Regulations Pertaining to the Doctoral Degree (PhD) in Artistic Research at Oslo National Academy of the Arts

This is a translation of the official regulation in Norwegian. In case the Norwegian and English versions of this text differ in meaning or interpretation, the Norwegian version holds authority.¹

These regulations have been prescribed by the board of Oslo National Academy of the Arts, February 6 2018, with authority from the Act relating to Universities and University Colleges, § 3-3 (April 1 2005, no. 15).

Part I. General provisions

§ 1. Applicability

These regulations apply to all education culminating in the degree Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) in Artistic Research at Oslo National Academy of the Arts. The regulations provide provisions for admission to, participation in and completion of doctoral training, including joint degrees and cotutelle (joint supervision) agreements.

For other provisions that regulates the terms and conditions of the PhD degree, please refer to the Norwegian Act relating to universities and university colleges (UH Act, 2005), the Norwegian qualifications framework for lifelong learning (NKR, 2011), the Regulations concerning terms and condition of employment for the posts of postdoktor (post-doctoral research fellow), stipendiat (research fellow), vitenskapelig assistant (research assistant) and spesialistkandidat (resident) (2006), the regulations governing degrees and protected titles (2005), the Ministry of Education and Research’s regulations governing quality assurance and quality enhancement in the higher education sector (2010), the Norwegian Agency of Quality Assurance and Education’s (NOKUT) academic supervision regulations (2017), Act on organisation of ethics and integrity in research (2017), and the European Charter for Researchers & Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers (2005).

§ 2. Terminology

The PhD in artistic research is hereafter also referred to as the artistic PhD or the doctoral degree.

The terms artistic PhD project and project are used to refer to the work done within the contract period from admission to completion, excluding the required coursework.

The terms artistic PhD result, artistic doctoral result and doctoral result refers to the result of the doctoral work that is submitted for evaluation. Artistic practice is at the core of the artistic PhD result. At the same time, the artistic practice is to be accompanied by an

¹ https://lovdata.no/dokument/SF/forskrift/2018-02-06-177
explicit reflection, which, when the project is presented, grants others access into the working methods and insights that emerge from the artistic research.

§ 3. **Scope, content and objectives of doctoral education**

§ 3-1. The objective of doctoral education is to qualify candidates to conduct artistic research of international quality and to perform other types of work requiring a high level of artistic insight and competence in accordance with sound academic practice and established standards on research ethics.

Doctoral education is to provide the candidate with knowledge, skills and expertise in keeping with the national qualification framework.

Doctoral education normally consists of three years of full-time study, and includes required coursework comprising a minimum of 30 credits.

The most important component of the doctoral education is an independent artistic research project carried out under close supervision.

§ 3-2. The PhD in artistic research is conferred on the basis of
- an approved artistic PhD result (cf. § 11-1)
- approved completion of the required coursework, and any other approved educational qualifications or expertise
- an approved public defence of the artistic doctoral result

§ 4. **Responsibility for doctoral education**

The board of Oslo National Academy of the Arts has the overall responsibility for doctoral education offered at the institution and its organization. Where no other provision is stipulated in this regulation, the board has delegated decision-making authority to the rector and director of Oslo National Academy of the Arts.

§ 5. **Quality assurance**

Doctoral education must be included under the Oslo National Academy of the Arts’s quality assurance system.

**Part II. Admission**

§ 6. **Admission**

§ 6-1. **Conditions of admission**
To be eligible for admission to doctoral training, applicants must normally have a master’s degree in the relevant art discipline, c.f. the descriptions in the second cycle of the Norwegian Qualifications Framework.

Based on a special assessment, Oslo National Academy of the Arts may approve other, comparable qualifications as the basis for admission.

Oslo National Academy of the Arts may set other qualification requirements based on criteria that are publicly available and in keeping with the Oslo National Academy of the Arts’ recruitment policy and academic profile.

The application should contain:
- Documentation of educational and comparable qualifications to serve as the basis of admission;
- A project description that includes
  - description of the artistic research project
  - progress plan
  - funding plan
  - documentation of special needs for academic and material resources
  - any plans for a stay at another institution
  - plan for artistic research dissemination
  - information about any restrictions on intellectual property rights that are intended to protect the rights of others
- plan for the required coursework, including coursework targeted towards general competency in accordance with the Norwegian Qualifications Framework;
- recommendation for at least one academic supervisor and a statement regarding the applicant’s proposed affiliation with an active artistic research group;
- a description of any legal or ethical issues raised by the project and how these can be addressed. The application must state whether the project is dependent on permission granted by committees on research ethics and other authorities or private individuals (research subjects, patients, parents, etc.). If possible, such permission should be obtained in writing and attached to the application.

