the Graduate School by the chair of Graduate School Department within three days following the DCE.

(5) Students who fail the DCE shall re-take the failed examination in the next semester. Students who fail this examination once again shall be dismissed from the doctoral program.

(6) The DCE jury may require a student, who has passed the DCE successfully, to take an extra course or extra courses not to exceed one-third of the total credits, even if the student has completed course load requirements. The student shall be required to successfully complete the courses determined by decision of the relevant Graduate School.

(7) Students who are admitted to the doctoral program with an undergraduate degree and who have successfully completed at least seven courses can transfer to the master's program. The requirements for transferring to the master's program are determined by the regulation to be prepared by the Senate.

Doctoral thesis monitoring committee

ARTICLE 20- (1) For students who are successful in the DCE, upon the suggestion of the chair of Graduate School Department and approval of the Graduate School Administrative Board, at most within one month, a Thesis Monitoring Committee (TMC) shall be formed.

(2) The Thesis Monitoring Committee shall be made up of three academic members. The committee shall be composed of the thesis advisor of the student, a faculty member from the same department, and a faculty member from outside the department. In cases where a co-advisor has been appointed, the co-advisor may attend the meetings if he/she wishes.

(3) In the periods following the establishment of the TMC, upon suggestion of the chair of Graduate School Department and approval of the Graduate School Administrative Board, the members of the TMC can be changed.

Defense of the doctoral thesis proposal

ARTICLE 21- (1) Within six months latest after the DCE, the student who is deemed successful defends orally her/his thesis proposal which comprises the purpose of the thesis work, the research method and the future work plan before the TMC. The student submits a written report to the TMC members at least fifteen days prior to this meeting.

(2) The TMC decides, with absolute majority, to "approve", "return for revision" or "reject" the presented thesis proposal. One month is allotted for revision. At the end of this period, and by latest within three days after the defense of the thesis proposal, the Graduate School Department notifies, in an official report, the concerned Graduate School of the final decision which is taken by absolute majority as "approval" or "refusal".

(3) Students whose thesis proposals are rejected have a right to choose another thesis topic or thesis advisor, in which case a new TMC may be assigned. Students who choose to continue the program with the same thesis advisor defend their proposal once again latest within the ensuing three months, and those who choose a different thesis topic or thesis advisor do so the latest within the ensuing six months. In case of rejection of the thesis proposal a second time, the student is dismissed from the program.

(4) For the student whose thesis proposal has been approved, the TMC convenes at least twice a year, once between January and June and once between July and December. The student submits a written report to the TMC members at least one month before their meeting. In this report, a summary of the work covered thus far and the work plan for the next semester are given. The letter grade for the student's thesis work is determined as successful or unsuccessful by the TMC. Students who are determined to be unsuccessful twice consecutively, or three times intermittently, in their thesis work are deemed unsuccessful and dismissed from their programs.

(5) A student who fails to attend the thesis proposal defense session without a valid excuse within the period stated in the first paragraph of this Regulation is deemed unsuccessful and her/his thesis proposal is rejected.

Finalization of a doctoral thesis

ARTICLE 22- (1) Students in the doctoral program write their thesis in accordance with the thesis writing rules of the relevant Graduate School and defend their thesis orally before the jury.

(2) Before the defense of the doctoral thesis and after the revision in the thesis for which revision is necessary, the student submits the thesis to the advisor by completing the thesis. The advisor submits the thesis to the Graduate School with their opinion that the thesis is ready to be defended. The Graduate School sends the plagiarism report related to the thesis in question to the advisor and jury members. In case of detecting real plagiarism in the data in the report, the thesis is sent to the Graduate School administrative board for a decision together with its justification.

(3) In order for the thesis to be finalized, at least three successful thesis monitoring committee reports must be submitted.

(4) The doctoral thesis jury shall be appointed upon the suggestion of the advisor and the Graduate School Department and upon the approval of the Graduate School Administrative Board. The jury shall be made up of five faculty members including the advisor, three being the faculty members making up the TMC, and a minimum two members being from outside the University. The relevant Graduate School Administrative Board decides whether the advisor has the right to vote. If the advisor does not have the right to vote, the jury consists of six faculty members. In addition, the second thesis advisor can take part in the jury without having a voting right.

(5) The jury members convene within one month as of the date they receive the thesis so as to have the student defend the thesis. The thesis defense examination consists of the presentation of the thesis followed by a question-and-answer session. Thesis defense meetings are open to audiences made up of faculty members, graduate students, and experts in the field.

