

Criteria for Award of Postgraduate Degrees in Mechanics and Engineering

Article 1 A candidate applying for a doctoral degree shall meet one of the following prerequisites for international exchange:

1. Have attended at least one international academic conference, and exchanged his or her paper in the form of an oral presentation or a poster; or
2. Carried out a study visit to an overseas (foreign) institution, conducted collaborative research, or experienced joint training for at least 90 consecutive days.

Article 2 Requirements for Scientific Research Achievements

(2.1) A postgraduate shall have obtained at least one of the following achievements prior to degree application:

1. Published achievements at the frontier of fundamental or applied research in an academic journal;
2. Obtained a recognized achievement at a particular stage in a project that met major national needs;
3. Made innovative achievements in the commercialization of high-tech advancements or in the development of instruments with national importance.

(2.2) Specific Rules for the Recognition of Scientific Research Achievements:

2.2.1 Recognition of academic papers:

1. A doctoral candidate shall meet one of the following prerequisites:

- A. One academic paper published or accepted by a top international journal;
- B. Two academic papers published or accepted by important international journals or domestic journals with international influence, with at least one written in English.

2. A master's degree applicant shall meet one of the following prerequisites:

- A. Have one academic paper published or accepted by a journal;

[This English version of Criteria for Award of Postgraduate Degrees of University of Science and Technology of China (USTC) is for reference only, subject to the 2020 Chinese version.]

B. Published one international academic conference paper.

2.2.2. Other research achievements in the form of non-academic papers such as: academic monographs, research achievement reports, standards and specifications and scientific research awards require a three-month advance application, and shall undergo strict peer review. Such achievements shall be approved by at least 3/4 of the professors (not less than five in total) of the program unit and at least 3/4 of the degree subcommittee members to determine whether the candidate meets the scientific research requirements for degree application.

Article 3 Additional Explanation

1. The applicant must be the lead force (e.g. first author) in accomplishing the achievement (not including the Supervisor), and the program unit must be listed as the applicant's primary institutional affiliation. The achievements shall be the main part of the thesis or dissertation affiliated with the degree. A doctoral candidate shall be the lead of at least one relevant academic achievement (including the Supervisor). In principle, a research achievement can only be used as a representative achievement for one candidate to apply for a degree.
2. An approved invention patent is equivalent to an academic paper published in a domestic journal with international influence.
3. Top international journals refer to those categorized in JCR Zone Q1; important international journals refer to other SCI journals; domestic journals with international influence refer to those included in the catalog of journals selected by the China Science and Technology Journal Excellence Action Plan; the academic journals for master candidates shall be SCI, EI or CSCD journals; and international conference papers for master candidates shall be collected in EI journals.
4. If the candidate applies for a degree with an accepted but yet unpublished academic paper, the order of the authors and affiliated institutions may not be changed before

the paper is officially published; otherwise serious action will be taken or the degree revoked.

5. Other requirements are the same as those of the Implementing Regulations of USTC for Award of Master's and Doctoral Degrees.

6. Matters not covered in the aforesaid provisions shall be discussed and decided by the degree subcommittee.

7. The Standard shall be implemented, for both domestic and international students, from September 2021.