Oslo National Academy of the Arts is responsible for determining the content of its application form and may establish additional documentation requirements.

The candidate is normally obligated to be in residence at Oslo National Academy of the Arts, agreements can be reached for shorter or longer periods of external residencies.

As a general rule, an application for admission to doctoral training must be submitted within three (3) months of the start-up of the research project that will culminate in conferral of the PhD degree.

If less than one (1) year of full-time work on the artistic PhD project remains at the time of submission of the application, the application will be rejected, c.f. section 6.3. Oslo National Academy of the Arts can make exceptions to this requirement for applicants who, at
the time of applying, are active artistic research fellows at Oslo National Academy of the Arts under the aegis of the Norwegian Artistic Research Fellowship Programme.

§ 6-2. Infrastructure

The infrastructure needed to implement the artistic research project must be placed at the disposal of the candidate. It is the responsibility of Oslo National Academy of the Arts to decide what infrastructure is necessary for implementing the project. For candidates with external funding or an external workplace, an agreement must be entered into between Oslo National Academy of the Arts and the external party in connection with the research project concerned. As a general rule, the agreement must be signed prior to the formal admission of the candidate or immediately thereafter.

§ 6-3. Admission decision

Oslo National Academy of the Arts may stipulate additional procedures for processing applications.

The decision to grant admission is based on an overall assessment of the application. Oslo National Academy of the Arts may stipulate criteria for use in ranking qualified applicants when the number of applicants exceeds the admission capacity of the institution.

The formal admission letter will appoint at least one academic supervisor, assign responsibility for dealing with other needs outlined in the application, and establish the start and end dates of the agreement period. The start date will be the same as the date when the candidate’s funding begins.

Admission will be denied if:
- agreements with external third parties prevent the doctoral thesis from being made available to the public or from being defended in a public forum;
- the agreements on intellectual property rights that have been entered into are so unreasonable that Oslo National Academy of the Arts should not be involved in the project;
- the applicant cannot fulfil the requirement which states that a minimum of one year of the project must be carried out after the candidate has been granted admission to doctoral training, c.f. section 6.1.

§ 7. The PhD agreement

§ 7-1. Parties to the agreement

Admission to doctoral training at Oslo National Academy of the Arts must be formalised in a written agreement signed by the PhD candidate, the academic supervisor(s) and Oslo National Academy of the Arts. The agreement regulates the rights and obligations of the parties during the period of admission and is intended to ensure that the candidate participates on a regular basis in an active research group and that he/she is able to complete
the training within the stipulated time period. Oslo National Academy of the Arts is responsible for creating a standardised form for this purpose.

For PhD candidates with funding from, employment at or other contributions from an external party, a separate agreement must be entered into between the candidate, Oslo National Academy of the Arts and the external party, in keeping with the established guidelines.

In the event that the PhD candidate will be affiliated with an institution abroad, Oslo National Academy of the Arts’ guidelines for such cooperation must be followed and a separate agreement must be entered into using the Oslo National Academy of the Arts’ standardised form. As a general rule, the signed agreement must be attached to the admission agreement.

§ 7-2. Agreement period

Oslo National Academy of the Arts may establish rules regarding the maximum time allowed to complete the doctoral programme, excluding legally established leaves of absence and required duties.

Any extension of the agreement period must be related to employee rights or clarified in relation to the candidate's funding basis.

If the candidate’s training is interrupted for legally established reasons, the agreement period will be extended correspondingly.

Oslo National Academy of the Arts may, upon application, extend the agreement period.

If an extension of the agreement period is approved, Oslo National Academy of the Arts may stipulate additional terms and conditions.

When the period of admission expires, the rights and obligations of the parties in connection with the PhD agreement terminate. This means that the PhD candidate may lose his/her right to receive academic supervision, participate in courses and have access to the infrastructure of Oslo National Academy of the Arts. However, the candidate may apply for permission to submit his/her doctoral thesis for evaluation for the PhD degree.

§ 7-3. Voluntary termination prior to expiry of the agreement period

The candidate and Oslo National Academy of the Arts may agree that the candidate’s participation in the doctoral programme will be terminated prior to expiry of the agreement period. In the event of voluntary termination, all questions regarding the terms and conditions of employment, funding, rights to the use of the research results, etc. must be settled in a termination agreement.
If voluntary termination is due to the candidate’s desire to change projects or transfer to a different doctoral programme, the candidate must reapply for admission on the basis of the new project.

