

GRADUATE EDUCATION AND TEACHING REGULATIONS

PART ONE

Aim, Scope, Basis and Definitions

Aim and scope

ARTICLE 1 – (1) This Regulation regulates graduate education and training consisting of master's, doctoral and proficiency in art programs carried out in higher education institutions.

Basis

ARTICLE 2 – (1) This Regulation has been prepared based on paragraph (c) of Article 44 of the Higher Education Law No. 2547 dated 4/11/1981.

Definitions

ARTICLE 3 – (1) In this Regulation, the following terms refer to:

- a) ALES: Academic Personnel and Graduate Education Entrance Exam,
- b) ECTS: European Credit Transfer System,
- c) Plagiarism: Presenting the ideas, methods, data or works of others as one's own work, in whole or in part, without citing them in accordance with scientific rules,
- ç) ÖSYM : Measurement, Selection and Placement Center.

PART TWO

Master's Programs

General principles

ARTICLE 4 – (1) The master's program can be carried out in two ways: with thesis and without thesis. The regulations regarding the departments they will be conducted in and how these programs will be conducted, as well as the transition between thesis and non-thesis master's programs are determined by regulations issued by the senates of higher education institutions.

(2) Upon the decision of the Higher Education Council, graduate distance education programs can be established in higher education institutions, where instructional activities are planned and carried out based on information and communication technologies without the obligation for academic staff and students to be physically present in the same location. The areas in which distance education programs can be offered, courses and the credit amount in ECTS to be provided through distance education, preparation of course materials, examination methods, protocols to be established between higher education institutions for this purpose, and other matters related to distance education are determined by the Higher Education Council.

Application and acceptance

ARTICLE 5 – (1) (Amended:OG-14/4/2020-31099) In order to apply for a master's degree program, candidates must have a bachelor's degree and an ALES score determined by the senate, which is not less than 55 points in the score type of the program they are applying for. However,

- a) In the admission of students to the main arts and departments in the institutes of conservatory programs and programs of fine arts faculties that accept students only with special talent exams,

- b) In the applications of master's degree programs of doctoral/ art proficiency /specialization in medicine/specialization in dentistry/specialization in veterinary medicine/ specialization in pharmacy graduates,
ALES is not required.
- (2) In the admission process for non-thesis master's programs, higher education institutions may not require ALES scores, and if ALES scores are requested, the minimum score is determined by the senates.
- (3) The principles regarding the application of candidates who are graduates or could potentially graduate, the extent to which the ALES score will be weighted in the evaluation, with the condition that it is not less than 50%, and other matters related to the admission of students to graduate education are determined by the senates.
- (4) Higher education institutions may admit students to master's programs based solely on the ALES score, or in addition to the ALES score, they may consider undergraduate GPA, scientific evaluation to be conducted in writing, and/or interview results.
- (5) (Addition: OG-14/4/2020-31099) For candidates within the scope of paragraph (b) of the first paragraph, the evaluation procedures are as follows:
- a) University senates determine a score, not considering the type of score or specialization area upon entry to the graduate program, ranging from not less than 55 and not exceeding 75, and it is announced in the conditions of the relevant program.
 - b) These candidates can apply in a different field from the score type or field of doctorate/ proficiency in art/specialization they previously obtained.
 - c) The announced score is included in calculations as the ALES score, regardless of the score type.
- (6) (Addition: RG-18/5/2021-31485) For applications to the main branches and sub-branches of institutes where the language of instruction is Turkish in conservatory programs and programs of fine arts faculties that admit students only through special talent exams, it is a requirement to document the application with a health report obtained from a state hospital or a state university hospital.
- a) For hearing-impaired candidates with an uncorrected disability of at least 70% or a corrected disability of at least 40% and above,
 - b) For disabled candidates with intellectual disabilities where the disability level is 50% and above,
 - c) For disabled candidates diagnosed with "widespread developmental disorders" (autism spectrum disorder/childhood autism/atypical autism, Rett Syndrome, Asperger Syndrome) where the disability level is 40% and above,
foreign language proficiency is not required for them to apply. These candidates are considered to have met the university's foreign language minimum score requirement as the foreign language score.

Thesis master's program

ARTICLE 6 – (1) Thesis master's program enables the student to acquire the ability to access information, compile, interpret, and evaluate knowledge using scientific research methods.

(2) Thesis master's program consists of at least seven courses, one seminar course and thesis work, with a total of not less than twenty-one credits. Seminar course and thesis work are non-credit and are evaluated as successful or unsuccessful. Thesis master's program consists of a total of at least 120 ECTS credits, including at least eight courses, including the seminar course, and thesis work,

provided that it is not less than 60 ECTS credits in one academic semester. The student must register for the thesis period every semester, starting from the semester following the appointment of the supervisor at the latest.

(3) At most two of the courses the student will take can be selected from undergraduate courses, provided that they were not taken during undergraduate education. In addition, a maximum of two courses can be selected from courses offered at other higher education institutions, with the recommendation of the department board and the approval of the institute's board of directors.

(4) Thesis master's program can be carried out as a second graduate education program.

Duration

ARTICLE 7 – (1) The duration of the thesis master's program is four semesters, starting from the semester in which the courses related to the registered program are given, excluding the time spent in scientific preparation, regardless of whether the student registers for each semester or not, and the program is completed in a maximum of six semesters.

(2) Those who cannot successfully complete the credit courses and seminar courses included in the education plan at the end of four semesters or who cannot fulfill the success conditions/criteria stipulated by the higher education institution within this period; the students who fail their thesis work or do not defend their thesis within the maximum period is dismissed from the higher education institution.

