

# **Regulations for Doctoral Degree Studies in the Faculty of Medicine at the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn**

As of September 2nd 2014

In accordance with §§ 2 section 4 and 64 section 1 of the Universities Act of the Federal State of North-Rhine Westphalia (Hochschulgesetz - HG) in the version of the Higher Education Autonomy Act (Hochschulfreiheitsgesetz - HfG) of 31 October 2006 (gazette of laws and ordinances, GV. NRW p. 474), last modified by Article 1 of the Act Introducing an Age Limit for the Tenure of University Lecturers of 3 December 2013 (GV NRW p. 273), the Faculty of Medicine at the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn has enacted the following examination regulations:

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## **I. General**

### **§1 Doctoral Studies**

(1) The Faculty of Medicine at the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn awards the academic degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or of Medical Doctor/ Doctor of Philosophy (MD/PhD) upon completion of the doctoral examination procedures in accordance with the appendix and in accordance with these regulations.

(2) The conferral of the doctorate certifies the ability to carry out independent scientific work going beyond the general goals of study in disciplines listed in the appendix.

(3) The following achievements are required to gain the doctoral degree:

1. Successful completion of the study programme in accordance with § 4 Section 3
2. A dissertation in accordance with § 6
3. An oral examination (presentation and disputation [defence]) in accordance with § 9

(4) The doctoral examination procedures are not public, with the exception of the presentation and the award of the doctoral certificate. All members of the Doctoral Examination Board, the Doctoral Committee and the expert reviewers must abide by the obligation of official secrecy. So long as they are not in public service, they are to be sworn to secrecy by the Chairperson of the Doctoral Examination Board.

### **§2 Doctoral Examination Board**

(1) The Faculty Board of the Faculty of Medicine establishes the Doctoral Examination Board to organize the doctoral examination procedures and to fulfil the tasks allocated by this regulation. The Doctoral Examination Board selects the members of the Doctoral Committee (§ 3) and is in charge of verifying that the requirements for admission (§ 5) and for commencement of the doctoral examination procedure (§ 7) are met and of determining a date and place for the oral examination (§ 9 Section 5). The Dean ensures that the Doctoral Examination Board can and will accomplish its tasks. To this aim, the Dean issues the necessary instructions.

(2) The Doctoral Examination Board is composed of eight members. Six members will be elected from the university teaching staff. One member will be elected from the assistant academic staff (*wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiter*) and one from the students. Those qualified for appointment from the university teaching staff are: professors, including junior professors of the Faculty of Medicine and associate professors (*professor extraordinarius*), provided that they are members of the University of Bonn. The assistant academic staff member can be selected from those who hold a doctorate. The student member is selected from the group of doctoral candidates enrolled in the Faculty of Medicine. One representative per member is appointed.

Each member of the university teaching staff and assistant academic staff is elected for a period of three years; the term of office for student members is one year. Re-election is permitted. The Doctoral Examination Board appoints a chairperson and a deputy from the university teaching staff.

(3) The Doctoral Examination Board is an official body as outlined by administrative procedural law and the code of administrative practice.

(4) The Faculty shall establish an office in order to provide administrative support for the Doctoral Examination Board. The Dean will head the office.

(5) The Doctoral Examination Board ensures that the conditions of these examination regulations will be fulfilled and sees to the proper conduct of examinations. The Doctoral Examination Board may delegate regular decisions to the chairperson.

(6) The meetings of the Doctoral Examination Board are not public. The deliberations and decisions of the meeting of the Doctoral Examination Board are recorded in the minutes and placed on the doctoral examination records.

(7) The Doctoral Examination Board shall be quorate if, apart from the Chairperson or its deputy, at least two members of the university teaching staff are present. Decisions are taken by simple majority. If the vote is tied, the Chairperson's vote is decisive.

(8) Directives, the setting of deadlines and other announcements by the Doctoral Examination Board, which do not solely affect individual persons, will be made public by notices or in electronic form while respecting data protection. These notices are legally binding. Any other additional notices are permitted, but not legally binding.

### **§3 Doctoral Committee**

(1) For each doctoral candidacy the Doctoral Examination Board will appoint a Doctoral Committee consisting of four members: a primary examiner, a secondary examiner and two additional members.