§ 7-4. Involuntary termination in the event of delay or lack of progress

When one or more of the following conditions are present, Oslo National Academy of the Arts may decide to terminate a candidate’s participation in the doctoral programme without the candidate’s consent:

- A serious delay in completion of the required coursework.
- Repeated or serious violations of the candidate’s obligations to provide information, meet commitments, and report on the project, including a failure to submit a progress report, c.f. section 10-1.
- A delay in the progress of the research project that is of such a nature as to raise doubts about the candidate’s ability to complete the project within the stipulated time period.
- Pursuant to these regulations, involuntary termination may be imposed only if the lack of progress or delay is due to circumstances over which the PhD candidate has control.

A decision to impose involuntary termination based on this section must be taken by the board of Oslo National Academy of the Arts. Complaints are to be handled by the Joint appeals board for student affairs in accordance with the Act relating to universities and university colleges section 5-1 and regulations in accordance with this.

§ 7-5. Involuntary termination in the event of cheating on examinations or tests

If it is found that a PhD candidate has cheated on examinations or tests during the PhD programme, Oslo National Academy of the Arts may decide to annul such examinations and tests, cf. section 4.7 of the Act relating to universities and university colleges. If the circumstance(s) are so serious as to constitute research misconduct, cf. section 4.13, first paragraph, of the same Act, and Act on organisation of ethics and integrity in research, cf. section 8, second paragraph, Oslo National Academy of the Arts may decide to impose involuntary termination.

Decisions based on this paragraph are to be taken by the board of Oslo National Academy of the Arts. Complaints are to be handled by the Joint appeals committee for student affairs, cf. section 5-1 of the Act relating to universities and university colleges and regulations in accordance with this.

§ 7-6. Involuntary termination in the event of research misconduct

If it is found that a PhD candidate is guilty of research misconduct, cf. Section 4.13, first paragraph, of the Act relating to universities and university colleges, and cf. section 8, second paragraph, of the Act on organisation of ethics and integrity in research, Oslo National Academy of the Arts may decide to impose involuntary termination.
A decision to impose involuntary termination on the basis of research misconduct is to be taken by the board of Oslo National Academy of the Arts or that entity determined by the board of Oslo National Academy of the Arts. Complaints regarding such decisions will be handled by the ministry or a special appeals committee appointed by the ministry.

§ 7-7. Termination and dismissal

A PhD candidate may be dismissed from his or her position when there are proper grounds related to the institution’s or PhD candidate’s circumstances, c.f. sections 9 and 10 of the Civil Servants Act or section 26 of the Act regarding summary discharge.

Part III. Implementation

§ 8. Academic Supervision

The work involved in the doctoral thesis must be carried out under individualised academic supervision. Oslo National Academy of the Arts and the supervisors are to work together to ensure that the PhD candidate participates in an active artistic research environment.

§ 8-1. Appointment of academic supervisors

As a general rule, the PhD candidate will have two academic supervisors, of which one will be designated as the main supervisor. The main supervisor should normally be an employee of Oslo National Academy of the Arts and should be appointed at the time of admission.

The main supervisor has the main responsibility for following up the candidate's professional development and implementation in accordance with the progress plan. If Oslo National Academy of the Arts appoints an external main supervisor, a co-supervisor from Oslo National Academy of the Arts will be appointed.

Co-supervisors are experts in the field who provide supervision and share the academic-related responsibility for the candidate with the main supervisor.

Provisions on impartiality in sections 6 - 10 of the Public Administration Act regarding disqualification apply to the academic supervisors.

The main advisor should have artistic competence at associate professor level as a minimum, or undoubttable equivalent competence in the relevant subject area. All academic supervisors must hold a doctoral degree or equivalent qualification in the relevant research field and be active practitioners in their field.

The main supervisor should have PhD level artistic competency in the relevant subject area.
At least one of the appointed supervisors should have previous experience or training in serving as a supervisor for PhD candidates.

The PhD candidate and academic supervisor may ask Oslo National Academy of the Arts to appoint a new supervisor for the candidate. The supervisor may not withdraw before a new supervisor has been appointed. The parties may bring any disputes regarding the academic-related rights and obligations of the supervisor and candidate to Oslo National Academy of the Arts for review and a final decision.

§ 8-2. Duties of the academic supervisors

The candidate and academic supervisors should have regular contact. The frequency of contact between the parties should be stated in the annual progress report, c.f. section 10-1.