(6) After the completion of the thesis defense, the jury shall hold a closed session and decide by absolute majority to accept or to reject the thesis, or to request revisions. Students whose theses are accepted are deemed successful. Within three days after the date of the thesis examination, this decision shall be communicated in writing to the relevant Graduate School by the relevant department by submitting an official jury report. Students whose thesis is considered unsuccessful and rejected shall be dismissed from the University. A student whose thesis is to be revised must complete the required revisions within six months at most and must defend their thesis again before the same jury. A student who is deemed unsuccessful in this jury as well shall be dismissed from the University. Upon their requests, students who have been unsuccessful in their thesis may be given a non-thesis master's program diploma according to the fourth paragraph of Article 17.

Doctoral diploma

ARTICLE 23- (1) Students who complete their thesis work shall submit to their advisor copies of their thesis in the requested number. The advisor shall send copies of the thesis to the Graduate School through the Graduate School Department, along with a written notification expressing their opinion that the thesis is in conformity with writing rules.

(2) On condition of successfully defending their thesis and having satisfied the other requirements, students who submit at least three bound copies of their doctoral thesis to the relevant Graduate School within one month following the thesis examination date and whose thesis is found to conform to format

requirements shall earn their doctoral diploma. Upon application, the Graduate School Administrative Board may extend the submission date of the thesis by an additional month at most. Students who do not satisfy these requirements shall not get their diplomas and cannot benefit from student rights until they satisfy the requirements, and shall be dismissed if they exceed the maximum duration.

(3) The doctoral diploma features the program name of the Graduate School Department approved by YÖK. The graduation date is the date on which the signed copy of the thesis is delivered by the examination jury commission.

(4) Within three months after the submission of the thesis, the relevant Graduate School shall send a copy of the doctoral thesis to YÖK on an electronic medium to serve in scientific research and activities.

PART 4

Proficiency in Art

General provisions

ARTICLE 24- (1) Proficiency in art is a doctoral equivalent higher education program that aims to reveal an original work of art and an outstanding practice and creativity in music and performing arts.

(2) For students with a Master's degree, proficiency in arts program consists of at least seven credit courses with no less than twenty-one total credits and minimum 60 ECTS for each one semester, and applications and work such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, representation, corresponding to a minimum total of 240 ECTS-credits. For students accepted with a Bachelor's degree, proficiency in arts programs consist of at least fourteen credit courses with no less than forty-two credits, and applications and work such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, representation, corresponding to a minimum total of 300 ECTS-credits.

(3) Of the graduate courses offered in other institutions of higher education, students with Master's degree in proficiency in arts programs can select a maximum of two, and those in Ph.D on Bachelor's degree programs can select a maximum of four courses by recommendation of the Graduate School Department and with the approval of the concerned Graduate School Administrative Board.

Application and admission to the program

ARTICLE 25- (1) In order to apply for proficiency in art, candidates must have a bachelor's or master's degree. Candidates who apply with a master's excluding faculties of fine arts and conservatory and equivalent programs of other faculties are required to have ALES score no less than 55 in verbal score. Candidates applying with a bachelor's degree are required to have ALES score determined by the decision of the Senate no less than 80 in the verbal score.

(2) Undergraduate graduation GPA of students who apply to the proficiency in arts program with a bachelor's degree should be minimum 3 over 4.00 or equivalent. In the process of admission to the proficiency in arts programs, ALES score, graduate grade point average and interview/aptitude test/portfolio can also be evaluated. Issues related to this evaluation and other documents that candidates are required to provide for application, such as reference letter, letter of intent, international standard exams and similar documents, are determined by the Senate.

(3) In the admission of students to the proficiency in arts program, it is obligatory to get at least 55 points from the international foreign language exams accepted as equivalent to the central foreign language exams accepted by YÖK for a language except for their mother tongue, or an equivalent score from the international foreign language exams whose equivalence is accepted by OSYM. It is decided by the university senates to increase these minimum scores, if necessary, according to the characteristics of the

programs to be admitted. For student admission to programs with Turkish-medium-of-instruction in conservatory and fine arts in the Graduate School departments which admit students only with special talent examination, a foreign language score is not required in the following cases in order to apply, provided that it is documented with a health report obtained from a state hospital or a state university hospital. These candidates are deemed to have met the minimum foreign language score requirement sought by the university as a foreign language score:

a) Candidates with impaired hearing who have an unrecovered disability level of at least 70% or a recovered disability level of at least 40% or more,

b) Candidates with mental retardation with a disability level of 50% and more,

c) Disabled candidates who have a disability level of 40% or more with a diagnosis of "pervasive developmental disorder" (Autism spectrum disorder/childhood autism/atypical autism, Rett Syndrome, Asperger's Syndrome).

