



**FREIE
UNIVERSITÄT
BERLIN**



**Department of
Biology, Chemistry, Pharmacy
Graduate Center**

INFO PRESENTATION | DOCTORAL STUDIES & STANDARD TIME TO COMPLETION

GRADUATE CENTER @ BCP

Information: Website | Newsletter

Networking: BCP Networks

Training: Workshops | Courses | Doctoral Program Natural Sciences

Events: Info Events | Networking Workshop | Statistics Courses

Advisory Services: All about the Doctorate | Career Development | Supervision

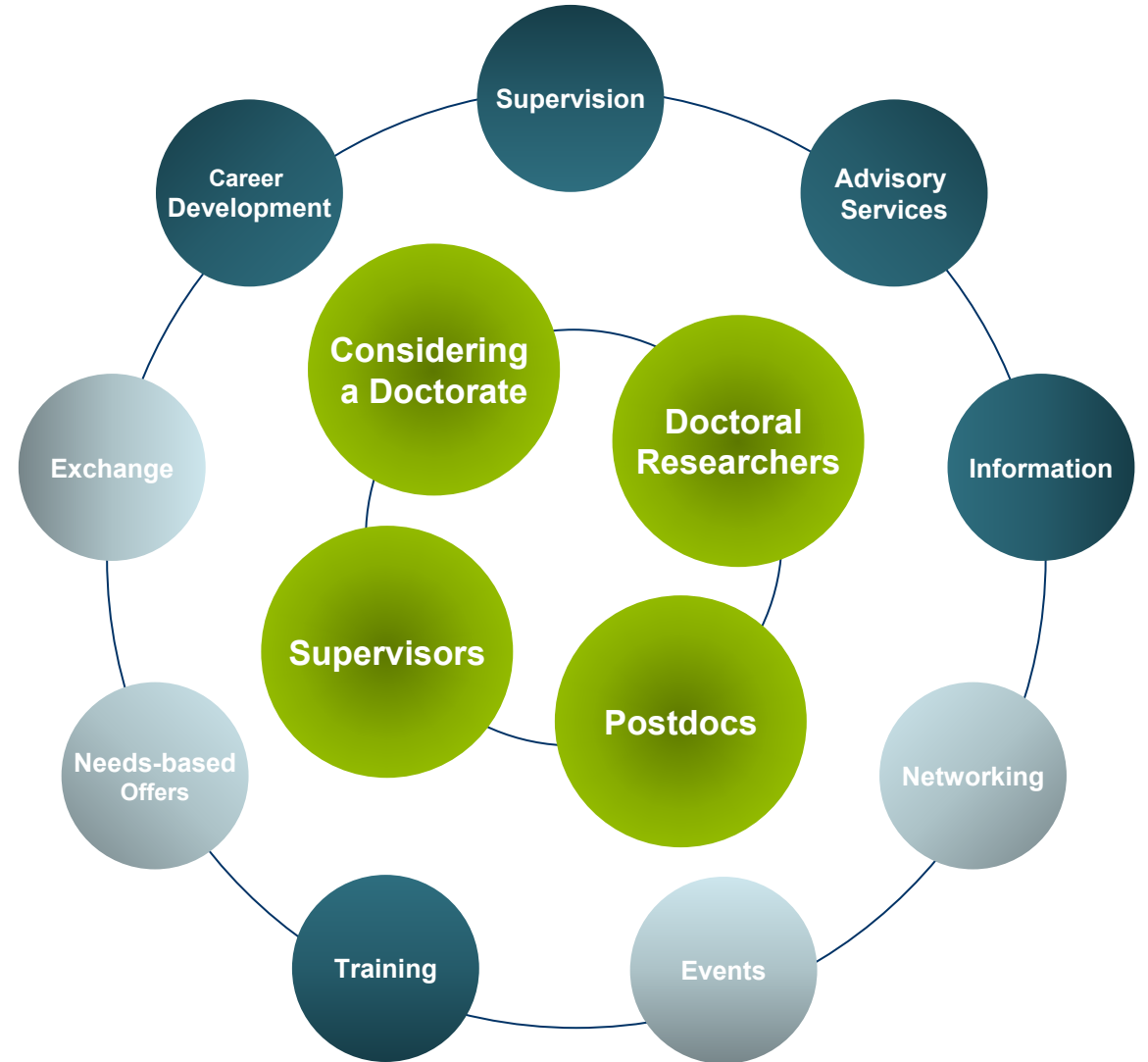


ADVISORY SERVICES & COACHING



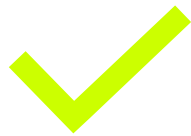
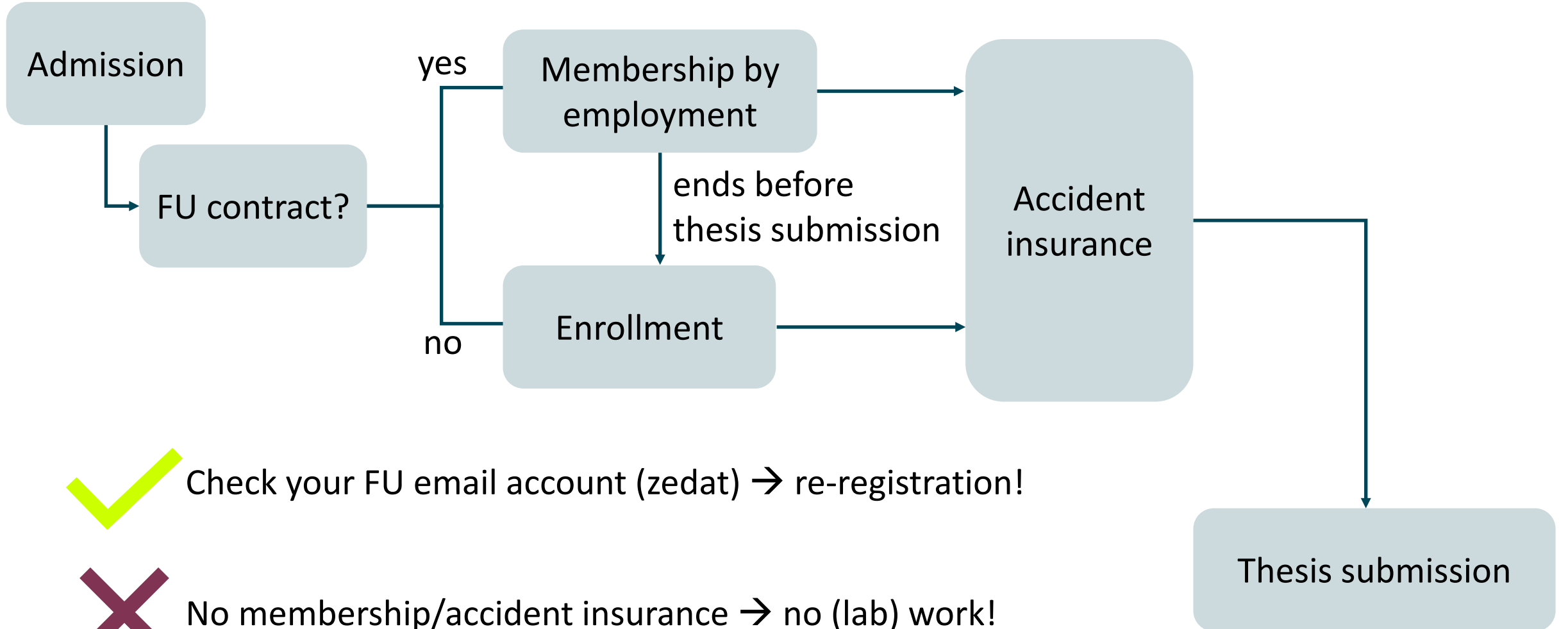
Topics

- All about the doctorate
- Doctorate procedure
- Training and qualification
- Conflict situations
- Career development
- ...



FU MEMBERSHIP & ENROLLMENT

FU MEMBERSHIP & ENROLLMENT



Check your FU email account (zedat) → re-registration!



No membership/accident insurance → no (lab) work!