The candidate and main supervisor should review the project description and assess any need for adjustments as soon as possible and no later than three (3) months after admission. Significant changes to the project description must be approved by Oslo National Academy of the Arts.

The supervisors are to give advice on the delimitation of thematic area and research questions, and discuss and assess methods and results, including documentation and methods of dissemination, and provide guidance with respect to current academic discourse. The supervisors must also advise the candidate on the issue of research ethics related to the doctoral work.

The supervisors are required to stay informed of the progress of the candidate’s work and to assess it in relation to the progress plan in the project description, c.f. section 6.1.

The supervisors are required to follow up academic-related factors that may cause a delay in the candidate’s progress so that the candidate can complete the training within the stipulated time period.

§ 9. Required coursework

§ 9-1. Purpose, content and scope

Doctoral education must be organised such that candidates are able to complete their training within the stipulated time frame.

Oslo National Academy of the Arts is responsible for ensuring that the required coursework and the work involved in the doctoral thesis constitute an education at a high academic level in accordance with international standards. This includes training in dissemination of results and an introduction to ethics, theory and methods. The coursework, together with the artistic PhD project, must be designed to achieve the anticipated learning outcome in accordance with the national qualifications framework.
Oslo National Academy of the Arts should offer PhD candidates advice on future career opportunities within and outside of academia, including making the candidates aware of the expertise that they have acquired through their research activity.

If Oslo National Academy of the Arts itself does not provide all of the required courses, it must facilitate the candidate's participation in comparable courses at other institutions.

The coursework must consist of at least 30 credits, of which 20 credits must be completed following admission to the programme. Credits approved as part of the required coursework should not have been completed more than two (2) years prior to the date of admission. Further requirements regarding the coursework are to be outlined in the study plan.

Doctoral-level courses completed at another institution must be approved in accordance with the provisions of section 3.5, first paragraph, of the Act relating to universities and university colleges.

§ 9-2. Connection to the academic community at KHiO

It is expected that the candidate will contribute to the academic environment at Oslo National Academy of the Arts, for example through subject-area-related activities such as seminars, workshops and dissemination. Oslo National Academy of the Arts and the advisors will systematically follow up the activities so that contact with the academic community is planned and maintained.

§ 9-3. The candidate’s rights in the event of leave of absence

PhD candidates on maternity/paternity leave from the doctoral programme may attend classes and sit for examinations in courses that will be included as part of the candidate’s required coursework during the leave period, pursuant to section 14.10, fourth paragraph, of the National Insurance Act and the circular from the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration regarding section 14-10, fourth paragraph, and the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration’s circular regarding section 14-14, fourth paragraph, published December 18 2006.

§ 10. Reporting and midterm assessment

§ 10-1. Reporting

Oslo National Academy of the Arts’ system for the quality assurance of doctoral education must include measures to uncover insufficient progress on the doctoral thesis and coursework, inadequacies in supervision, and routines for handling any such deficiencies that might arise. This system includes the submission of annual, individual reports by the PhD candidate and the academic supervisor and is designed to avoid dual reporting.

The candidate and the supervisor are equally responsible for submitting the required reports. A lack of, or inadequate, progress reports from the candidate may result in involuntary termination of the candidate’s participation in the doctoral programme prior to
expiry of the period of admission, c.f. section 7.4. Supervisors who fail to comply with the reporting requirements may be relieved of his/her supervisory duties.

In connection with reporting, the candidate and the main supervisor shall review the project description and assess the need for adjustments. Significant changes must be approved by Oslo National Academy of the Arts.

Oslo National Academy of the Arts may establish special reporting requirements, if needed.

§ 10-2. Midterm assessment

A midterm evaluation of the research project should normally be carried out in the third or fourth semester.

KHiO determines specific guidelines for midway assessment.

If the evaluation group finds major weaknesses in the research project, measures to rectify the situation must be implemented.

§ 11. Requirements for the artistic doctoral result

§ 11-1. Requirements for the artistic doctoral result

The artistic doctoral result must be an independent artistic research project that meets international standards with regard to the level and ethical requirements in the research field.

Artistic practice is at the core of the artistic doctoral result. At the same time, the artistic practice is to be accompanied by an explicit reflection, which, when the project is presented, grants others access into the working methods and insights that emerge from the artistic research.

The artistic doctoral result should be at a level that enables it to contribute to development of new knowledge, insight and experience within the subject area.

The artistic doctoral result may consist of one or several parts which comprise a whole. If the doctoral result consists of several parts, an explanation of how these are interrelated must be included.

