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Application to an individual PhD project / admission to the faculty's doctoral candidates list

These information are addressed to international scholars who are interested in writing a PhD thesis at Technische Universität Dresden, Faculty of Education. Please note that we do not provide any PhD programmes. PhD theses are written on an individual basis and supervision is mainly up to the co-operation between the supervisor and the PhD candidate. However, there are a number of general steps all candidates have to follow:

- 1) An applicant (potential PhD candidate) identifies and contacts a potential supervisor, i.e. a professor. Please ensure that your topic is in the range of expertise of the professor.
- 2) The applicant sends a CV and a PhD proposal (draft, exposé, approx. 15-20 pages) on the envisaged topic including
 - subject and summary
 - justification of project in relation to the current and thematically relevant state of research (8 - 10 pages)
 - basic assumptions for theory and research
 - empirical work: planned methodical approach
 - approximate work and time schedule
 - context of the the PhD project (e.g. as a part of a research project; resources needed for the project etc.)

Please note that incomplete documents may be rejected without further review.

- 3) The professor provides feedback on the proposal and may ask for amendments to meet academic standards etc.
- 4) In parallel and depending on the academic background, the applicant might be asked to send all relevant documents for degree examination to the International Office of TU Dresden (CV, a copy of the original University entrance qualification certificate, officially certified copies and translations (in German or English) of all degree certificates, copy and translation of subject overview with grades of the highest level of degree). PLEASE NOTE THAT NO LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE BY THE SUPERVISOR WILL BE SENT PRIOR TO THIS STEP. (<https://tu-dresden.de/studium/vor-dem-studium/studienangebot/promotionsstudium/einzureichende-unterlagen-promotion-auslaend-bewerber>)
- 5) Once accepted by the international office the supervisor can send a letter of acceptance of the PhD supervision to the applicant. The letter of acceptance states that the supervisor is willing to supervise the PhD thesis; it does not state that the applicant will actually be accepted as PhD candidate by the Faculty. The proposal will be accepted by the supervisor if it meets the academic standards of the discipline.
- 6) [The applicant may apply for a scholarship or similar]
- 7) The applicant sends an application to the Dean of the Faculty of Education at TU Dresden for admission to the doctoral candidates list. Again, the application has to include all relevant documents, i.e. PhD proposal (final version accepted by supervisor), letter of acceptance by supervisor, CV, several declarations (e.g. on prior attempts to write a PhD thesis etc.) (<https://tu-dresden.de/gsw/ew/postgraduales/promotion>) THE FINAL DECISION OF ACCEPTING THE CANDIDATE IS TAKEN BY THE PHD COMMITTEE (not by the supervisor).