FU MEMBERSHIP & ENROLLMENT

Department of Biology, Chemistry, Pharmacy /

GRADUATE CENTER / DOCTORATE

CONSIDERING A DOCTORATE

DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS

POSTDOCS

SUPERVISORS

CONTACT

HABILITATION

Homepage > Graduate Center / Doctorate > Doctoral Researchers > Doctorate Procedure > FU Membership and Enrollment

FU Membership and Enrollment

According to Section 5 of the doctoral regulations, as a doctoral candidate you must prove that you are a member of the FU Berlin, i.e. if you are not employed by the FU Berlin (e.g. scholarship holders), you are obliged to enroll with the Student Records and Registration Office.

Otherwise, the admission to the doctoral degree program loses its validity.

The enrollment obligation exists with the admission until the submission of the thesis.

You can find the application for enrollment here.

For questions about the enrollment procedure, please contact the Student Records and Registration Office directly.

Please note: From the winter semester 2024/2025, doctoral students are entitled to use the Deutschlandsemesterticket. If you have any further questions about the semester ticket and a possible exemption, please click here or contact the ASTa semester ticket office directly.



Mitgliedschaftsverhältnis FU / Enrollment
Image Credit: Bernd Wannemacher

Overview Doctorate Procedure



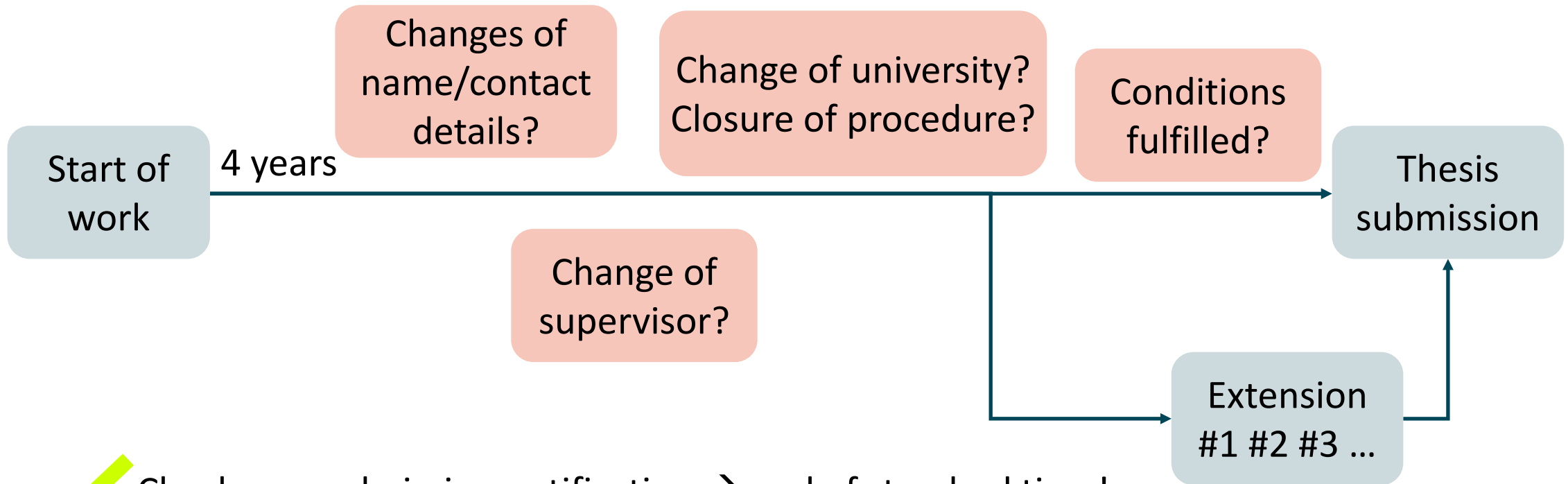
5. Standard Processing Time

What is the standard processing time for the doctorate? What should I do if the standard processing time can not be met? How can a change of supervisor take place?

> Read more

STANDARD TIME TO COMPLETION

STANDARD TIME TO COMPLETION



✓ Check your admission notification → end of standard time!

✗ Conditions not fulfilled → no thesis submission!