(2) Eligible as members of the Doctoral Committee are: professors, pro-temporary professors, junior professors, retired professors, professors who have honorary positions and faculty members with the postdoctoral lecturing qualification (*Habilitation*).

(3) The primary examiner, in accordance with the supervision agreement, is responsible for the doctoral candidate's supervision (hereinafter referred to as "supervisor"). The secondary examiner has to be a representative of the discipline. The secondary examiner shall not belong to the primary supervisor's research group, institute or clinic.

(4) At least two Doctoral Committee members, including one examiner, must be tenured full-time professors at the Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn. One member shall be a university teacher from outside the Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn with international reputation in the field of the dissertation. If an already appointed member of the Doctoral Committee is unable to attend the oral examination (at short notice), the Doctoral Examination Board will name a replacement.

(5) The Doctoral Committee is responsible for evaluating the performance of the doctoral candidate, for administering the oral examination and for grading the disputation (defence). The Doctoral Committee shall keep minutes of each meeting.

## **II. Qualification phase**

### **§4 Content and scope of the qualification phase**

(1) As a rule, the qualification phase consists of three years under supervision starting with admission in accordance with § 5. Applicants holding a certificate for the Medical State Examination or State Examination in Dental Medicine can get credit for one year if they were carrying out research during their studies and if they were taking leave for one semester for this purpose. Application for recognition has to be made together with application for admission (§ 5). The Doctoral Examination Board decides on accreditation.

(2) The dissertation will be written during the qualification phase. The qualification phase is research oriented. The doctoral candidates shall acquire enhanced understanding of scientific approaches, profound expert knowledge and the ability to work in an interdisciplinary way. Therefore they shall:

1. Perform a research activity while employed at the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn or a cooperating institution and
2. Participate in a PhD programme, a doctoral study course or a graduate school of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn or a cooperating institution.

The qualification phase may also be carried out without performing research activities as in 1. or without participating in a structured doctoral programme as in 2. This is to be decided by the Doctoral Examination Board.

(3) During the qualification phase the attendance of at least two research-oriented teaching units, to the extent of four SPW (semester periods per week = workload measurement), is obligatory. Successful completion of the teaching units has to be documented by a certificate of attendance when commencing the doctoral examination procedure (§ 7).

## **§ 5 Admission**

(1) Admission to the doctoral programme concluding with the academic degree of PhD is based upon fulfilment of the following requirements:

- a) Successful completion of an appropriate course of university study lasting at least 8 semesters and concluding with a degree other than "Bachelor" with exception of a university degree in medicine or dental medicine, or
- b) Successful completion of an appropriate course of university study lasting at least 6 semesters in addition to appropriate studies preparing for the doctorate, or
- c) Successful completion of appropriate studies concluding with a "Master's" degree in accordance with § 61 section 2 sentence 2 of the Law Relating to Institutions of Higher Learning (Hochschulrahmengesetz= HG)

Completion of studies in the sense of Sec. 1 will be regarded as accredited if the overall grade upon completion is no worse than the second best grade. The Doctoral Examination Board decides on exceptions in individually justified cases.

(2) Admission to the doctoral programme concluding with the academic degree of MD/PhD is based on successful completion of medical or dentistry studies with the State Examination with an overall grade no worse than "gut (good)" (at least 1.7).

(3) For degrees attained at foreign institutions, the Doctoral Examination Board will determine equivalence based upon the evaluation of the Central Office for Foreign Education of the Permanent Council of the Ministers of Education of the Federal States (Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen der ständigen Konferenz der Kultusminister der Länder). Recognition has to be clarified during the admission process before beginning the doctoral studies.

(4) Candidates are required to apply for admission at the Doctoral Examination Board before beginning their doctoral studies. The application must include the following:

1. Description of the scientific career
2. All certificates of completed university degrees and state examinations
3. A declaration concerning any previous applications for PhD examination procedures at a different institution or a different faculty at the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn and their outcome
4. A supervision agreement between supervisor and doctoral candidate
5. A work plan co-signed by the candidate and the supervisor, who is jointly responsible for the plan

## **§ 6 The Dissertation**

(1) The dissertation must advance scientific research, demonstrate the candidate's ability to perform independent research work and the presentation of results must conform to the standards and demands of scientific research. The dissertation must answer a scientific research question according to the disciplines covered in the appendix. The dissertation must be written in English or German.

