



الجامعة العربية المفتوحة
Arab Open University

The Organizational Bylaws for PhD Scholarships at the Arab Open University

In the Framework of Joint Supervision between AOU and External Academic Institutes

Approved by AOU University Council

Meeting No. 63, on 11 July 2018

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Introduction

These bylaws organize the award of scholarships for obtaining the degree of PhD in the Arab Open University for Masters holders among teaching staff members and administrators, within the framework of joint supervision between AOU and external academic institutes recognized by the AOU, and in the aim of raising the academic standards of the persons who are accorded these scholarships, and in accordance with certain conditions and benchmarks that serve the interests of the Arab Open University.

Article (1): Title

The current bylaws shall bear the title of “The Organizational Bylaws for PhD Scholarships at the Arab Open University in the Framework of Joint Supervision between AOU and External Academic Institutes”.

Article (2): Definitions

The following words and expressions shall have the meanings specified hereunder:

University	The Arab Open University (AOU)
Branch	An AOU branch
Rector	The Rector of a Branch in the country hosting it
Programme Dean	Dean of Academic Programme at HQ
Faculty Dean	Local Dean on Branch level
Candidate	Teaching Staff Member or Administrator holding an MA and chosen for the scholarship
The Supreme Committee	The Supreme Committee for Research and Development at HQ

Article (3): Nomination Stages

Scholarship nomination goes through three stages:

1. The Academic Research Committee at an AOU Branch shall study the applications for PhD scholarships, and nominate the persons who meet the conditions and standards proposed in the current bylaws. The nominations are then sent to the concerned Deanship.
2. The Deanship then studies the applications coming from different branches in view of its needs, and sends its recommendations to the Supreme Committee.
3. The final decision is made by the University Council at the recommendation of the Supreme Committee.

Article (4): Nomination Conditions

The candidate for a PhD scholarship must fulfil the following conditions:

1. Have a master's degree from a recognized university which is accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education in the country where the branch he works in is located.
2. Having worked as a full timer in the AOU for at least two years before he applies or before his nomination to the scholarship.
3. Knowledge of English language according to the condition of the party which will supervise his research.
4. Excellence of performance reports and presenting evidence of these reports.

Article (5): Appointing Supervisors

Supervisors are determined as follows:

- The external academic institute appoints the principal supervisor of the doctoral thesis of the scholarship holder, while the Supreme Committee appoints the joint supervisor who is nominated by the Deanship concerned.
- The joint supervisor must be a full-time teaching staff member at the Arab Open University. The Supreme Committee may wish to approve the appointment of a joint supervisor from another university if it sees fit.
- The Rector issues an executive order determining the remuneration of the joint supervisor in line with the remuneration scale common in the country in which the Branch is located.

Article (6): Role of Research and Development Committee

- The Academic Research Committee at the Branch supervises the commitment of the scholarship holder to the contract he signed. It also facilitates travel processes, and ticketing, as well as following up the expenses already spent and preparing a full report about the scholarship holder to be submitted to the Supreme Committee.
- The academic research committee shall ascertain that the Ministry of Higher Education of the country where the Branch is located recognizes the foreign academic establishment to which the scholarship holder has been assigned and keep the Supreme Committee abreast of the latest developments related to this topic.

Article (7): Suspension or Cancellation of a Scholarship & Penal Articles

- A. The University may suspend or cancel a scholarship in the following situations:
- Lack of seriousness in completing the study noted in the supervisors reports.
 - Breach of the scholarship's time schedule.
 - Dismissal of the candidate by the side in which he is registered.
 - Termination of the service of the scholarship holder as per to the Teaching Staff Bylaws.
 - Breach of any condition of PhD scholarship rules or regulations.
- B. The beneficiary of a scholarship shall pledge to serve in an AOU Branch for a period not less than the scholarship period. Any breach of this condition or dismissal as a result of negligence, The AOU shall have the right to reclaim the sums which he/she had received as a result of the scholarship.

Article (8): Scholarship Period

- The period of this scholarship shall be limited to three years.
- The Supreme Committee may extend this period by a single year.

Article (9): General Provisions

- A. The current bylaws shall annul all previous bylaws related to “Organizing PhD Scholarships in the Framework of Joint Supervision between the Arab Open University and External Academic Institutes .”
- B. The office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for following up the implementation of these bylaws and for bringing any matter not covered by the bylaws to the attention of the Supreme Committee to decide on it.
- C. The Rectors are responsible for implementing the provision issued in accordance with these bylaws.