

Rules on distinguishing doctoral dissertations prepared in the discipline of Biotechnology

1. A resolution to distinguish a doctoral dissertation may be adopted by the Scientific Council for the Discipline after the award of the doctoral degree. If a doctoral committee is appointed, the committee may adopt a resolution including a motion to distinguish a doctoral dissertation with a substantiation and present it to the Scientific Council for the Discipline.
2. A distinction may be awarded to a doctoral dissertation that meets all of the following conditions:
 - 1) The doctoral dissertation has a documented outstanding scientific or application value, i.e.:
 - a) Results directly connected with research performed during preparation of the doctoral dissertation were published (or accepted for publication and given a DOI number) in a renowned journal (renowned journals) and in this publication (publications) the doctoral candidate was the lead contributor when preparing the manuscript and in actions towards its publication (based on a written statement of the advisor), or
 - b) Results directly connected with research performed during preparation of the doctoral dissertation were implemented in industrial practice (the implementation paper signed by the entrepreneur is required, following the template determined for parametric evaluation of scientific units) or commercialized (the commercialization confirmation document is required, e.g. sale of a licence), whereas the share of the doctoral candidate in the above-mentioned work is estimated to be at least 30% based on the statement of the co-authors.
 - 2) All reviews of the doctoral dissertation are positive.
 - 3) The motion for distinction was put forward and substantiated in reviews by at least two reviewers of the doctoral dissertation. The doctoral committee may also consider the opinion of the advisor.
 - a) The recommendation of a distinction was put forward and substantiated in reviews of at least two reviewers of the doctoral dissertation. The reviewer's substantiation of the distinction of the doctoral dissertation should include information on its high quality and point to these elements of the dissertation which in the reviewer's view prove its outstanding character as compared with other papers on similar subjects.
 - 4) The doctoral candidate passed the doctoral examination in the area or discipline relevant to the subject of the doctoral dissertation with distinction.
 - 5) The duration of completion of the doctoral dissertation may not exceed 5 years; it is counted from the day of admission to doctoral study/doctoral school until the day of submission of the doctoral dissertation. The period is extended by leaves laid down in the doctoral study or doctoral school regulations. In case of proceedings towards the award of the doctoral degree in the extramural mode, the duration of doctoral dissertation preparation is evaluated on the basis of the advisor's statement.
3. These rules apply to proceedings towards the award of the doctoral degree initiated after 1 October 2019.