(2) Equivalent to the dissertation are three related scientific original publications with at least one first authorship of the doctoral candidate (Publikationsdissertation: publication-based dissertation) that are accepted for publication in internationally reputable scientific journals with a system of evaluators (peer review).

(3) If the doctoral candidate is first author of a publication he/she must have played the major part in initial research design, data collection, analysis and interpretation and must have written the first version of the manuscript him-/herself. If the doctoral candidate is co-author he/she must have played an essential part in initial research design, data collection, analysis and interpretation. The doctoral candidate's share of the publication has to be announced to the publisher/editor in an author contribution statement.

(4) Publications are limited to the extent permitted by § 6 Section 1. At least one of the publications shall not be older than one year when commencing the doctoral examination procedure. The Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn must be clearly identifiable as the origin of the publications. The Doctoral Examination Board will decide upon exceptions to this ruling.

(5) In case of a publication-based dissertation, a summary written in English must be submitted. The summary shall describe the topic in an adequate manner within 8-10 pages and shall be structured as follows:

title, author(s), short summary, introduction, aim, methods, results, discussion.

(6) The supervisor ensures that the doctoral candidate compiles the dissertation independently, under regular supervision in a reasonable amount of time.

(7) The doctoral candidates must comply with the regulations laid down in the latest version of "Principles on Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice" of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn. Parts of the dissertation work can be performed in foreign institutions in agreement with the Doctoral Examination Board. The supervisor ensures that the cooperating institution determines at least one university teacher who provides professional advice and reports on the accompanying graduate programmes and progress of the dissertation work.

(8) Assigning a dissertation project shall not be considered a basis for claims to remuneration or employment.

(9) A previously submitted dissertation may not be re-submitted unless it was rejected for reasons of incompetence of another university or faculty.

### **III. Examination phase**

#### **§ 7 Commencing the doctoral examination procedure**

(1) Applications to commence the doctoral examination procedure must be submitted to the Doctoral Examination Board. Applications can only be conducted after admission (§ 5). The application must include:

1. Three printed copies of the dissertation, in case of a publication-based dissertation each copy comprising at least three publications as offprint or excellent copies and the summary.

2. A declaration of the share of work of the doctoral candidate signed by the candidate and the supervisor if the dissertation has been published in its entirety or in part. The candidate shall also declare that the dissertation contains a complete documentation of the scholarly literature and working aids applied in the project.

3. A certificate of attendance for successfully completed teaching units (§ 4)

4. A police clearance certificate not older than eight weeks on the date of submission

5. A declaration that in case of § 11 a) and d) the doctoral candidate transfers to the university the right to produce and disseminate further copies of the dissertation or make it accessible on data networks in accordance with the statutory duties of the University Library.

(2) The doctoral examination procedure will be initiated if the application fulfils the obligations according to sentence 1. The doctoral candidate will be notified of the decision in writing upon request.

(3) A withdrawal of the application after opening of the doctoral examination procedure is not possible.

#### **§ 8 Assessment of the dissertation**

(1) After initiation of the doctoral examination procedure the Doctoral Examination Board requests the reviews of the primary and secondary examiner (§ 3). If the primary and secondary examiners differ by more than two grades (2.0) in their evaluation (§ 10), an additional university teacher is appointed as examiner by the Doctoral Examination Board.

(2) The dissertation's reviews shall be in written and include reasoned recommendation that it be accepted, rejected or returned to the doctoral candidate to be reworked. In case of a publication-based dissertation, rework and resubmission as a dissertation may be recommended. If the recommendation is for acceptance, then an evaluation grade for the dissertation according to the grading scale in § 10 has to be provided. Recommendation shall arrive at the Doctoral Examination Board within six weeks after request for evaluation. If an examiner's review does not arrive within ten weeks after request, another examiner may be appointed by the Doctoral Examination Board.