The candidate himself/herself choses the medium and form of the doctoral result.

The artistic doctoral result must be documented in a permanent format. When language is used in the doctoral result, this material must be made accessible in English or in a Scandinavian language.

Further requirements for the artistic doctoral result are detailed in the course description for the ‘Artistic PhD Project’ (150 ECTS credits; see the Curriculum).
§ 11-2. **Collaborative work**

It is the responsibility of Oslo National Academy of the Arts to decide whether an artistic doctoral result produced through collaboration between several contributing partners may be submitted for evaluation. In this case, it must be possible to identify the contributions of the individuals involved.

If the artistic doctoral result or parts of the result have been produced in collaboration with other cooperating partners, the PhD candidate must follow the norms for co-authorship that are generally accepted within the academic and artistic community and in accordance with international standards.

A doctoral result containing collaborative contributions from cooperating partners must include a signed declaration that describes the candidate’s contribution to each of the results. The candidate and all the contributors must sign the declaration.

§ 11-3. **Works which are not approved**

Results or parts of results that have been approved as the basis for previous examinations or degrees may not be submitted for evaluation as part of the artistic doctoral result unless they comprise a minor part of a doctoral result consisting of several related parts. However, data, analyses and methodologies from previous degrees may be used as the basis for the doctoral research project.

Already publicly presented results will not be approved for use in the artistic doctoral result if more than five (5) years has passed from the date that they first were made public to the date of admission. Oslo National Academy of the Arts may allow an exception to this rule in extraordinary cases, c.f. section 11.1.

The artistic doctoral result may be submitted for evaluation to only one educational institution, c.f. section 13.2.

§ 12. **Obligation to report on research results with commercial potential**

The rights between cooperating institutions must be regulated in a written agreement.

When a PhD candidate is employed at Oslo National Academy of the Arts, the institution’s regulations relevant at the time must form the basis of the PhD candidate’s obligation to report on the research results with commercial potential that he/she produced during the employment relationship.

When a PhD candidate has an external employer, the corresponding obligation to report must be stipulated in a written agreement between Oslo National Academy of the Arts, the PhD candidate and the external employer.
For PhD candidates without an employer, the corresponding obligation to report must be stipulated in the admission agreement between Oslo National Academy of the Arts and the PhD candidate.

**Part IV. Completion**

§ 13. Application for assessment

§ 13-1. Basis for the evaluation

The requirements for awarding the artistic PhD are stated in section 3.2.

To apply for assessment, the candidate must submit an application for assessment of his/her doctoral result, c.f. section 13.2.

It is the main advisor’s duty to notify the responsible unit at Oslo National Academy of the Arts that the application for assessment is imminent, so that necessary preparations can be made.

As a general rule, the main advisor should recommend the application.

§ 13-2. Application for assessment of the artistic doctoral result

The following documents must be attached to the application:
- an account of what should form the basis for the assessment, including a plan for where, when and how the artistic doctoral result is to be publicly presented;
- an account of how the required coursework is or will be fulfilled, and for any other professional education or competence;
- documentation of necessary permits, c.f. section 6.1.;
- plan for approved documentation and archiving in a permanent format of the entire artistic doctorate result;
- declarations from co-authors when this is required pursuant to section 11.2;
- statement regarding whether the artistic doctoral result is being submitted for evaluation for the first or second time;
- statement that the doctoral artistic doctoral result has not been submitted for evaluation at another institution.

The application must be sent to Oslo National Academy of the Arts at the latest five (5) months before the planned public presentation of the doctoral result.

§ 13-3. Assessment of the application

Oslo National Academy of the Arts assesses the application for evaluation of a doctoral thesis. Applications that do not fulfill the requirements stated in section 13.2 will be denied. Oslo National Academy of the Arts can, on an independent basis, reject an application to have
an artistic doctoral result assessed if it is obvious that the result does not meet a high enough standard and is bound to be rejected by the assessment committee.

§ 14. Appointment of the evaluation committee

When Oslo National Academy of the Arts has approved an application for evaluation of an artistic doctoral result, it must appoint an expert committee comprised of at least three members who will evaluate the doctoral result and the public defence. Committee members are subject to the provisions in section 6 of the Public Administration Act regarding impartiality.

The evaluation committee will normally be comprised so that:
- both genders are represented;
- the majority of members are external, and at least one member is not affiliated with Oslo National Academy of the Arts;
- at least one of the members is not employed in his/her main position at a Norwegian institution;
- all the members hold a doctoral degree or equivalent expertise in the subject area, and at least two members have relevant artistic competence at associate professor level;
- one member, if possible, is from a relevant institution abroad;

If these criteria are not met, an explanation must be provided.