STANDARD TIME TO COMPLETION

ADMISSION NOTIFICATION FOR DOCTORAL STUDIES IN THE SUBJECT OF BIOLOGY

End of your **standard time to completion**: 7th of January 2029

Dear ,

Based on your application, you are hereby admitted as a doctoral student in the subject of Biology effective **8th of January 2025**. The doctoral regulations of the Department of Biology, Chemistry, Pharmacy (hereafter PromO) valid at the time of admission apply to your procedure. The standard time to completion, stated above, ends four years after the admission, which is the beginning of the doctoral procedure. According to Section 4 (1) PromO, the earliest date for filing your dissertation is two years after your application. Hence, you can submit your thesis earliest on 23rd of April 2027.

STANDARD TIME TO COMPLETION

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Standard Time to Completion

As a rule, the dissertation should be submitted within 3.5 years, but at the latest before the end of the standard time to completion (4 years). Please refer to your admission notification for the end of the standard time to completion.

If it is not possible to submit your dissertation within the four-year standard time to completion, an **application for extension of the standard time to completion** must be submitted to the doctoral office by e-mail with the subject "Application for an extension of the standard time to completion" four weeks before the end of the standard time to completion. Please always use the latest version of the form (as of June 2025). We will no longer accept older forms from August 1, 2025. The doctoral board decides on the extension.

If the reason for the extension of the standard time to completion is maternity leave or parental leave, please use the application for extension due to maternity leave and parental leave.



Regelbearbeitungszeit / Standard Time to Completion
Image Credit: Marion Kuka

Overview Doctorate Procedure



1. Supervision, Topic and Funding

What are the requirements for admission? What has to be done before starting the doctorate? What funding opportunities are there?

> Read more



CONDITIONS WITHIN THE ADMISSION PROCEDURE

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Regelbearbeitungszeit / Standard Time to Completion
Image Credit: Marion Kuka

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> Image Credits



NEWS

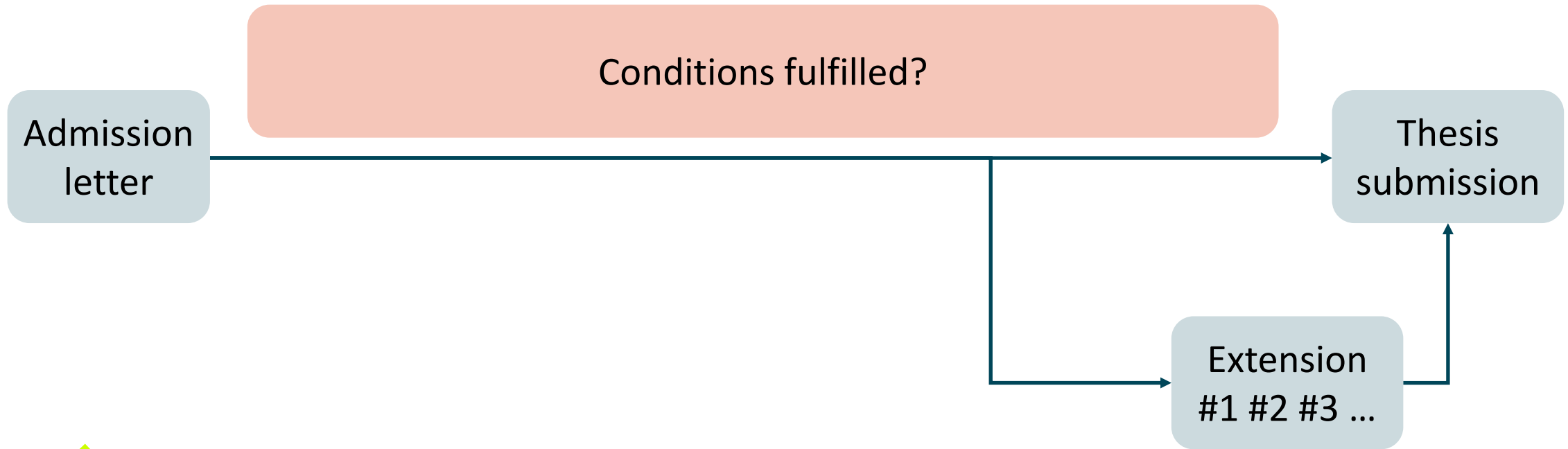
Doctoral student opportunities in the interdisciplinary PharMetriX-Program // Application deadline Sep 6

Conditions within the admission procedure

Please make sure that you fulfill all conditions of your admission in due time and submit the corresponding proof to the doctoral office (e.g. presentation of original documents such as degree certificates and proof of language proficiency as part of the doctoral application). Please refer to your admission notification for the conditions. If the conditions are not fulfilled for reasons for which you are responsible, admission to the doctorate will expire.