(3) If an examiner has graded the dissertation "nicht genügend" (inadequate, 2) or if an examiner recommends that the dissertation is returned to the doctoral candidate for revision, the doctoral

candidate has to be notified in regards to eliminating the flaws. The revised dissertation has to be re-submitted within one year to the original examiners, who will re-assess the revised dissertation. The dissertation is rejected if two or more examiners grade the revised dissertation as "nicht genügend" ("inadequate") and the doctoral examination procedure is then concluded without success.

(4) If the revised dissertation is graded "nicht genügend" ("inadequate") by only one examiner, the Doctoral Examination Board appoints an additional university teacher who is not member of the Doctoral Committee as examiner. The dissertation is rejected if this appointed examiner grades the revised dissertation "nicht genügend" ("inadequate") and the doctoral examination procedure is then concluded without success.

(5) If the dissertation is not resubmitted within the time limit or if the doctoral candidate refuses the recommended revision, the dissertation is rejected and the doctoral examination procedure is concluded without success.

(6) A copy of the rejected dissertation and all reviews shall remain at the University as part of the official records when the procedure has been declared unsuccessfully concluded.

(7) Within two weeks after a hearing of the doctoral candidate, he/she has to be informed in writing by the Doctoral Examination Board about the unsuccessful conclusion of the procedure according to § 8 sections 3 to 5 stating the reasons.

(8) If at least two examiners grade the dissertation with "genügend" ("satisfactory"), the doctoral candidate is admitted to the oral examination.

(9) The dissertation and the reviews are accessible for confidential inspection at the office by members of the Faculty of Medicine holding a doctorate (§ 2 Section 4) from the time of the review's completion until the completion of the defence, but at least for 14 days. During this period objections can be raised to the Doctoral Examination Board stating the reasons. The Doctoral Examination Board will decide on taking the objections into account.

(10) After unsuccessful conclusion of the doctoral examination procedure, application for re-initiating the doctoral examination procedure can be submitted after one year at the earliest and only once.

## **§ 9 Oral Examination**

(1) The oral examination consists of a public scientific discussion (Promotionskolloquium) followed by a non-public defence. The oral examination takes place in front of the Doctoral Committee.

(2) The doctoral candidate reports the results of his/her dissertation in a scientific presentation. The presentation shall not exceed 30 minutes. After the presentation, 15 minutes of scientific discussion open to participation by the Doctoral Committee and the audience is permitted.

(3) During the defence between the doctoral candidate and the Doctoral Committee, the candidate shall prove his/her ability to define the place of his/her work in the body of knowledge of his/her discipline or a related field. The defence shall last at least 30 but not more than 90 minutes.

(4) The oral examination (Promotionskolloquium and defence) is to be held in English. The Doctoral Committee can upon request conduct the proceedings in a language other than English.

(5) Following the Doctoral Examination Board's proposal, the Doctoral Committee sets a time and place for the oral examination (Promotionskolloquium and defence). The doctoral candidate has to be informed about the time at least two weeks in advance and the date shall be no later than two months after arrival of the last review. The scientific discussion (Promotionskolloquium) has to be announced within the faculty with the doctoral candidate's name, presentation title as well as time and place of the discussion.

(6) Other doctoral students may participate in the defence as listeners, if the doctoral candidate permits this. The permission does not cover the consultation phase and announcement of the examination result. The Doctoral Committee will exclude listeners if they are trying to disrupt or influence the examination.

(7) After the defence following the scientific presentation (Promotionskolloquium), the Doctoral Committee meets, excluding the public, to evaluate the success of the (Promotionskolloquium) and to grade the defence upon the basis of the grading scale according to § 10. The Promotionskolloquium is "passed", when at least three members of the Doctoral Committee vote "pass". The defence is "passed", when it is graded at least "genügend" ("satisfactory").

The arithmetical mean of the Doctoral Committee members' votes will be calculated for the grading of the defence. Only the first decimal digit after the point will be taken into account; all other decimal digits will be disregarded without rounding off.