Oslo National Academy of the Arts is responsible for establishing procedures for the appointment of evaluation committees. The proposal for the composition of the committee must explain the reasoning behind the selection of the members and how the committee as a whole covers the field(s) addressed in the artistic doctoral result. Oslo National Academy of the Arts must appoint either one of the committee members or another person to serve as the committee’s chairperson.

The appointed supervisor and others who have contributed to the doctoral thesis may not be a member of the evaluation committee or administer its activities.

When required, Oslo National Academy of the Arts may appoint an alternate to sit on the evaluation committee.

The candidate will be notified of the proposal for the composition of the committee, and he/she may submit written comments no later than one week after the proposal has been made known to the candidate.

§ 15. Activities of the evaluation committee

The assessment committee must receive this regulation, the approved project description and any guidelines for the assessment of the artistic doctoral degree. The assessment committee shall also receive the study plan for the doctoral degree as described in
the course description for the artistic doctoral project (150 ECTS credits) in accordance with the requirements for the artistic PhD program.

§ 15-1. Assessment of the artistic doctoral result

The assessment committee will also be sent plan for where, when and how the artistic doctoral result is to be submitted and publicly presented, c.f. section 13.2.

Before the assessment committee begins its work, Oslo National Academy of the Arts shall, at a meeting with the committee, review the artistic PhD programme's objective and profile, and the assessment committee's responsibilities and duties.

The entire artistic doctoral result shall be available by the time of the public presentation. If the candidate wishes to make parts of the artistic doctoral result available to the committee before the public presentation, this must be submitted to the committee no later than four weeks before the public presentation of the artistic doctoral result.

Where part or all of the public presentation of the artistic doctoral result is in the form of a concert, exhibition, performance or other event taking place at specific time and location, the entire assessment committee is normally required to be present at the same time.

If the committee finds that extensive changes are needed in order deem the doctoral result worthy of a public defence, the committee must reject the doctorate result. There is no option to request reworking of the doctoral result.

§ 15-2. Report of the evaluation committee

The assessment committee submits a reasoned assertion of whether the artistic doctorate result is worthy of being defended for the PhD degree. In this report, all parts of the submitted or presented documentation must be discussed in relation to the criteria in section 11.1. The report should take the form of an argumentation and conclude with a clear conclusion whether the artistic doctoral result should be approved or not. Possible dissenting opinions and individual statements by committee members should be included in the report, and shall be justified.

The assessment committee submits its report to Oslo National Academy of the Arts.

The committee’s evaluation report should be delivered, at the latest, within three (3) months after the committee has received all parts of the artistic doctoral result.

The committee’s report is submitted to Oslo National Academy of the Arts, which forwards the report to the PhD candidate. The candidate is given ten (10) working days in which to submit written comments to the report. If the candidate does not wish to submit comments, he/she must notify Oslo National Academy of the Arts of this in writing as soon as possible.
Any written comments by the PhD candidate must be sent to Oslo National Academy of the Arts. Oslo National Academy of the Arts is responsible for taking the final decision on the matter in accordance with section 16.

§ 15-3. Correction of formal errors

An artistic doctoral result which has been submitted or presented may not be withdrawn before the evaluation committee has determined whether it is worthy of being defended for the PhD degree.

After the PhD candidate submits the artistic doctoral project for evaluation, he/she will be allowed to correct formal errors in artistic doctoral work. A list of the errors that the candidate wishes to correct (an errata list) must be attached to the application. The application to correct formal errors may be submitted only once, and no later than four (4) weeks prior to the committee’s deadline for submission of its final report.

§ 16. Procedures related to the evaluation committee’s report

On the basis of the report by the committee report, Oslo National Academy of the Arts determines whether the doctoral thesis is worthy of a public defence.

Unanimous committee decision

If the committee’s decision is unanimous and Oslo National Academy of the Arts finds that the committee’s report should be used as the basis for its final decision, Oslo National Academy of the Arts will take the final decision in accordance with the committee’s report.

If Oslo National Academy of the Arts finds that there are grounds to doubt whether the committee’s unanimous decision should be used as the basis for its final decision, Oslo National Academy of the Arts must request further clarification from the evaluation committee and/or appoint two new reviewers who will submit individual evaluations of the thesis. Such additional clarification or individual evaluations must be presented to the PhD candidate, who will be given the opportunity to make comments.

