

DECISION No. 30/2020
of the President of the Polish Academy of Sciences
of 28 July 2020

*on awarding the PAS President's scholarships for outstanding academic achievements
to doctoral candidates*

Pursuant to Article 22 (1) and (5) and in conjunction with Article 81 of the "Act on the Polish Academy of Sciences of 30 April 2010" (Polish Journal of Laws of 2019, items 1183, 1655, 2227, of 2020, items 695, 1086), I hereby decide as follows:

§ 1

1. With a view to promoting the advancement of young researchers without a doctoral degree, the President of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAS) awards outstanding achievement scholarships ("the scholarships") to students in doctoral programs or at doctoral schools run by PAS research institutes.
2. The award of such a scholarship by the PAS President is made at the request of the Director of the PAS research institute offering doctoral study, after a scholarship application has received a positive opinion from the Scientific Council of that institute.
3. The PAS President draws up a ranking list of applications for the scholarships ordered by the number of points obtained, and awards scholarships to those students whose applications have been ranked the highest.
4. The PAS President awards up to ten such outstanding achievement scholarships per academic year. To be awarded such a scholarship, a student must have the status of a doctoral candidate, subject to § 2 (4).
5. The scholarships are awarded for an academic year and are capped at PLN 30,000 gross.¹

§ 2

1. To be eligible for the scholarship for a given academic year, candidates must:
 - 1) have completed at least the first year of study in a doctoral program or at a doctoral school in the previous academic year and have enrolled in the given academic year for the subsequent year of study as provided for in the relevant curriculum, and
 - 2) during their period of study in a doctoral program or at a doctoral school, have demonstrated outstanding academic achievements related to the field of study and the scientific discipline pursued by their doctoral program or doctoral school.
2. The condition of having completed a year of doctoral study in the previous academic year referred to in section 1 (1) above is not required to be met if a candidate has enrolled in the given academic year for a subsequent year of study in a doctoral program as provided for in the relevant curriculum and his or her failure to complete a year of doctoral study in the previous academic year was caused by his or her exemption from the obligation to participate in classes due to his or her state of health or due to giving birth to a child. This provision also applies to doctoral school students if the provisions laying forth the organization of education at such schools so permit.

¹ The personal income tax and social security contributions due in accordance with the binding legal provisions will be deducted from the scholarship amount.

3. The period of study referred to in section 1 (2) covers the period from the start date of study in the relevant doctoral program or at the relevant doctoral school until 30 September of the year in which the candidate applies for a scholarship.
4. A scholarship may not be awarded to:
 - 1) students who have completed the final year of study provided for in the curriculum of their doctoral program or doctoral school and who, irrespective of the reasons, have obtained an extension of the period of study or the date of submission of a doctoral thesis;
 - 2) students whose study has been suspended for a period of time corresponding to the duration of maternity leave, leave equivalent to maternity leave, paternity leave and parental leave as defined in the Polish Act of 26 June 1974 – the Labor Code;
 - 3) students who in previous years were awarded a PAS President's scholarship based on Decision No. 12/2016 of the President of the Polish Academy of Sciences of 28 April 2016 *on awarding the PAS President's scholarships for outstanding academic achievements to students in doctoral programs run by PAS research institutes*, as amended by Decision No. 35/2017 of the President of the Polish Academy of Sciences of 23 June 2017, Decision No. 49/2019 of the President of the Polish Academy of Sciences of 26 July 2019 *on awarding the PAS President's scholarships for outstanding academic achievements to doctoral candidates* or the present Decision.

§ 3

The outstanding academic achievements referred to in § 2 (1) (2) are deemed to be the following:

- 1) authorship or co-authorship of scientific articles published in scientific journals or in peer-reviewed materials from international conferences, which in the year the article was published in its final form were on the list of scientific journals and peer-reviewed materials drawn up in accordance with the legal provisions issued under Article 267 (2) (2) of the Polish Act on Higher Education and Science of 20 July 2018 (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 85, as amended);
- 2) authorship or co-authorship of scientific monographs or chapters in scientific monographs published by publishing houses, which in the year the monograph was published in its final form were on the list of publishing houses drawn up in accordance with the legal provisions issued under Article 267 (2) (2) of the Act referred to in subsection 1;
- 3) significant involvement in research projects carried out independently by the PAS research institute;
- 4) significant involvement in research projects carried out by the PAS research institute in cooperation with other PAS research institutes or other institutions in the system of higher education and scholarship, including Polish universities and foreign scientific institutions or universities;
- 5) authorship or co-authorship of an invention, utility model, industrial design, semiconductor topography or a plant variety (bred or discovered and derived), for which a patent or other exclusive rights have been granted;
- 6) self-authored papers, self-presented at international scientific conferences attended by speakers from at least five foreign scientific institutions or universities;
- 7) prizes awarded in international competitions involving doctoral students or researchers from at least five countries, excluding those organised as part of conferences and competitions for the award of other scholarships of high rank or a high level of innovation.

§ 4

1. Candidates submit their scholarship application to the Director of the PAS research institute offering the doctoral study, *via* the head of the doctoral program, the head of the doctoral school or the person responsible for teaching at the doctoral school run by that institute, by the deadline specified by the Director of the PAS research institute.
2. The PAS research institute is responsible for verifying fulfilment of the criteria referred to in § 2 (1) to (3).
3. When submitting his or her scholarship application, the student submits documents confirming his or her outstanding academic achievements, referred to in § 3, as well as a declaration of consent to the processing of his or her personal data and consent to having his or her full name and the name of the PAS research institute mentioned on the website of the Polish Academy of Science if awarded the scholarship. A sample declaration is enclosed as Annex 2 to the Decision.
4. In particular the documents confirming the candidate's outstanding academic achievements, referred to in § 3, may include the following:
 - 1) a copy of the pages of a scientific journal or a scientific monograph including the full name(s) of the author(s), the title of the scientific article or monograph, the name of the publishing house, the place of publication, month and year of publication, circulation, ISBN, eISBN or ISSN, eISSN, or DOI, if assigned, or a certificate issued by the publisher;
 - 2) the student's own statement about the percentage of his or her own contribution to a scientific article, a scientific monograph or a chapter in a scientific monograph along with a description of this contribution in the case of co-authorship;
 - 3) a certificate issued by the research project leader or a statement if the student applying for the scholarship is the project leader;
 - 4) a copy of a patent document, a utility model certificate, an industrial design registration certificate, a certificate of registration of a semiconductor topography, or a decision to grant an exclusive right of protection for a plant variety that has been bred or discovered and derived;
 - 5) a copy of the program of an international scientific conference or post-conference materials containing the full name of the speaker or a certificate issued by the conference organizer;
 - 6) a copy of the diploma obtained in a competition or of another document confirming the award received in the competition or a certificate issued by the competition organizer.
5. The Director of the PAS research institute submits the scholarship application together with the documents confirming the candidate's outstanding academic achievements to the Scientific Council of that institute to obtain their opinion. A sample application is enclosed as Annex 1 to the present Decision.

§ 5

1. Directors of PAS research institutes offering doctoral study shall only submit to the PAS President those applications that have received a positive opinion of their Scientific Council. The Director of a PAS institute may submit more than one application that has received a positive opinion of the Scientific Council of that institute.
2. If an opinion is being issued at a meeting of the Scientific Council held by electronic means of communication, the Director of the institute may, on behalf of the Chair of the Scientific

Council, confirm in writing that an application has received a positive opinion of that Scientific Council by attaching a relevant statement to the application.

3. A student's declaration referred to in § 4 (3) shall be enclosed to the application.
4. The application shall not be accompanied by the documents referred to in § 4 (4).
5. The deadline for submitting applications is 22 October.
6. If the application does not meet the formal requirements, the Director of the PAS research institute is requested to correct the application or remedy its deficiencies within 7 days of the delivery of the request. Failure to correct the application or to remedy its deficiencies by the set deadline results in the application being left unprocessed.
7. Any correspondence related to correcting applications or remedying their deficiencies as well as any supporting documents may be sent by electronic means, in compliance with the deadlines specified in section 6. The PAS research institute indicates the appropriate contact e-mail address in the scholarship application.

