

Validity period of study attainments/Scientific postgraduate education

Study attainments in LUT University's postgraduate degrees (doctor, licentiate) may, as of 1 January 2022, date back no more than seven years. On special grounds, the head of a doctoral programme may decide to approve older study attainments based on a proposal by the coordinating supervisor of a student's postgraduate studies. However, supplementary studies will not expire.

Special grounds for a longer validity period

The validity period is always examined on study attainment basis.

The following circumstances and the progress of studies will be considered in granting a longer validity period for a study attainment:

- 1) the student's illness or difficult situation in life;
- 2) positions of trust and activity in societal forums during studies;
- 3) systematic training for elite sports;
- 4) preparation for a top artistic performance;
- 5) only a thesis missing from the student's degree (licentiate thesis from the Licentiate degree or doctoral dissertation from the Doctor's degree) and the examination process is to be started within six months

A difficult situation in life refers to illnesses or the like, such as the illness of a family member, resulting in delayed studies. Positions of trust and societal forums refer primarily to activity involving representative democracy. They do not refer to normal work for an employer or entrepreneurship even though the work or entrepreneurship may be significantly important to society.

Working during postgraduate studies does not entitle a student to extend the validity of study attainments.

If only the final thesis is missing from a student's degree, the validity of study attainments may be extended for a maximum of 1.5 years. An extension for this reason is granted only once.

If any of the five points above can be applied, a student should send a free-form application with reasons for extended validity to LUT Doctoral School. A coordinating supervisor's statement and schedule for starting the examination process must be attached in the application, see point 5).

Entry into force

This decision will enter into force on November 23, 2021. This validity policy applies to all the university's students.

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