(4) The weight of the ALES score is determined by the senate, provided that it is not less than 50%. Higher education institutions can accept students with only ALES score. Equivalent scores, which are accepted as equivalent to ALES and announced by the Council of Higher Education, can be increased with the decisions of the senate of each university. However, the provisions of the first paragraph are applied in the admission of students to the departments of fine arts faculties and conservatories in Graduate Schools.

Period of education

ARTICLE 26- (1) Starting from the semester in which the related courses are offered, regardless of whether they are registered for each semester or not, the duration of the proficiency in arts program for those with master's degree with thesis is eight semesters, while the maximum duration is twelve semesters, excluding the time spent in scientific preparation. For those admitted with a bachelor's degree, it is ten semesters, and the maximum completion period is fourteen semesters.

(2) The maximum time to successfully complete the required credit courses for the proficiency in arts program is four semesters for those who are accepted with a master's degree with a thesis, and six semesters for those who are accepted with a bachelor's degree. Those who cannot successfully complete the required credit courses within this period or cannot achieve the minimum grade point average required by the University are dismissed from the University.

(3) Those who successfully complete credit courses and applications but cannot complete their work such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, representation by the end of the twelve or fourteen semesters specified in the first paragraph are dismissed from the program.

(4) Of students who have applied to a proficiency in arts program with a bachelor's degree, those who have not been successful in their proficiency in arts thesis, provided that they have fulfilled the credit load, project and other similar requirements, can be given a non-thesis master degree diploma upon their request.

Assignment of an advisor

ARTICLE 27- (1) For proficiency in arts programs, the Graduate School Department must assign a thesis advisor for each student from the staff of the relevant department to help students in course registration and practice and conduct study for exhibition, project, recital, concert, representation. The Graduate School Department proposes the thesis topic that students determine together with their advisor to the Graduate School. Thesis topic and advisor are finalized with the approval of the administrative board. The time when the advisor will be appointed within the student's program is determined by the regulation

accepted by the relevant senate. However, the advisor must be appointed by the end of the second semester at the latest. In cases where the nature of the thesis work calls for more than one advisor, a second advisor may be assigned as co-advisor. In order to be able to manage works such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, and representation in art proficiency programs, it is necessary for academic members to have managed at least one successfully completed master's thesis. Co-advisor might be from outside the University holding a doctoral degree or a degree of proficiency in arts.

(2) The advisor is selected among the lecturers whose qualifications are determined by the relevant senate and the lecturers who have a doctorate/art proficiency degree.

Finalization of the proficiency in arts work

ARTICLE 28- (1) A student who prepares a thesis writes the text explaining and documenting his/her work such as exhibition, project, recital, concert, representation in accordance with the thesis writing rules determined by the Graduate School and orally defends his/her work such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, representation before the jury.

(2) Before the defense of the proficiency in arts thesis and after the revision in the thesis for which revision is necessary, the student submits the thesis/ work to the advisor by completing the thesis. The advisor submits the thesis to the Graduate School with their opinion that the thesis is ready to be defended. The Graduate School sends the plagiarism report related to the thesis in question to the advisor and jury members. In case of detecting real plagiarism in the data in the report, the thesis is sent to the Graduate School Administrative Board for a decision together with its justification.

(3) The student who completes the thesis work submits the thesis in the requested number of copies to the thesis advisor. The advisor sends copies of the thesis to the Graduate School through the Graduate School Department with the opinion that she/ he states in writing in terms of compliance with the writing rules of the thesis.

(4) The jury is appointed upon the suggestion of the thesis advisor and the Graduate School Department with the approval of the Graduate School Administrative Board. The jury shall be made up of five faculty members including the advisor, three being the faculty members and a minimum two members being from outside the University. The relevant Graduate School Administrative Board decides whether the advisor has the right to vote. In case the advisor does not have the right to vote, the jury consists of six faculty members. In addition, the co-advisor can take part in the jury without having a voting right.

(5) The thesis jury convenes within one month at the latest as of the date they receive the thesis for defense examination. The thesis defense examination consists of the presentation of the thesis followed by a question-and-answer session. The thesis exam is held in an environment open to the participation of lecturers, graduate students, and field experts.