(3) Regulations regarding students who may graduate from the master's program before their due date are determined by the regulation accepted by the senate.

Appointment of thesis supervisor

ARTICLE 8 – (1) In the thesis master's program, the department board recommends a thesis supervisor from the university staff for each student by the end of the first semester at the latest; and the thesis topic determined by the student and supervisor together by the end of the second semester at the latest to the institute. The thesis supervisor and thesis topic are finalized with the approval of the institute's board of directors.

(2) The thesis supervisor is selected among faculty members who have the qualifications determined by the senate. (Additional sentences: OG-15/1/2023-32074) Researchers with at least a doctoral degree who are assigned part-time within the scope of additional article 46 of Law No. 2547 can also be selected as thesis supervisors. However, in order for these people to be appointed as supervisors, the student's request, the written consent of the relevant researcher and the decision of the institute's board of directors are required. If there is no faculty member with the specified qualifications in the higher education institution, a faculty member from another higher education institution may be selected as a supervisor by the institute's board of directors within the framework of the principles determined by the university senate. (Amended sentence:OG-1/3/2017-29994) In cases where the nature of the thesis study requires more than one thesis supervisor, the second thesis supervisor to be appointed may be someone from outside the university staff who has at least a doctoral degree.

Completion of master's thesis

ARTICLE 9 – (1) A student studying in a thesis master's program writes the results obtained in accordance with the writing rules determined by the senate and defends his/her thesis orally in front of the jury.

(2) Before the defense of the master's thesis, and for theses that are corrected, the student completes the thesis with the correction and submits it to the supervisor. The supervisor submits the thesis to the institute with his/her opinion that the thesis is defensible. The Institute receives the plagiarism software program report regarding the thesis and sends it to the supervisor and jury members. If actual plagiarism is detected in the data in the report, the thesis is sent to the institute's board of directors for a decision, together with its justification.

(3) The master's thesis jury is appointed with the recommendation of the thesis supervisor and the relevant department board with the approval of the institute's board of directors. The jury consists of three or five faculty members, one of them being the thesis supervisor and at least one of them being from other higher education institutions. If the jury consists of three members, the second thesis supervisor cannot be a jury member.

(4) The student, who completes the thesis study, delivers the required number of copies of the thesis to the thesis supervisor. The supervisor sends the copies of the thesis to the relevant institute through the department board, with his/her written opinion that the thesis complies with the writing rules.

(5) The jury members meet within one month at the latest from the date the thesis is delivered to them and take the student to the thesis defense. The thesis defense consists of the presentation of the thesis work and the following question-answer section. The thesis defense is held in environments open to the participation of the audience consisting of faculty members, graduate students and experts in the field.

(6) After completion of the thesis defense, the jury decides to accept, reject or correct the thesis by absolute majority. This decision is notified to the relevant institute in a report by the department board within three days following the thesis defense.

(7) The student whose thesis is rejected as unsuccessful will be dismissed from the higher education institution.

(8) The student whose thesis is corrected must re-defend the corrected thesis in front of the same jury within three months at the latest. The student whose thesis is unsuccessful at the end of this defense and whose thesis is rejected is dismissed from the higher education institution.

(9) If the student whose thesis has been rejected makes a request, he/she will be given a non-thesis master's degree diploma, provided that he/she has fulfilled the course credit load, project writing and similar requirements of the non-thesis master's program.

Diploma

ARTICLE 10 – (1) A thesis master's degree will be awarded to a master's student who submits at least three bound copies of the master's thesis to the relevant institute within one month from the date of taking the thesis defense, provided that he/she is successful in the thesis defense and meets the other conditions required for graduation as determined by the senate, and whose thesis is found to be suitable in terms of form. The institute's board of directors may extend the delivery period for a maximum of one more month upon request. A student who does not meet these conditions cannot receive his/her diploma, cannot benefit from his/her student rights, and is dismissed if his/her maximum period expires until he/she fulfills the conditions.

(2) The thesis master's diploma includes the name of the program approved by the Council of Higher Education in the department in which the student is registered. (Amended sentence: OG-1/3/2017-29994) Graduation date is the date on which the copy signed by the thesis defense jury commission is delivered.

(3) Within three months from the delivery of the thesis, a copy of the master's thesis is sent electronically by the institute to the Council of Higher Education to be made available for scientific research and activities.

Non-thesis master's program

ARTICLE 11 – (1) Non-thesis master's program provides the student with knowledge on professional subjects and shows how to use existing knowledge in practice.

(2) (Amended sentence: OG-1/3/2017-29994) The non-thesis master's program consists of at least ten courses and a term project course, with a total of thirty credits and not less than 60 ECTS. The student must enroll in the term project course in the semester in which the term project course is taken and submit a written project and/or report at the end of the semester. The term project course is non-credit and is evaluated as successful or unsuccessful.

(3) At most three of the courses the student will take can be chosen from undergraduate courses, provided that they were not taken during undergraduate education.

(4) A qualifying exam may be administered at the end of the non-thesis master's program according to the principles determined by the Senate.

(5) Non-thesis master's program can also be carried out in the second graduate education.

Duration

ARTICLE 12 – (1) The duration of completion of the non-thesis master's program is at least two semesters and at most three semesters, regardless of whether the student is registered for each semester, starting from the semester in which the courses related to the registered program are given, excluding the time spent in scientific preparation. At the end of this period, the student who fails or cannot complete the program will be dismissed from the higher education institution.

