

## Management of Jointly Awarded Doctoral Degrees

The University of Auckland recognises that student mobility programmes are an important activity through which international engagement can be fostered. The PhD Statute allows a period, normally up to 12 months, of overseas research leave. In exceptional cases doctoral candidates may be enrolled at The University of Auckland and another institution and be awarded a joint doctorate.

The joint doctoral programme has been developed to promote and enhance research collaborations between universities. While the joint doctorate should enrich the individual student's research experience and thesis, it should also contribute to wider research agendas and priorities. For this reason, applications for joint doctorates must be driven by supervisors and supported by the Academic Head and Dean or Director of the faculty/institute the student will be enrolled in.

### Guidelines

1. The programme must be based around a research topic that is substantially enhanced by being undertaken by the two specified institutions.
2. Candidates must be enrolled and pay tuition fees at The University of Auckland for the duration of the joint doctoral programme.
3. At least 12 months of the first 3 years of the candidate's research time must be spent at each institution. International students, NZ permanent residents and Australian citizens should note that government policy does not allow PhD students to spend more than 12 months out of New Zealand and still retain domestic fees status.
4. The degree certificates of both institutions must clearly show that the degree is being awarded jointly (i.e. one thesis is not being awarded two doctorates).

### Process

1. The candidate must apply to and be approved for admission and registration for a doctorate at both of the institutions and must meet each institution's requirements, including any financial costs.
2. The proposed main supervisor at The University of Auckland considers whether a Period of overseas research or a Co-supervisor appointed from overseas institution would meet the needs of the candidate and research project. If it is decided to proceed with a joint doctorate the main supervisor at The University of Auckland initiates the application for a joint doctorate by completing the form Expression of Interest in Supervising a Candidate for a Joint Doctoral Programme (including Cotutelle) (Joint DOC1). This form sets out the research programme and benefits of the joint doctorate, including details of how the student will be supported during the programme, and any risks that have been identified.
3. If a supervisor at The University of Auckland is approached by a student or supervisor from another institution regarding a joint doctorate, The University of Auckland supervisor must complete an Expression of Interest in Supervising a Candidate for a Joint Doctoral Programme (including Cotutelle) (Joint DOC1).
4. After sign-off of the Joint DOC1, the candidate completes the form Expression of Interest in Joint Doctoral Candidature (including Cotutelle) (Joint DOC2). This form signals the candidate's desire to undertake a joint doctorate.
5. The University of Auckland main supervisor completes the Individual Agreement for a Joint Doctoral Programme (including Cotutelle) (Joint DOC3). This form includes the detail surrounding examination and IP issues, and must be signed off by parties at both institutions.

Note: Setting up a joint doctoral programme is time consuming. Supervisors and candidates should allow at least 3 months from the time the Joint DOC1 is submitted until the Joint DOC3 is signed off.