

University of Leeds

Higher Doctorates

Guidance for applicants

The Higher Doctorate is the highest degree which the University can award to a candidate. Within the relevant field of study the candidate must have distinguished themselves by their original contribution to scholarship.

This contribution should be:

Substantial
Sustained
Of a level which has led to international recognition

Applicants must be:

Graduates of the University of Leeds of not less than 6 years standing

Members of the academic staff of the University of Leeds who have served for a continuous period of not less than 5 years and who are graduates of other universities of not less than 6 years standing

How to apply - informal stage

You will be required to submit:

A specimen set of the papers you wish to submit in support of your application;

A full list of publications;

a Curriculum Vitae.

A statement which should include:

- a summary of the work covered in the submission, drawing attention to work you consider to be of particular importance, and including an assessment of the significance of your work in relation to knowledge at the time the research was done, and, as appropriate, its influence on subsequent research in the field;
- an indication of the relationship, if any, between the various topics covered by the papers;
- a clear statement, in the case of work submitted under joint authorship, of your own share in the joint publication;
- an indication of whether, and to what extent, any of the papers submitted have resulted from work for which an earlier degree has been awarded.

A relevant expert will then establish if there is a *prima facie* case for proceeding with the application.

How to apply – formal stage

If you then wish to proceed with a formal application you will be required to submit three copies of the above submission together with the fee for an application for a higher doctorate currently £1570 (2019/20).

The examination process

Normally one internal and two external examiners will be appointed to consider the submission. It is expected that the examination process is completed within 6-9 months of submission.

The nature of the award requires senior academics to act as examiners and their existing commitments mean we can encounter delays in the appointment process, delaying the examination. Postgraduate Research and Operations will maintain contact with the applicant to ensure that they are aware of the varying stages of the examination process.

No oral examination is required.