

COLLECTION OF DECISIONS AND ORDINANCES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH BOHEMIA IN ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

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Rectorate's Ordinance on quality standards for doctoral studies

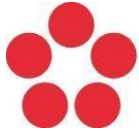
Article 1 Introductory provisions

1. This ordinance is issued by the USB Rector of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice (hereinafter referred to as 'USB') for the purpose of introducing and uniformly applying quality standards for doctoral studies at USB (hereinafter also referred to as the 'standards'). The standards define binding and forward-looking requirements for the quality of doctoral studies.
2. The aim of the ordinance is to ensure that doctoral studies at USB correspond to the profile of an early-career independent researcher in accordance with European frameworks and fulfil the recommendations of the Salzburg Principles II, the European University Association (EUA) Council for Doctoral Education, the PRIDE Network and the requirements of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).
3. Through these standards, the ordinance sets out quality requirements for the work of faculties, field boards, supervisors, students, the USB School of Doctoral Studies (hereinafter 'SDS'), and other stakeholders in doctoral studies.

Article 2 Quality standards for doctoral studies

1. This Regulation implements the quality standards for doctoral studies, which are set out in detail in the annexe to this ordinance.
2. The standards set out two levels of quality:
 - a) Q baseline – minimum mandatory requirements that every USB doctoral degree programme must meet;
 - b) Q Plus – a forward-looking, above-standard benchmark, which is expected to be achieved within 2 to 3 years and which is based on the usual standards of the European University Association (EUA).
3. The standards apply to the following areas:





- a) requirements for studies and graduation,
 - b) requirements for students' transferable skills (transversal T-competences),
 - c) requirements for the dissertation,
 - d) requirements for the dissertation defence,
 - e) the quality of doctoral supervision,
 - f) monitoring of the quality of doctoral studies.
4. Binding nature of the standards:
- a) The Q baseline standard is the minimum binding quality level, which is based on accredited doctoral degree programmes and must be reflected in the faculties' study and examination regulations and in students' individual study plans.
 - b) The Q Plus standard represents the level of quality that doctoral degree programmes should achieve as part of their strategic development. It is monitored by field boards, faculties, the School of Doctoral Studies (SDS), and the USB Internal Evaluation Board.

Article 3 **Transitional and final provisions**

1. Faculties shall incorporate the standards into their internal regulations relating to the Study and Examination Regulations for Doctoral Studies by 1 September 2026 and into other regulations by 1 January 2027.
2. The standards shall apply to all students admitted to studies from the 2026/2027 academic year; for current students, the standards shall apply to the extent that they do not conflict with their individual study plans as set out in the faculty's internal regulations.
3. This ordinance comes into force and takes effect on the date of its publication in the collection of decisions and ordinances of the USB Rector in the public section of the University of South Bohemia's website.

prof. Ing. Pavel Kozák, Ph.D.
Rector

Prepared by: Iva Stuchlíková, Director of the School of Doctoral Studies

Distribution list: USB management, Deans of USB faculties

Annexe No. 1: Quality Standards for Doctoral Studies at USB