Course on good scientific practice

CONDITIONS WITHIN THE ADMISSION PROCEDURE



Participation in a course on good scientific practice → within the first year after admission date



The admission for doctoral studies expires if the condition/s is/are not fulfilled for reasons for which you are responsible.

GOOD SCIENTIFIC PRACTICE | RESEARCH INTEGRITY

COURSE ON GOOD SCIENTIFIC PRACTICE

DAHLEM RESEARCH SCHOOL | CENTER FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS

DOCTORATE

OFFERS

RESEARCH INTEGRITY

FUNDING

ABOUT US

[Homepage](#) > [Sites](#) > [Dahlem Research School](#) > [Research Integrity](#) > [Courses on Research Integrity](#)

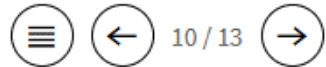
WORKSHOPS, COURSES, SEMINARS

03.04. - 04.04. [Workshop | Good Scientific Practice](#)

08.04. [Open Data Seminar](#)

09:15

16.04. [BUA Workshop | Hit the Jackpot x
EmoLeaders - Transform Stress into
Leadership Success!](#)



Courses on Research Integrity

Research Integrity is more than prevention of scientific misconduct - research integrity offers guidelines for professional research.

Knowledge about integrity, appropriate methods and handling of data enables scientists to deal with their own research, to evaluate the work of and manage the exchange with others in a professional and ethical way.

Dahlem Research School in cooperation with [Humboldt Graduate School](#) and [Potsdam Graduate School](#) offers a broad range of courses on research integrity, open to all doctoral researchers of the Berlin University Alliance and the University of Potsdam.



DRS Workshops

Image Credit: Bernd Wannemacher

Workshops in the field of research integrity can [be booked on the DRS booking platform.](#)



COURSE ON GOOD SCIENTIFIC PRACTICE

Section 7 (7) PromO: proof of participation in a course on good scientific practice

Obligation applies to all doctoral candidates who submit their dissertation **after March 31, 2026**

Extent: 1 credit point = 2 full workshop days = 16 work units of 45 minutes each

Participation in several courses on the topic is possible (→1 CP in total)

Courses offered by the FU Berlin (DRS, KowIn, Graduate Center, doctoral programs) or other Berlin universities that are members of the Berlin University Alliance will be credited

Proof must be provided within one year after the admission date (via e-mail to the Graduate Center)

Further questions about the courses offered and possible crediting of external courses
→ contact the staff of the Graduate Center

DR. RER. NAT. VS. PHD

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TITLES



- PromO §1 (1): The Department of Biology, Chemistry, Pharmacy at Freie Universität Berlin awards the degree of Doctor of Natural Sciences (Doctor rerum naturalium, abbreviated: Dr. rer. nat.) [...] within the framework of a proper doctoral degree procedure according to the provisions below.
→ no doctoral studies program needed



Decide at the beginning of the doctorate which title you would like to have



- PromO §1 (1): [...] awards [...] alternatively after completion of a structured doctoral studies program according to § 1 (2) the Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Sciences (Ph.D. in Natural Sciences)
- PromO §1 (2): [...] The Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Science also requires evidence in the form of a certificate and transcript or equivalent of the successful completion of a doctoral studies program
→ e.g. Doctoral Program Natural Sciences

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF THE TITLES



- Generally held in high regard



- Internationally better known, e.g. for a future career abroad

- Both titles are internationally recognized and hardly differ in their value
- No differences in scope and duration except the additional training (lectures, courses, etc.)
- Nearly all universities offer additional training for doctoral researchers regardless of membership in a doctoral program or the title desired



Even if you are not pursuing a PhD, see what you can do in terms of continuing education, training, networking, etc. while pursuing a doctorate. It will be beneficial for the future.