Appointment of supervisor

ARTICLE 13 – (1) In the non-thesis master's program, the department board appoints a faculty member or a lecturer with a doctoral degree and the qualifications determined by the relevant senate to supervise the student in course selection and execution of the term project, by the end of the first semester at the latest.

Diploma

ARTICLE 14 – (1) The student who successfully completes the credit courses and the term project is awarded a non-thesis master's degree diploma.

(2) The non-thesis master's diploma includes the name of the program approved by the Council of Higher Education in the department in which the student is registered.

(3) Those who attend a non-thesis master's program can transfer to a thesis master's program, provided that they meet the minimum requirements for the thesis master's program by the higher education institution they apply to. In this case, the courses taken in the non-thesis master's program may be counted instead of the courses in the thesis master's program by the decision of the institute's board of directors.

PART THREE Doctoral Program

General principles

ARTICLE 15 – (1) The doctoral program provides the student with the necessary skills to conduct independent research, to interpret scientific problems and data by examining them from a broad and deep perspective, to analyze them and to reach new syntheses.

(2) For students accepted with a master's degree with thesis, the doctoral program requires a minimum of seven courses, seminars, a qualification exam, a thesis proposal and a thesis study, provided that they are not less than twenty-one credits in total and 60 ECTS in one academic semester. It consists of at least 240 ECTS credits. For students accepted with a bachelor's degree, it consists of a total of at least 300 ECTS credits, including 14 courses of at least forty-two credits, a seminar, a qualification exam, a thesis proposal and a thesis study.

(3) In doctoral programs, with the recommendation of the department board and the approval of the institute's board of directors, a maximum of two courses can be selected from courses offered at other higher education institutions for students accepted with a master's degree, and a maximum of four courses for students accepted with a bachelor's degree.

(4) Undergraduate courses do not count towards course load and doctoral credits.

(5) Doctoral programs cannot be opened as secondary education.

(6) The thesis to be prepared at the end of the doctoral study must meet at least one of the qualifications of bringing innovation to science, developing a new scientific method, and applying a known method to a new field.

Application and acceptance

ARTICLE 16 – (1) In order to apply to the doctoral program, candidates;

a) (Amended: OG-14/4/2020-31099) Must have a master's degree with thesis and have an ALES score determined by the relevant senate decision, provided that it is not less than 55 points in the score type of the program they are applying for. However; ALES is not required for the applications of doctorate/proficiency in art/medical specialization/dentistry specialization/veterinary specialization/pharmacy specialization graduates, and for the evaluation procedures of these candidates,

1) Regardless of the score type or field of specialization in entering the graduate program a score is determined by the university senates which is set to be not less than 55 and not more than 75 and is announced in the conditions of the relevant program.

2) These candidates can apply to a different field from the score type they previously received or their previous doctoral/proficiency in art/specialization field.

3) The declared score is included in the calculations as an ALES score, regardless of the score type.

b) Faculties of medicine, dentistry, veterinary, pharmacy and preparatory classes are approved by the senate, provided that they have a bachelor's degree of at least ten semesters duration or a specialist authority earned in a laboratory branch according to the principles regulated by the Ministry of Health and they have not less than 55 points from ALES in the score type of the program they apply for. They must have the determined ALES score.

c) Those who apply to the doctoral program with a bachelor's degree must have a bachelor's degree average of at least 3 out of 4 or an equivalent score and have an ALES score determined by the senate, provided that it is not less than 80 points in the score type of the program they are applying for. In the admission of those who will apply to the doctoral program, in addition to the ALES score, the results of the written scientific evaluation exam and/or interview and, for those who apply with a master's degree, their master's grade point average may also be evaluated. Issues

regarding this evaluation, application conditions and other issues regarding student admission are determined by the regulation issued by the relevant senate.

(2) Those who receive a ten-semester undergraduate education, excluding preparatory classes, are considered to have a master's degree.

(3) The percentage of the ALES score to be evaluated, provided that it is not less than 50%, is determined by the senate. The higher education institution can also accept students with ALES score alone. Equivalent scores accepted as equivalent to ALES and declared by the Council of Higher Education can be increased by the senate decisions of each university.

(4) (Amended sentence: OG-14/4/2020-31099) ALES score is not required for the admission of students to the main arts and departments in the institutes of conservatory programs and fine arts faculties that accept students only with special talent exams. However, ALES score may be required upon the decision of the university senate. If an ALES score is requested, the base score is determined by the senate.

(5) In accepting students to the doctoral program, it is mandatory to get at least 55 points from the international foreign language exams equivalent to the central foreign language exams accepted by the Council of Higher Education, other than their mother tongue, or an equivalent score from the international foreign language exams accepted as equivalent by ÖSYM. University senates decide to increase the minimum scores, if necessary, depending on the characteristics of the programs to be entered.

