

**Principles Underlying Support for Doctoral Students  
at the  
Leibniz-Institut für Polymerforschung Dresden e. V.  
(Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research Dresden)  
(IPF)**

**Preamble**

On the basis of its articles of association, the Leibniz-Institut für Polymerforschung Dresden e. V. provides support to doctoral students who wish to conclude their scientific education in the area of polymers by attaining a doctorate at a university inside Germany. The doctoral student is supervised by a university professor who is appointed in close co-operation with the university. The respective university's doctoral regulations play a decisive role here. The Institute is guided here, without entering into a legal obligation, by the Leibniz Association's recommendations of 12 September 2009 on the provision of structured support for junior scientists. In accordance with the spirit of these recommendations, interested doctoral students are to be offered the possibility of working on a dissertation with a high degree of relevance to practical applications and in the research environment of a non-university research institute such as the IPF. In particular, interested doctoral students who aspire to an international career are to be given the means of attending seminars offered in Germany and abroad dealing with the areas of methodology, the drafting of applications for third-party funding, project management, participation in symposia and others. The conclusion of a Doctoral Agreement is a precondition for support in accordance with these principles.

**§ 1**

**Doctoral Agreement and Duration of Doctoral Work**

On commencement of the scientific work (research work) an Agreement, referred to as a Doctoral Agreement, based on the respective individual objectives is to be concluded between the doctoral student and the supervisor(s) (university supervisor and perhaps other supervisors) on the point of time of the submission of an exposé (written outline) of the work, scheduling for the preparation of work reports, submission of the dissertation and other conditions of the doctorate. As a general rule, the scientific work for the doctoral project, including writing the dissertation, should be completed within a period of three to four years.<sup>1</sup>

**§ 2**

**Employment**

For the duration of the doctoral relationship the doctoral student may, in so far as there are no opposing legal or operational reasons, be offered time-restricted employment – e.g. on the basis of third-party funding approval – of up to 75% of full-time employment.

### **§ 3 Provision of a Work Station**

For the duration of his/her presence in the institute the doctoral student will be provided – depending on availability and need – with an office and/or a laboratory workstation. The equipment of the workstations should conform to the specific work requirements. This does not provide grounds in any individual case for the doctoral student to claim a right to a particular workstation and/or a particular design of work station or to an employment appointment.

### **§ 4 Internationalisation and Qualification**

Opportunities to meet and have discussions with visiting scientists and doctoral students from other countries should be provided. The doctoral students` active participation in conferences, in particular in international specialised events, for example by giving a talk or presenting posters, is desirable. Participation in structured (international) graduate programs, further educational measures and a certain degree of integration in teaching and training are desirable. The results of the doctoral work are to be published in international, peer-reviewed journals.

### **§ 5 Rules of Good Scientific Practice**

When the doctoral students commence their scientific studies, they must be instructed by the supervisor on the rules of good scientific practice and these rules must be accepted in writing by the doctoral students. If the rules of good scientific practice are violated, the doctoral student-supervisor relationship and employment based on § 2 must be terminated immediately.

### **§ 6 Participation in supportive measures**

In accordance with the spirit of the Leibniz Association´s recommendations, doctoral students irrespective of the contractual status can - without this establishing a legal claim for the doctoral student – participate in measures subsidised by the Institute, such as taking part in symposia and having the related travelling costs paid.

### **§ 7 Reconciliation of Doctoral Work and Family**

If the doctoral student is a parent during the period of doctoral work, flexible work times and the institute´s usual supports must be granted.

**§ 8**  
**Entry into Force**

In accordance with article 10 para. 4 lit. a of the statutes, these principles shall come into force upon signing with effect as of 1 October 2013.

Dresden, 23 September 2013

sgd.  
Prof. Dr. B. Voit  
Scientific Director

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<sup>i</sup> The duration of the doctoral work can be extended for family-friendly reasons