(6) After the completion of the thesis defense, the jury shall hold a closed session and decide by absolute majority to accept or to reject the thesis or his/her work such as exhibition, project, recital, concert, representation, or to request revisions. Students whose theses or work are accepted are deemed to be successful. Within three days after the date of the thesis examination, this decision shall be communicated in writing to the relevant Graduate School by the Graduate School Department by submitting an official jury report. Students whose thesis and work is considered unsuccessful shall be dismissed from the University. A student whose work is to be revised must complete the required revisions within six months at most and must defend their work again before the same jury. A student who is deemed unsuccessful in this jury as well shall be dismissed from the University. Upon their requests, students who have been

unsuccessful in their work may be given a non-thesis master's program diploma according to the fourth paragraph of Article 26.

Proficiency in arts diploma

ARTICLE 29- (1) The student who is successful in proficiency in art is given a diploma that specifies the field according to the feature of the art branch approved by YÖK, provided that other requirements are met. Graduation date is the date on which the signed copy of the thesis is delivered by the examination jury commission.

(2) On condition of successfully defending their thesis and having satisfied the other requirements, students who submit minimum three bound copies of their proficiency in arts thesis to the relevant Graduate School within one month following the thesis examination date, and whose thesis is found to conform to format requirements shall qualify for a proficiency in art diploma. Upon application, the Graduate School Administrative Board may extend the submission date of the thesis by an additional month at most. Students who do not satisfy these requirements shall not get their diplomas and cannot benefit from student rights, until they satisfy the requirements, and shall be dismissed if they exceed the maximum duration.

(3) Within three months after the submission of the thesis, the relevant Graduate School shall send a copy of the doctoral thesis to YÖK on an electronic medium to serve in scientific research and activities.

PART 5

Miscellaneous and Final Provisions

Student admission to the scientific preparation program

ARTICLE 30- (1) A candidate whose previous undergraduate or master's degree is in a field different than the master's program or doctoral program they are admitted into or is from another university may be required to register for a scientific preparatory program to make up their deficiency in the program.

(2) Courses taken as part of the scientific preparatory program cannot count towards courses or credits required for graduate programs. However, students in an academic deficiency program can take graduate courses by recommendation of the concerned Graduate School Department and approval of the concerned Graduate School Administrative Board.

(3) Principles regarding attendance, examinations, course pack, the course success criteria, course repetitions, deregistration, and other similar issues related to the scientific preparation program are determined in accordance with the regulation accepted by the senate.

(4) The time spent in scientific preparation program is a maximum of two semesters. Summer School is not included in this period. This period cannot be extended except for the semester leave, and the student who is not successful at the end of the period is dismissed from the University. The time spent in a scientific preparation program is not included in the maximum duration for the concerned graduate program.

Special student admission

ARTICLE 31- (1) Students enrolled in a master's, doctoral or proficiency in arts program can be accepted as special students with the approval of the Graduate School Department they are registered to for postgraduate courses in other higher education institutions. The exemption procedures for the courses that the students admitted to the graduate courses take as special students and in which they are successful are carried out by the Graduate School Department they are registered to. Special student admission criteria and other provisions on this subject are determined by Senates of the Universities.

Student admission through transfer

ARTICLE 32- (1) Successful students who have completed at least one semester at another department within the university or in the graduate program of another higher education institution can be admitted to graduate programs through transfer. Admission criteria through transfer are determined by the regulation accepted by the relevant senate.

Registration for graduate programs

ARTICLE 33- (1) The criteria required for the registration of students admitted to graduate programs to be finalized are determined by the regulation accepted by the Senate.

Programs, examinations, and assessment

ARTICLE 34- (1) Graduate instructional plans in the Graduate School Departments cover the must/elective courses required to graduate from the graduate program, thesis, seminar and similar studies and credit totals. These instructional plans are approved by the relevant Graduate School Board on the condition of complying with the minimum content determined by the university senates.

(2) The Graduate School Administrative Board determines the courses which will be offered in a semester and the lecturers who will teach these courses upon the proposals of the Graduate School Department chair.

(3) The following points are taken into consideration in the creation of graduate programs according to the credits or ECTS credits determined by the senates of higher education institutions, the credit range determined by the Turkish Higher Education Qualifications Framework for the diploma level of the relevant program by the Council of Higher Education, and students' studying hours:

a) The credit value of a course consists of all of its weekly theoretical course hours plus half the weekly hours of laboratory, workshop, studio, practicum and other similar work related to that course.

b) ECTS course credits are calculated within the framework of the principles determined by the senates of higher education institutions, taking into account the learning outcomes that express the contribution of that course to the knowledge, skills and competencies that the student who completes the relevant diploma program will gain, and the theoretical or applied course hours clearly determined and the studying hours required for other activities foreseen for the students.