(6) In order to apply for doctoral programs in basic medical sciences, medical school graduates must have a bachelor's degree and a basic medicine score from the Medical Specialization Education Entrance Exam determined by the relevant senate decision, provided that it is not less than 50 points, or a basic medicine score determined by the senate decision, provided that it is not less than 55 points in the numerical score type of ALES. Those who are not graduates of medical faculty must have a master's degree (graduates of dentistry and veterinary faculties have a bachelor's degree) and an ALES score to be determined by the senate, provided that it is not less than 55 points in the ALES numerical score type. The basic medical score is obtained by multiplying the standard score obtained from the basic medical sciences Test-1 section of the Medical Specialty Education Entrance Exam by 0.7 and multiplying the standard score obtained from the clinical medical sciences test by 0.3 and adding them. In the admission of students to doctoral programs, if necessary, undergraduate and/or master's grade point average, scientific evaluation and/or interview results may also be evaluated in addition to the basic medical score or ALES score. Issues regarding this evaluation and other documents that candidates must provide for application (reference letter, essay stating why they want to do a doctorate, international standard exams and similar) are determined by the regulation issued by the relevant senate. However, for the admission of students to the doctoral program in basic medical sciences, it is mandatory to get at least 55 points from the international foreign language exams accepted as equivalent to the central foreign language exams by the Council of Higher Education, other than their mother tongue, or an equivalent score from the international foreign language exams accepted as equivalent by ÖSYM. University senates decide to increase these minimum scores, if necessary, depending on the characteristics of the programs to be entered. The senate determines the percentage of the basic medicine score or ALES score to be evaluated, provided that it is not less than 50%. The higher education institution can accept students with only basic medical score or ALES score.

Duration

ARTICLE 17 – (1) The doctoral program is eight semesters for those accepted with a master's degree with thesis, excluding the time spent in scientific preparation, starting from the semester in which the courses related to the registered program are given, regardless of whether they are registered for each semester, and the maximum completion period is twelve semesters; for those accepted with a bachelor's degree, the duration is ten semesters and the maximum completion period is fourteen semesters.

(2) The maximum period for successfully completing the required credit courses for the doctoral program is four semesters for those accepted with a master's degree with thesis, and six semesters for those accepted with a bachelor's degree. The student who cannot successfully complete the credit courses within this period or cannot achieve the minimum GPA required by the higher education institution will be dismissed from the higher education institution.

(3) The student who successfully completes his/her credit courses, is successful in the qualifying exam and whose thesis proposal is accepted but cannot complete his/her thesis work by the end of the twelve or fourteen semesters specified in the first paragraph, will be dismissed.

(4) Among the students who applied to the doctoral program with a bachelor's degree, those who could not complete their credit courses and/or thesis work within the maximum period, and those who were not successful in their doctoral thesis, will receive a non-thesis master's degree upon their request, provided that they have fulfilled the credit load, project and other similar conditions required for a non-thesis master's degree.

Appointment of thesis supervisor

ARTICLE 18 – (1) The head of the department recommends a thesis supervisor from its own university staff for each student and recommends the thesis topic and thesis title determined together by the supervisor and the student to the relevant institute. The thesis supervisor and thesis proposal are finalized by the decision of the institute board of directors. When the thesis supervisor will be appointed within the student's program is specified in the regulation accepted by the senate. However, the thesis supervisor must be appointed by the end of the second semester at the latest.

(2) The thesis supervisor is selected among faculty members who have the qualifications determined by the senate. (Additional sentences: OG-15/1/2023-32074) Researchers with at least a doctorate degree who are assigned part-time within the scope of additional article 46 of Law No. 2547 can also be selected as thesis supervisors. However, in order for these people to be appointed as supervisors, the student's request, the written consent of the relevant researcher and the decision of the institute board of directors are required. If there is no faculty member with the specified qualifications in the higher education institution, a faculty member from another higher education institution may be selected as a supervisor by the institute board of directors within the framework of the principles determined by the university senate. (Amended sentences: OG-1/3/2017-29994) In order for faculty members to supervise a thesis in doctoral programs, except for the departments of dentistry, pharmacy, medicine and veterinary faculties, they must have supervised at least one successfully completed master's thesis. In cases where the nature of the thesis study requires more than one thesis supervisor the second thesis supervisor to be appointed may be someone from outside the university staff who has at least a doctorate degree.

Qualification exam

ARTICLE 19 – (1) The qualification exam is held to measure whether the student, who has completed his/her courses and seminar, has the basic subjects and concepts in his/her field and the

depth of scientific research related to his/her doctoral study. A student takes the qualification exam at most twice a year.

(2) When the student will take the qualification exam is determined by the regulation adopted by the senate. However, students accepted with a master's degree must take the qualification exam by the end of the fifth semester at the latest, and students accepted with a bachelor's degree must take the qualification exam by the end of the seventh semester at the latest.

(3) Qualification exams are organized and carried out by a five-person doctoral qualification committee which is recommended by the department and approved by the institute's board of directors. The committee establishes exam juries to prepare, implement and evaluate exams in different fields. The exam jury consists of five faculty members, including the supervisor, at least two of whom are from other higher education institutions. The relevant board of directors decides whether the supervisor has voting rights. If the supervisor does not have the right to vote, the jury consists of six faculty members. Qualification exam meetings are held open to the participation of the audience consisting of faculty members, graduate students and experts in the field.

(4) The qualification exam is held in two parts, written and oral. The student who is successful in the written exam is taken to the oral exam. Calculation of exam weights and grades is carried out in accordance with the regulations of the higher education institution. Exam juries evaluate the student's success in written and oral exams and decide by absolute majority whether the student is successful or unsuccessful. This decision is notified to the institute in a report by the head of the department within three days following the qualification exam.

(5) The student who fails the qualification exam will take the exam again in the next semester from the department(s) in which he/she failed. The student who fails this exam will be dismissed from the doctoral program.

(6) The qualification exam jury may ask a student who has passed the qualification exam to take extra course(s), provided that they do not exceed one-third of the total credit amount, even if the student has completed his/her course load. The student must pass the courses determined by the decision of the relevant institute.

(7) A student who has been accepted to the doctoral program with a bachelor's degree and has successfully completed at least seven courses can transfer to the master's program. The conditions for transferring to a master's program are determined by the regulation to be prepared by the senate.