Oslo National Academy of the Arts takes the final decision on the matter on the basis of the committee’s report and the subsequent reviews.

Non-unanimous committee decision

If the committee’s decision is not unanimous and Oslo National Academy of the Arts finds that there are grounds to use the majority’s opinion as the basis for its final decision, Oslo National Academy of the Arts will take the final decision in accordance with the majority’s view. If the committee’s decision is not unanimous and Oslo National Academy of the Arts finds there are grounds to consider using the minority’s opinion as the basis for its final decision, Oslo National Academy of the Arts may request further clarification from the evaluation committee and/or appoint two new reviewers who will submit individual evaluations of the thesis. Such additional clarification or individual evaluations must be
presented to the PhD candidate, who will be given the opportunity to make comments. If both of the new reviewers agree with the majority’s opinion in the original report by the committee, the majority’s opinion must be followed.

The candidate will be informed of the outcome after procedures related to the statements by the new reviewers have been completed.

§ 17. Resubmission

An artistic doctoral result that is not found to be worthy of a public defence may be resubmitted in revised form no sooner than six (6) after the initial rejection. A doctoral thesis may be re-evaluated only once.

The final deadline for submitting an application for a new assessment is two (2) years after KHiO made its initial decision not to approve the artistic doctoral result.

In the event of resubmission, the PhD candidate must clearly state that the artistic doctoral result was evaluated previously and was not found to be worthy of a public defence.

If the artistic doctoral result is resubmitted at another institution, the candidate must first be formally admitted to that institution, cf. section 6.3.

§ 18. Public availability of the artistic doctoral work

§ 18-1. Requirements for making the doctoral result public

The artistic doctorate result must be made public.

The candidate must provide a brief written summary or presentation of the artistic doctoral result in English and Norwegian, possibly also in another language, if that language is used in all or parts of the doctoral result. This summary must be made public.

§ 18-2. Public availability

The artistic doctoral result must be made available to the public no later than two (2) weeks prior to the date of the public defence. The thesis should be made available in the form in which it was submitted for evaluation, c.f. section 15.1.

The doctoral result must be archived in a permanent format

There can be no restrictions placed on an artistic doctoral result being made publicly available, except in the event that a prior agreement has been reached concerning a delay in public access at an agreed upon date. Such a delay may be allowed so that Oslo National Academy of the Arts and any external parties which have partially or wholly funded the candidate’s PhD studies can determine their interests in potential patents. An external party may not require that all or part of a doctoral thesis be withheld from the public domain, c.f. section 6.
In the event of publication of the artistic doctoral result, the candidate must follow the applicable guidelines on the crediting of institutions. As a general rule, Oslo National Academy of the Arts must be listed as the author’s address in the publication if the institution has made a necessary and substantial contribution or laid a foundation so that the author could produce the publicly available work. Other institutions must be credited as well if they satisfy the conditions for what constitutes participation in the doctoral result.

§ 19. Public defence of the artistic doctoral result

The public defence of the artistic doctoral result must take place no later than two (2) months after Oslo National Academy of the Arts has found the artistic doctoral result to be worthy of a public defence.

The time and location of the public defence must be announced at least ten (10) working days prior to the scheduled date.

The committee that originally evaluated the artistic doctoral result must also evaluate the public defence. The public defence must be held in English or Norwegian, unless Oslo National Academy of the Arts approves the use of a different language.

There will normally be two opposing speakers, or discussants, at the defence. These two speakers must be members of the evaluation committee and will be appointed by Oslo National Academy of the Arts.

The public defence will be chaired by a person authorised by Oslo National Academy of the Arts. The chair of the defence will give a brief explanation of the procedures relating to the submission and evaluation of the artistic doctoral work. Then the PhD candidate will explain the purpose and findings of the doctoral artistic research project. The first opposing speaker begins the questioning of the PhD candidate and the second opposing speaker concludes the questioning. Oslo National Academy of the Arts may decide to distribute the tasks normally assigned to the opposing speakers and the candidate in a different way. After both opposing speakers have concluded their questioning, members of the audience will have the opportunity to comment. One of the opposing speakers concludes the questioning, and the chair of the defence concludes the defence proceedings (c.f. the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions’ Guidelines for the Evaluation of Candidates for Norwegian Doctoral Degrees).

The evaluation committee submits its report to Oslo National Academy of the Arts in which it explains how it has assessed the public defence of the thesis. The report must conclude whether the defence was approved or not approved. If the defence is not approved, the report must provide an explanation for this.