(4) Principles regarding attendance, examinations, course pack, the course success criteria, course repetitions, and other similar issues are determined in accordance with the regulation accepted by the senate.

(5) Minimum one course covering the Scientific Research Methods and Research and Publication Ethics is required to be taken during graduate studies.

(6) The student and the student's advisor decide which courses the student will take among the ones approved by the Graduate School Administrative Board. Until the thesis advisor is assigned, the advisory duty is carried out by the Graduate School Department chair or the program coordinator/head.

(7) Additional success requirements may be determined by higher education institutions for students to continue their program after any semester.

(8) All exams for proficiency, placement or course success can be conducted in paper form and synchronously. Additionally, they can be performed electronically in a way that allows different questions to be asked to each candidate at different times from a question bank classified according to the field and difficulty level and stored securely. The principles regarding the preparation of the questions to be asked in the exams, the creation and encryption of the question bank, the storage of the exam questions in paper or electronic media, and the provision of exam security are determined by the Council of Higher Education.

Other provisions

ARTICLE 35- (1) While senates of higher education institutions determine graduates of which undergraduate and graduate programs can apply to master's and doctoral programs and proficiency in arts, it can be determined by the decision of the Council of Higher Education by taking the opinion of the Interuniversity Board.

(2) The procedures and principles regarding the admission of international candidates and Turkish citizens who have completed their undergraduate education abroad to graduate programs are determined by the senates of higher education institutions.

(3) For thesis master's and doctorate programs, the number of thesis advisories per faculty member is determined to be a maximum of 14, and for non-thesis master's programs, a maximum of 16 students, excluding master's and doctoral programs with thesis. In this process, graduate program quotas, the number of faculty members who can take part in graduate programs determined by the Council of Higher Education, and the number of students per current faculty member are taken into consideration. However, this quota can be increased up to 50% for graduate programs conducted within the framework of the protocol signed with the Council of Higher Education and within the framework of university-industry cooperation.

(4) Higher education institutions cannot continue graduate programs allowed by the Council of Higher Education outside the province where their rectorate is located.

(5) The principles and procedures regarding admission, evaluation, diplomas to be awarded to graduate programs in the fields of teacher training, the minimum common courses, and practices of these programs are determined by the Council of Higher Education by taking the opinion of the Ministry of National Education when necessary.

(6) With the exception of non-thesis master's programs, students cannot concurrently register to more than one graduate program.

(7) Specialization in medicine and dentistry is equivalent to a doctorate, and these specialization trainings are carried out in accordance with the Regulation Governing Specialization Training in Medicine and Dentistry published in the Official Gazette dated April 26, 2014 and numbered 28983.

(8) In case of disasters and epidemics, students who are at the stage of writing their thesis can be given an extension of one semester upon request. Depending on the stage of the disaster or epidemic, if they apply again, they can be given an extension of one more semester. These extension periods granted shall not be counted from the maximum period.

Regulations no longer in effect

ARTICLE 36- (1) The regulation entitled Regulation Governing the Graduate Education published in the Official Gazette dated July 1, and numbered 22683 has been invalidated.

Transition provisions

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 1- (1) The implementation of the provisions introduced by this Regulation and the specified periods in it shall be valid as of the publication of this Regulation.

(2) Sixth paragraph of Article 35 is not valid for students who are registered to more than one graduate program at the same time before the publication of this Regulation.

(3) Students who registered or graduated from non-thesis master's programs before February 6, 2013 can apply for the doctoral programs.

(4) The provision of the first paragraph of the amended Article 31 of this Regulation existing before the amendment shall be valid for students who are accepted as special students to the graduate programs before the 2020-2021 academic year.

(5) The third paragraph of the 35th article of the Regulation shall be valid as of the 2020-2021 academic year.

State of emergency

PROVISIONAL ARTICLE 2-

(1) Due to the global epidemic, the criterion regarding the ALES score in subparagraph (a) of the first paragraph of Article 5 and the fourth paragraph of Article 16 shall not be valid until January 2, 2021.

Validity

ARTICLE 37- (1) This Regulation shall be in effect as of the date of its publication.

Implementation

ARTICLE 38- (1) The provisions of this Regulation are implemented by the President of the Council of Higher Education

| Regulation published in the official gazette | | |
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| 6 | 18.05.2021 | 31485 |