Thesis monitoring committee

ARTICLE 20 – (1) For the student who is successful in the qualification exam, a thesis monitoring committee is formed within one month, with the recommendation of the relevant department/ and the approval of the institute board of directors.

(2) The thesis monitoring committee consists of three faculty members. In addition to the thesis supervisor, the committee includes one member from within and outside the institute's department. If a second thesis supervisor is appointed, the second thesis supervisor can attend committee meetings if he/she wishes.

(3) In the periods after the establishment of the thesis monitoring committee, changes in the members may be made with the recommendation of the department and the approval of the institute board of directors.

Thesis proposal defense

ARTICLE 21 – (1) The student, who successfully completes the doctoral qualifying exam, orally defends his/her thesis proposal, which includes the purpose, method and work plan of the research

to be carried out, in front of the thesis monitoring committee, within six months at the latest. The student distributes a written report regarding the thesis proposal to the committee members at least fifteen days before the oral defense.

(2) The thesis monitoring committee decides by absolute majority whether the thesis proposal submitted by the student will be accepted, corrected or rejected. One month is given for correction. At the end of this period, the decision made by absolute majority for acceptance or rejection is notified to the institute in a report by the department within three days following the end of the process.

(3) The student whose thesis proposal is rejected has the right to choose a new supervisor and/or thesis topic. In this case, a new thesis monitoring committee may be appointed. The student who wants to continue the program with the same supervisor is taken to the thesis proposal defense again within three months, and the student who changes the supervisor and thesis topic is taken to the thesis proposal defense again within six months. The student whose thesis proposal is rejected in this defense is dismissed from the higher education institution.

(4) For the student whose thesis proposal is accepted, the thesis monitoring committee meets at least twice a year, once between January-June and July-December. The student submits a written report to the committee members at least one month before the meeting date. This report includes a summary of the work done so far and the work plan to be carried out in the next period. The student's thesis work is determined as successful or unsuccessful by the committee. The student who is found unsuccessful by the committee twice in a row or three times intermittently is dismissed from the higher education institution.

(5) A student who does not attend the thesis proposal defense within the time specified in the first paragraph without a valid excuse is deemed unsuccessful and the thesis proposal is rejected.

Finalization of doctoral thesis

ARTICLE 22 – (1) A student in the doctoral program writes the results obtained in accordance with the writing rules accepted by the senate and defends his/her thesis orally in front of the jury.

(2) Before the defense of the doctoral thesis, and for theses that are corrected, the student completes the thesis with the correction and presents it to his/her supervisor. The supervisor submits the thesis to the institute with his/her opinion that the thesis is defensible. The Institute receives the plagiarism software program report regarding the thesis and sends it to the supervisor and jury members. If actual plagiarism is detected in the report, the thesis is sent to the institute board of directors for a decision, together with its justification.

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

(4) The doctoral thesis jury is appointed with the recommendation of the supervisor and the department and the approval of the institute's board of directors. The jury consists of five faculty members, three of whom are faculty members on the student's thesis monitoring committee and at least two of whom are from other higher education institutions, including the supervisor. The relevant board of directors decides whether the supervisor has voting rights. If the supervisor does not have the right to vote, the jury consists of six faculty members. In addition, the second thesis supervisor can take part in the jury without the right to vote.

(5) The jury members meet within one month at the latest from the date the thesis is delivered to them and take the student to the thesis defense. The thesis defense exam consists of the presentation of the thesis work and the following question-answer section. Thesis defense meetings are held

open to the participation of the audience consisting of faculty members, graduate students and experts in the field.

(6) After the completion of the thesis defense, the jury decides to accept, reject or correct the thesis by absolute majority, closed to the audience. Students whose thesis is accepted are evaluated as successful. This decision is notified to the relevant institute in a report by the department within three days following the thesis defense. The student whose thesis is rejected as unsuccessful will be dismissed from the higher education institution. The student, whose thesis is decided to be corrected, makes the necessary corrections within six months at the latest and defends his/her thesis again in front of the same jury. The student who is unsuccessful in this defense is dismissed from the higher education institution. (Amended sentence: OG-16/9/2017-30182) Students who are not successful in the thesis are given a non-thesis master's degree upon their request, in accordance with the fourth paragraph of Article 17.

Doctoral diploma

ARTICLE 23 – (1) The student who completes his/her thesis study delivers the required number of copies of the thesis to his/her supervisor. The supervisor sends the copies of the thesis to the relevant institute through the department with his/her written opinion regarding the compliance of the thesis with the writing rules.

(2) Provided that the thesis defense is successful and other conditions are met, the student who submits at least three bound copies of the doctoral thesis to the relevant institute within one month from the date of taking the thesis exam and whose thesis is found to be suitable in terms of form, is entitled to receive a doctoral diploma. Upon application, the institute board of directors may extend the delivery period for a maximum of one month. A student who does not meet these conditions cannot receive his/her diploma, cannot benefit from student rights, and is dismissed if his/her maximum period expires until he/she fulfills the conditions.

(3) The doctoral diploma includes the name of the program approved by the Council of Higher Education. (Amended sentence: OG-1/3/2017-29994) Graduation date is the date on which the copy signed by the thesis defense jury commission is delivered.

(4) Within three months from the submission of the thesis by the relevant institute, a copy of the doctoral thesis is sent electronically to the Presidency of the Council of Higher Education to be made available for scientific research and activities.