§ 6

1. Proposals are evaluated using the scoring method, with points being awarded for individual academic achievements.
2. The PAS President hereby appoints an Advisory Panel for the evaluation of applications for awarding the PAS President's scholarships for outstanding academic achievements to doctoral candidates, hereinafter the "Panel", composed of:
 - 1) Chair of the Panel – Professor Paweł Rowiński, PAS Vice President;
 - 2) members:
 - a) Professor Konrad Osajda – Division I: Humanities and Social Sciences;
 - b) Professor Bożena Kamińska-Kaczmarek, Corresponding Member – Division II: Biological and Agricultural Sciences;
 - c) Professor Paweł Kulesza, Ordinary Member – Division III: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Earth Sciences;
 - d) Professor Czesława Rosik-Dulewska, Corresponding Member – Division IV: Engineering Sciences;
 - e) Professor Grzegorz Opolski, Corresponding Member – Division V: Medical Sciences.
3. The Panel may be joined in their work by persons invited by the Chair of the Panel, without the right to vote, including: a representative of the Self-Government of PAS Doctoral Candidates, as appointed by the Self-Government Council of PAS Doctoral Candidates, and experts.
4. The tasks of the Panel include:
 - 1) preparing a scoring proposal for applications for awarding a doctoral candidate a PAS President's scholarship for outstanding academic achievements, which is subject to approval by the PAS President;
 - 2) evaluating applications for awarding a doctoral candidate a PAS President's scholarship for outstanding academic achievements;
 - 3) submitting the ranking list referred to in § 1 (3) to the PAS President.
5. The Panel takes its decisions by way of a simple majority vote, in the presence of at least half of its members. In the event of a tied vote, the Chair has the decisive vote.
6. The Chair of the Panel is responsible for carrying on correspondence with regard to correcting scholarship applications or remedying their deficiencies and reporting about any applications being left unprocessed.

7. If the Chair of the Panel is absent at a Panel meeting, the function of Chair will be performed by a Panel member indicated by him or her.
8. Meetings of the Panel may be carried out using electronic means of communication, ensuring in particular:
 - 1) real-time transmission of a meeting among its participants,
 - 2) real-time multilateral communication – in compliance with the necessary safety rules.
9. Minutes of the Panel’s meetings are taken and signed by the Chair of the Panel or a member of the Panel referred to in section 7.
10. The Panel is supported in their work by the Office of the PAS President.

§ 7

1. The list of students who have been awarded PAS President’s scholarships, including their full name and the name of the PAS research institute, is published on the website of the Polish Academy of Sciences by 30 November at the latest.
2. The Director of the relevant PAS research institute receives a scholarship award letter.
3. The scholarship is paid out to the beneficiary by the PAS research institute from the funds provided to this end by the PAS President.
4. The scholarship is paid out in one installment to the bank account indicated by the beneficiary or in another form agreed on beforehand, within 14 days of the date on which the funds are credited to the bank account of the PAS research institute.
5. The PAS research institute is responsible for any failure to pay out the scholarship or the corresponding tax and social security contributions on time.
6. The PAS research institute presents a statement confirming payout of the scholarship by January 15 of the year following the one in which the scholarships were granted, returning any unused funds to the Polish Academy of Sciences’ account.

§ 8

To demonstrate their outstanding academic achievements from before 2019 in a scholarship application, students may present their authorship or co-authorship of scientific articles published in the final form in scientific journals included in part A or C of the list of scientific journals established in accordance with the legal provisions issued under Article 44 (2) of the Research Financing Principles Act of 30 April 2010 (published by the Notice of the Polish Minister of Science and Higher Education of 25 January 2017 in the Public Information Bulletin).

§ 9

Applications to award scholarships to students in doctoral programs will be considered for the last time when awarding scholarships for the academic year 2022/2023.

§ 10

The proposed scoring of applications for awarding PAS President’s scholarships for outstanding academic achievements to doctoral candidates, as developed by the Advisory Panel for the evaluation of outstanding achievement scholarship applications and approved by the PAS President on 30 September 2019, shall remain in force.

§ 11

Decision No. 49/2019 of the President of the Polish Academy of Sciences of 26 July 2019 *on awarding the PAS President's scholarships for outstanding academic achievements to doctoral candidates* is hereby repealed.

§ 12

The Decision takes effect on the date of its signature.

PRESIDENT
OF THE POLISH ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES

Jerzy Duszyński