§ 20. Approval of the public defence

Oslo National Academy of the Arts takes a decision on approval of the doctoral examination on the basis of the evaluation committee’s report.
If Oslo National Academy of the Arts does not approve the public defence, the PhD candidate may defend the doctoral thesis once more only. A new defence can be held after six (6) months and must be evaluated to the extent possible by the same committee that evaluated the first defence.

§ 21. Conferral of the degree and diploma

§ 21-1. Conferral of the degree

Based on a statement by Oslo National Academy of the Arts that the required coursework, doctoral thesis and doctoral examination have been approved, the Doctor of Philosophy degree will be conferred on the candidate.

§ 21-2. Diploma

The diploma is issued by Oslo National Academy of the Arts and provides information about the academic training in which the candidate has participated. Oslo National Academy of the Arts determines what additional information is to appear on the diploma.

§ 22. Diploma supplement

Oslo National Academy of the Arts will issue a Diploma Supplement, i.e. an attachment to the PhD diploma, in keeping with the applicable guidelines.

Part V. Joint degrees and cotutelle (joint supervision) agreements

§ 23. Joint degrees and cotutelle (joint supervision) agreements

§ 23-1. Joint degrees and cotutelle (joint-supervision) agreements

Oslo National Academy of the Arts may enter into an agreement with one or more Norwegian or foreign institutions to cooperate on joint degrees or cotutelle agreements.

With regard to cooperation on joint degrees and cotutelle agreements, an exception may be made to the other provisions in these recommended guidelines if it is necessary due to the regulations of the cooperating institution. Such exceptions, both individually and as a whole, must be clearly justifiable.

§ 23-2. Joint degrees

The term “joint degree” is defined as a collaboration between two or more institutions in which the cooperating institutions as a group are responsible for admission, academic supervision, the conferral of the degree and other elements as described in these recommended guidelines. The collaboration is normally organised in the form of a consortium and is regulated by a contract between the consortium members. For a completed joint degree,
a joint diploma is issued in the form of: a) a diploma issued by the consortium members as a group, b) a diploma issued by each of the consortium members, or a combination of a) and b).

An agreement to issue a joint degree is normally only entered into if there already exists an established, stable academic collaboration between Oslo National Academy of the Arts and at least one of the other consortium members.

§ 23-3. Cotutelle agreements

The term “cotutelle agreement” is defined as the joint academic supervision of PhD candidates and cooperation on doctoral training for PhD candidates. A cotutelle agreement must be entered into for each candidate and should be based on stable, academic institutional cooperation.

§ 23-4. Requirements related to joint degrees and cotutelle agreements

Admission requirements, the requirement that the doctoral thesis must be made available to the public, and the requirement that the public defence must be evaluated by an impartial committee cannot be waived.

Part VI. Appeals, transfer provisions, and entry into force

§ 24. Appeals

§ 24-1. Appeal against a rejection of an application for admission, appeal of a decision to terminate a student’s admission rights, and appeal of rejection of an application for recognition of parts of the required coursework

Rejection of an application for admission, a decision to terminate a student’s admission rights, and rejection of an application for recognition of parts of the required coursework may be appealed pursuant to the provisions of the Public Administration Act § 28ff. The institutions’ appeals committee is the appeal body.

§ 24-2. Appeal of an examination as part of the required coursework

Examinations taken as part of the required coursework may be appealed pursuant to section 5-2 “Complaints against procedural errors in connection with examinations” and section 5.3 “Complaints regarding marks awarded - right to explanation” of the Act relating to universities and university colleges.

§ 24-3. Appeal against the rejection of an application for assessment, rejection of the artistic doctoral result, or the public defence

Rejection of an application for evaluation of an artistic doctoral work and a decision of non-approval of an artistic doctoral work or public defence may be appealed pursuant to section 28 and following of the Public Administration Act.
Oslo National Academy of the Arts’ appeals committee is the appeal body, c.f. Norwegian Act relating to universities and university colleges, section 14.3 fourth paragraph. If Oslo National Academy of the Arts finds grounds for this, individual experts or a committee may be appointed to conduct an assessment of the evaluation that was carried out and the criteria on which the evaluation was based, or to conduct a new or supplementary expert evaluation.

§ 25. Transfer provisions

Candidates who are admitted to the Norwegian Artistic Research Fellowship Programme can apply to Oslo National Academy of the Arts to be admitted to the study programme for the PhD in artistic research, c.f. section 6-1, last paragraph.

The doctoral degree in artistic research is awarded only after completion of the artistic PhD study programme.

§ 26. Entry into force

This regulation document enters into force on 15 February 2018.