PART FOUR

Proficiency in Art Program

General principles

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

(2) For students who have been accepted to the proficiency in arts program with a master's degree with thesis, the program requires at least seven courses, not less than twenty-one credits in total and 60 ECTS in one academic semester, applications and studies such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, performance. It consists of at least 240 ECTS credits. For students accepted with a bachelor's degree, it consists of fourteen courses of at least forty-two credits, practices and at

least 300 ECTS credits, including studies such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, performance.

(3) For graduate courses, a maximum of two courses for students accepted with a master's degree and a maximum of four courses for students accepted with a bachelor's degree can be selected from courses offered at other higher education institutions, with the recommendation of the department and the approval of the institute board of directors.

Application and acceptance

ARTICLE 25 – (1) In order to apply for proficiency in arts, candidates must have a bachelor's or master's degree and, except for graduates of fine arts faculties, conservatories and equivalent programs of other faculties, candidates who apply with a master's degree must have at least 55 points in the ALES verbal score type and have a bachelor's degree. Applicants must have an ALES score determined by the relevant senate decision, provided that it is not less than 80 points in the ALES verbal score type.

(2) Those who apply to the proficiency in arts program with a bachelor's degree must have a bachelor's degree average of at least 3 out of 4 or an equivalent score. ALES score, master's grade point average and interview/aptitude test/portfolio review results may also be evaluated for admission for those who will apply to the proficiency in arts program. The issues regarding this evaluation and the reference letter that the candidates must provide for application, the composition stating why they want to qualify in art, international standard exams and other similar documents are determined by the senate.

(3) (Amendment: Official Gazette-18/5/2021-31485) In the admission of students to proficiency programs in art, it is mandatory to obtain a minimum of 55 points from centrally accepted foreign language exams by the Higher Education Board, other than their mother tongue, or from internationally recognized foreign language exams deemed equivalent by the Higher Education Board. University senates have the authority to decide, if necessary, to raise these minimum scores based on the characteristics of the programs to be entered. For applications to programs in institutes where the main language of instruction is Turkish in the main arts and main science branches of conservatory programs and fine arts faculties that admit students only through special talent exams, it is a requirement to submit a health report obtained from a state hospital or a state university hospital.

a) For candidates with hearing impairment, having an uncorrected disability of at least 70% or a corrected disability of at least 40% and above,

b) For disabled candidates with intellectual disabilities with a disability level of 50% and above,

c) For disabled candidates diagnosed with a "widespread developmental disorder" (autism spectrum disorder/childhood autism/atypical Autism, Rett Syndrome, Asperger Syndrome) with a disability level of 40% and above, foreign language proficiency is not required for their application.

These candidates are considered to have met the foreign language proficiency requirement as long as they meet the university's minimum foreign language score requirement.

(4) How much weight the ALES score will be evaluated, provided that it is not less than 50%, is determined by the senate. The higher education institution can also accept students with ALES score alone. Equivalent scores accepted as equivalent to ALES and declared by the Council of Higher Education can be increased by the senate decisions of each university. However, the provisions of the first paragraph apply to the admission of students to the departments/major arts of institutes, faculties of fine arts and conservatories.

Duration

ARTICLE 26 – (1) The duration of completion of the proficiency in arts program is eight semesters for those accepted with a master's degree, excluding the time spent in scientific preparation, starting from the semester in which the courses related to the program in which they are registered are given, regardless of whether they are registered for each semester, and the maximum completion period is twelve semesters. For those accepted with a bachelor's degree, the duration is ten semesters and the maximum completion period is fourteen semesters.

(2) The maximum period for successfully completing the required credit courses for the proficiency in arts program is four semesters for those accepted with a master's degree with thesis, and six semesters for those accepted with a bachelor's degree. The student who cannot successfully complete the credit courses within this period or cannot achieve the minimum GPA required by the higher education institution will be dismissed from the higher education institution.

(3) The student who successfully completes his/her credit courses and practices, but cannot complete his/her thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, performance etc. by the end of the maximum twelve semesters or fourteen semesters specified in the first paragraph, will be dismissed.

(4) Students who have applied to the proficiency in arts program with a bachelor's degree and who are not successful in their qualification in art thesis, provided that they have met the required credit load, project and other similar conditions, are given a non-thesis master's degree upon their request.

Appointment of supervisor

ARTICLE 27 – (1) The department or major art department of the institute shall appoint a supervisor from its own university staff who will provide guidance for each student. The supervisor is involved in course selection, applications, and the execution of studies such as theses, exhibitions, projects, recitals, concerts, and performances. The supervisor and the student jointly propose the subject and title of works such as the thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, performance, etc. to the institute, and this proposal becomes final with the decision of the institute's board of directors. The regulation adopted by the relevant senate determines when the supervisor will be appointed within the student's program. However, the supervisor must be appointed no later than the end of the second semester. If the nature of the qualification in art study requires more than one thesis supervisor, a second thesis supervisor can be appointed. To manage studies such as theses, exhibitions, projects, recitals, concerts, and performances in proficiency in art programs, it is necessary to have directed at least one successfully completed master's thesis. (Amended sentence: Official Gazette-1/3/2017-29994) The second thesis supervisor may be someone from outside the university staff who holds a doctorate or proficiency in art degree.

(2) The supervisor is selected among faculty members whose qualifications are determined by the relevant senate and faculty members who have a doctorate/proficiency in arts degree.

Completion of proficiency in arts study

ARTICLE 28 – (1) The student preparing the thesis must write the text explaining and documenting the results obtained, such as exhibition, project, recital, concert, performance, etc., in accordance with the writing rules accepted by the relevant senate. He verbally defends his works, such as, in front of the jury.