(8) If the candidate does not attend the oral examination or if he/she withdraws after the beginning of the examination without valid reasons, he/she will be deemed to have failed the examination. Reasons for withdrawal or failure to attend must be submitted to the Doctoral Examination Board through the primary examiner in writing without delay and must be plausible. If the candidate is ill, a doctor's note is required. If the Doctoral Examination Board accepts the reasons, a new oral examination date will be set.

(9) If the candidate is judged to have failed the oral examination (Promotionskolloquium and/or defence), the Doctoral Examination Board sets a new oral examination date following a proposal by the Doctoral Committee. The oral examination can be repeated at the earliest in three months at the latest in twelve months after the original oral examination time.

(10) Failing the oral examination repetition leads to the conclusion of the doctoral examination procedure without success. A further repetition of the oral examination is not permitted.

## **§ 10 Grading**

(1) The following grades can be given for the dissertation and the defence:

ausgezeichnet ("exceptional", 0.0)

sehr gut ("very good", 1.0)

gut ("good", 2.0)

genügend ("satisfactory", 3.0)

nicht genügend ("inadequate", 4.0)

(2) Individual grades can be raised or lowered by minus 0.3 or plus 0.3, respectively. The grade "ausgezeichnet" ("exceptional") cannot be raised, the grade "genügend" ("satisfactory") cannot be lowered and the grade "nicht genügend" ("inadequate") can neither be raised nor lowered.

(3) The overall grade for the PhD or MD/PhD is composed by the arithmetic mean of the dissertation grade of the primary examiner, the dissertation grade of the secondary examiner and the grade of the defence:

summa cum laude	for an average of 0.0
magna cum laude	for an average of 0.1 up to and including 1.5
cum laude	for an average of 1.6 up to and including 2.5
rite	for an average of 2.6 up to and including 3.0

If there are three reviews, the two better grades will be considered for calculating the overall grade. For calculating the arithmetic mean, only the first decimal digit after the point will be taken into account, all other decimal digits will be disregarded without rounding off.

## **§ 11 Publication of the dissertation**

(1) The doctoral candidate is required to make his/her dissertation available to the academic community in an appropriate form. This obligation is met if in addition to depositing three copies for the examination records of the Faculty of Medicine, four complete copies printed on durable, non-aging, wood-free and acid-free paper in a permanent durable binding are submitted to the University Library, and if furthermore the dissemination of the findings is ensured by taking one of the following steps:

- a) Depositing 40 more copies in the form of books or photostatic copies, or
- b) Providing evidence of publication in a journal, or

- c) Providing evidence that the material has been distributed by booksellers in an edition of at least 150 copies; in this case the reverse of the title page must contain an indication that the work is a dissertation and a reference as to where the dissertation was accepted, or
- d) Making available an electronic version, whose format and data carrier must be agreed upon with the University Library.

## **§ 12 Doctoral certificate**

(1) The degree-granting procedure is concluded when the doctoral certificate is given to the candidate. The doctoral certificate will be issued in German. On request by the candidate, an English translation will be attached.

The doctoral certificate must clearly communicate:

1. the name of the Faculty of Medicine and the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn
2. the academic degree awarded
3. the last name, first name, date and place of birth of the doctoral candidate
4. the dissertation title
5. the overall grade
6. the last name and first name of the supervisor
7. the name and signature of the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn
8. the official seal of the Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn
9. the date of the oral examination
10. the date of the award of the doctoral certificate

(2) The doctoral certificate will be handed over to the graduate by the Dean, the chairperson of the Doctoral Examination Board or one of the Vice Deans of the Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn during a public ceremony. The doctoral certificate may only be issued after the candidate has fulfilled the publication requirements. With the issue of the certificate, the degree-awarding procedure is completed and the newly qualified certificate holder is entitled to bear the title Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Medical Doctor/ Doctor of Philosophy (MD/PhD). The candidate shall receive the doctoral certificate personally. The Doctoral Examination Board decides on any exceptions. The awarded academic degree shall only be used after the certificate has been handed over.

## **§ 13 Annulment and withdrawal**

(1) If it becomes clear during the doctoral examination procedure that the candidate was guilty of cheating or deception, grades can be corrected accordingly for those parts of the procedure in which the candidate cheated or the doctoral examination procedure can be declared null and void either in part or in whole.

