



Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

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Annex to: Rektorsbeslut om kriterier och nettostudietid inom utbildning på forskarnivå, 2025-02-19.

Criteria for study activity and actual period of study in doctoral education

Actual period of study (nettostudietid) and study activity

The duration of doctoral education is four years of actual period of study (240 ECTS credits) for a PhD and two years of actual period of study (120 ECTS credits) for a licentiate degree.

If requested by the doctoral student, doctoral education can be pursued on a part-time basis, but at no less than 50% of full-time study. This means that the education must be completed within eight years for a PhD and four years for a licentiate degree (Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 7, Section 36).

Study activity (in %) is jointly calculated by the principal supervisor and the doctoral student every calendar semester and corresponds to the proportion of time devoted to doctoral education (thesis work and courses). The doctoral student's individual study plan (ISP) is updated accordingly.

What is not Included in the actual period of study?

The following activities are not included in the actual period of study and should therefore be deducted from the study activity calculation:

1. Assignments not related to doctoral education (e.g., administrative or teaching duties). These assignments may take place at the department (so-called departmental duties) or with an external partner. Such duties must

not exceed 20% of full-time employment (Higher Education Ordinance, Chapter 5, Section 2). Occasional short-term assignments may be included in the actual period of study, provided they do not exceed a total of five working days throughout the doctoral education.

2. Doctoral council assignments (including participation in committees and councils).
3. Union assignments relevant to the department or employment under which the doctoral education is conducted.
4. Service within the total defense forces.
5. Parental leave (must be reported in Primula, and part-time leave is converted into full working days).
6. Care of a sick child (VAB) (must be reported in Primula, and part-time leave is converted into full working days).
7. Sick leave (must be reported in Primula, and part-time leave is converted into full working days). A medical certificate is required from the eighth day of illness for sick pay to be issued.