(2) Before the defense of the proficiency in arts study, and in the case of theses and studies that are corrected, the student completes his/her thesis/study together with the correction and presents it to

his/her supervisor. The supervisor submits the thesis to the institute with his/her opinion that the thesis is defensible. The Institute receives the plagiarism software program report regarding the thesis and sends it to the supervisor and jury members. If actual plagiarism is detected in the report, the thesis is sent to the institute board of directors for a decision, together with its justification.

(3) The student, who completes the proficiency in arts study, delivers the required number of copies of the thesis to his/her supervisor. The supervisor expresses his/her opinion in writing regarding the compliance of the thesis with the writing rules and sends the theses to the relevant institute through the department.

(4) The proficiency in art jury is appointed with the recommendation of the supervisor and the department and the approval of the institute board of directors. The jury consists of five people, including the supervisor, at least two of whom are faculty members from other higher education institutions. The relevant board of directors decides whether the supervisor has voting rights. If the supervisor does not have the right to vote, the jury consists of six people. In addition, the second thesis supervisor can take part in the jury without the right to vote.

(5) The jury members meet and take the student to the exam within one month at the latest from the date the thesis or text in question is delivered to them. The exam consists of the presentation of the proficiency in arts work followed by a question-answer section. The exam is open to the participation of lecturers, graduate students, and experts in the field.

(6) After the completion of the exam, the jury, closed to the audience, decides to accept, reject or correct the student's artistic proficiency work such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, performance, etc., by absolute majority. Students whose thesis and proficiency in arts work are accepted are considered successful. This decision is notified to the relevant institute with a report by the department within three days following the exam. The student whose thesis and proficiency in art study is rejected as unsuccessful will be dismissed from the higher education institution. The student who has been given a decision to correct his proficiency in artwork makes the necessary corrections within six months at the latest and re-defends his/her proficiency work in arts, such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, performance, etc., in front of the same jury. At the end of this defense, the student who is found unsuccessful and whose proficiency in arts study is not accepted will be dismissed from the higher education institution. (Amended sentence: OG-16/9/2017-30182) Students who are not successful in proficiency in art studies such as thesis, exhibition, project, recital, concert, performance are given a non-thesis master's degree upon their request, in accordance with the fourth paragraph of Article 26.

Proficiency in arts diploma

ARTICLE 29 – (1) The student who is successful in the proficiency in arts study is given a diploma that determines the field according to the characteristics of the branch of art approved by the Council of Higher Education, provided that other conditions are met. (Amended sentence: OG-1/3/2017-29994) Graduation date is the date on which the copy signed by the thesis defense jury commission is delivered.

(2) The student, who submits at least three bound copies of his/her proficiency in art thesis to the relevant institute within one month from the date of the thesis exam, provided that he/she is successful in the thesis defense and meets other conditions, and whose thesis is found to be suitable in terms of form (Amended phrase:OG-14/4/ 2020-31099) is entitled to receive a diploma of proficiency in arts. Upon application, the institute board of directors may extend the delivery period for a maximum of one more month. A student who does not meet these conditions cannot

receive his diploma, cannot benefit from his student rights, and is dismissed if his maximum period expires until he fulfills the conditions.

(3) Within three months from the delivery of the thesis by the relevant institute, a copy of the proficiency in arts thesis is sent electronically to the Presidency of the Council of Higher Education to be made available for scientific research and activities.

PART FIVE

Miscellaneous and Final Provisions

Student admission to the scientific preparation program

ARTICLE 30 – (1) Among the students accepted to master's and doctoral programs, a scientific preparation program can be applied to those who have received their bachelor's or master's degree in fields other than the master's or doctoral program to which they have been accepted, and those who have received their bachelor's or master's degree from higher education institutions other than the higher education institution to which they have been accepted to eliminate their deficiencies.

(2) Compulsory courses to be taken in the scientific preparation program cannot replace the courses deemed necessary to complete the relevant graduate program. However, in addition to scientific preparation courses, a student in the scientific preparation program can also take courses for the graduate program with the recommendation of the department and the approval of the institute's board of directors.

(3) Attendance, course exams, course grades, conditions for being successful in courses, course repetition, deregistration and other principles regarding the scientific preparation program are determined by the regulation accepted by the senate.

(4) The maximum period to be spent in the scientific preparation program is two semesters. Summer education is not included in this period. This period cannot be extended except for semester leaves, and the student who is not successful at the end of the period will be dismissed. The time spent in this program is not included in the duration of the master's or doctoral program.

Special student admission

ARTICLE 31 – (1) (Amended: OG-22/11/2019-30956) Students enrolled in a master's degree, doctoral or proficiency in arts program can be registered as special students with the approval of the department in which they are registered for graduate courses at other higher education institutions. Exemption procedures for the courses that students who are accepted to graduate courses take as special students and are successful in are carried out by the department in which they are registered. Special student admission conditions and other provisions in this regard are determined by the senates of higher education institutions.

Acceptance of students through lateral transfer

ARTICLE 32 – (1) A successful student who has completed at least one semester in the department of another institute within the higher education institution or in the graduate program of another higher education institution may be accepted to graduate programs through lateral transfer. Conditions for admission through lateral transfer are determined by the regulation adopted by the relevant senate.

Registration for graduate programs

ARTICLE 33 – (1) The conditions required for the finalization of the registration of students accepted to graduate programs are determined by the regulation accepted by the senate.

Programs, exams and assessment

ARTICLE 34 – (1) Graduate education plans in the institute's departments are the compulsory/elective courses, thesis, seminars and similar studies that must be taken in order to graduate from the graduate program, and the total of credits. These teaching plans are discussed and approved by the relevant institute board, provided that they comply with the minimum content decided by the university senates.