(2) If it becomes clear after the handing over of the doctoral certificate that the candidate was guilty of cheating or deception, grades can be subsequently amended or the doctoral degree can be rescinded.

(3) If the candidate has engaged in deception, threats or bribery with regard to the prerequisites for admission into the doctoral examination procedure, the doctoral degree can be rescinded.

If, with no intent to deceive, the candidate fails to comply with all of the conditions for admission, and this fact only comes to light after handing over the doctoral certificate, passing the doctoral examination procedure is sufficient for such a shortcoming to be overlooked.

(4) Decisions according to section 1 to 3, which declare the doctoral examination procedure null and void either in part or in whole, have to be confirmed by the Faculty Board.

(5) If the doctoral degree is rescinded according to section 2 or 3 or if grading of the doctoral examination procedure changed according to section 1 or 2, the doctoral certificate has to be withdrawn and, if applicable, replaced by a new doctoral certificate.

(6) The awarded academic degree can be withdrawn by the Faculty if the candidate is found guilty of a crime committed wilfully, and sentenced to imprisonment for at least one year, in which he/she made use of the doctoral degree in preparing or carrying out the misdeed.



(7) The person affected must be given an opportunity to state their position before the decision is made.

#### **§ 14 Access to examination records**

After the end of the degree-granting procedure, the candidate shall, on application within one month of concluding the doctoral examination procedure or after notification of failure, be granted inspection of the examination records including reviews and minutes. § 29 of the Administrative Procedure Act (VwVfG) remains unaffected.

### **IV. Joint PhD or MD/PhD**

#### **§ 15 Special provisions for the examination of a PhD jointly supervised by a foreign university**

(1) The Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn can award together with another university in a jointly implemented doctoral examination procedure the academic degree Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Medical Doctor/Doctor of Philosophy (MD/PhD). By derogation from §§ 3 and 6 this procedure requires joint supervision of a university teacher of each university and the successful completion of the teaching units of each university. In particular, the requirements for admission of each university have to be met.

(2) For the purpose of a common procedure, an agreement has to be concluded between the Faculty of Medicine and the foreign university to which the Doctoral Examination Board has to give its assent. The terms of this agreement regulate a jointly conducted procedure of the doctoral examination procedure by the Doctoral Examination Board and the foreign university's competent authority, in particular the appointment of a joint Doctoral Committee and a joint examination, evaluation and grading of the examination performance according to §§ 4, 6, 9 and 10.

(3) The agreement may deviate from the provisions of these regulations, e.g. in terms of

- composition and competence of the Doctoral Committee according to § 3
- qualification phase according to § 4
- assessment of the dissertation according to § 8
- access to examination records according to § 14
- form and duration of the oral examination according to § 9
- language of the doctoral certificate according to §12 section 1

The Doctoral Examination Board may allow further exceptions in justified cases.

(4) The assessment of the examination performance is made according to these regulations as well as the foreign university's regulations.

(5) Both universities' publication requirements and regulations concerning the right to produce and disseminate further copies of the dissertation shall be met.

(6) The doctoral certificate awards a single academic degree which entitles the certificate holder to bear it in the form it is awarded by the foreign university as well as in the form it is awarded by the Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn. This certification takes the form of a joint certificate. It has to be signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn and the responsible representative of the foreign university and has to bear the official seal of both universities.

### **V. Final provision**

#### **§ 16 Entry into force and publication**

These regulations become effective from the day they are published in the official announcements of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn - Verfügungsblatt.

## **Appendix**

The Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn awards the academic degree Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) by means of a doctoral examination procedure in the following disciplines:

- Epidemiology
- Medical Biometry
- Medical Psychology
- Medical Sociology
- Public Health
- Health Services Research

The Faculty of Medicine of the Rhenish Friedrich-Wilhelm University of Bonn awards the academic degree Medical Doctor/ Doctor of Philosophy (MD/ PhD) by means of a doctoral examination procedure in the following disciplines:

- Experimental Medicine
- Human Genetics
- Clinical Immunology
- Clinical Infectious Diseases
- Clinical Medicine
- Medical Neurosciences
- Translational Medicine
- Dental Medicine