(2) Graduate courses to be opened in a semester and faculty members having a doctorate degree or equivalent graduate education to be teaching these courses (Amended phrase: OG- 15/1/2023-32074) and researchers appointed in accordance with the additional article 46 of Law No. 2547, is determined by the institute board of directors upon the recommendations of the departments.

(3) In the creation of credits for graduate programs, taking into account the credit range determined by the Turkey Higher Education Qualifications Framework for the diploma level and field where the relevant program is located, and considering the working hours of students, the following points are considered, as determined by the senates of higher education institutions:

a) The credit value of a graduate course is the sum of the weekly theoretical class hours for a course that lasts one semester, plus half of the weekly practice or laboratory hours.

b) Within the framework of principles determined by the senates of higher education institutions, the ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) course credits are calculated by considering the learning outcomes that express the contribution of that course to the knowledge, skills, and competencies that a student completing the relevant diploma program will gain. This calculation takes into account clearly defined theoretical or practical class hours and the necessary study hours for other activities envisaged for students.

(4) Attendance, course exams, course grades, course success conditions, course repetition and other principles regarding graduate programs are determined by the regulation accepted by the senate.

(5) At least one course covering scientific research techniques and research and publication ethics must be given during graduate education.

(6) The student and the student's supervisor decide which of the courses approved by the institute board will be included in the students' curriculum. The supervision duty is carried out by the head of the department until the thesis supervisor is appointed.

(7) Additional success conditions may be determined by higher education institutions for the student to continue his/her program after any semester.

(8) All exams that measure qualification, level determination or course success can be done on paper and simultaneously to all candidates, or from a question bank classified according to field and difficulty level and stored securely, in a way that allows different questions to be asked to each candidate at different times. It can also be done electronically. 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 exam questions on paper or electronically, and ensuring exam security are determined by the Council of Higher Education.

Other terms

ARTICLE 35 – (1) The eligibility of graduates from undergraduate and graduate programs to apply for master's and doctoral programs, as well as proficiency in arts studies, is determined by

the senates of higher education institutions. However, if deemed necessary, it can be established by the decision of the Council of Higher Education, considering the opinion of the Interuniversity Board.

(2) The terms and conditions regarding the admission to graduate programs of foreign candidates and Turkish citizen candidates who have completed their entire undergraduate education abroad are determined by the senates of higher education institutions.

(3) (Amended:OG-22/11/2019-30956) Education in thesis master's and doctoral programs takes into account the graduate program quotas, the number of faculty members designated by the Council of Higher Education to work in graduate programs, and the student-to-faculty ratio. The maximum number of students per thesis supervisor is set at 14 for thesis master's programs and doctoral programs, and 16 for non-thesis master's programs, excluding thesis master's and doctoral programs. However, this quota can be increased by up to 50% for graduate programs conducted under the protocol with the Council of Higher Education and within the framework of university-industry cooperation.

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

(5) The terms and conditions regarding the admission to, evaluation of, and diplomas to be awarded to graduate programs in the field of teacher training, as well as the principles regarding 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) Except for non-thesis master's programs, it is not possible to enroll and continue in more than one graduate program at the same time.

(7) Specialization in medicine and dentistry is equivalent to a doctorate, and these specialization trainings are carried out in accordance with the Regulation on Specialization Training in Medicine and Dentistry published in the Official Gazette dated 26/4/2014 and numbered 28983.

(8) (Added: OG-10/6/2020-31151) In case of disasters and epidemics, higher education institutions will offer graduate education students at the thesis stage one semester upon request, and one more semester if they re-apply depending on the stage of the disaster or epidemic, for a maximum of two semesters. Additional time may be given, these additional periods are not counted as the maximum period.

Invalidated regulation

ARTICLE 36 – (1) The Graduate Education and Training Regulation published in the Official Gazette dated 1/7/1996 and numbered 22683 has been invalidated.

Transition terms

TEMPORARY ARTICLE 1 – (1) The implementation of the terms introduced by this Regulation and the determined periods begin from the date of entry into force of the regulation.

(2) The sixth paragraph of Article 35 does not apply to students who were enrolled in more than one graduate program at the same time before the publication date of this Regulation.

(3) Students who are enrolled in or graduated from non-thesis master's programs before 6/2/2013 can apply to doctoral programs.

(4) (Added: OG-22/11/2019-30956) The provision of the first paragraph of the amended article 31 of this Regulation before the amendment applies to students who are accepted as special students to graduate programs before the 2020-2021 academic year.

(5) (Added: OG-22/11/2019-30956) The third paragraph of Article 35 of the Regulation shall be applied starting from the 2020-2021 academic year.

State of emergency

TEMPORARY ARTICLE 2 – (Added: OG-10/6/2020-31151)

(1) Due to the global epidemic, the condition regarding the ALES score in subparagraph (a) of the first paragraph of Article 5 and the fourth paragraph of Article 16 will not be applied until 2/1/2021.

Validity

ARTICLE 37 – (1) This Regulation enters into force on the date of its publication.

Executive

ARTICLE 38 – (1) The terms of this Regulation are put into force by the President of the Council of Higher Education.

Official Gazette in which the Regulation was published		
	Date	Number
	20/4/2016	29690
Official Gazettes Where Regulations Amending the Regulations Are Published		
	Date	Number
1	1/3/2017	29994
2	16/9/2017	30182
3	22/11/2019	30956
4	14/4/2020	31099
5	10/6/2020	31151
6	18/5/2021	31485
7	15/1/2023	32074