

## **PROCEDURE FOR THE PREPARATION AND EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

1. A research proposal is prepared for each dissertation topic specified in the application (for example, two research proposals are prepared if a candidate is applying for two topics).

2. The research proposal is intended for the evaluation of the applicant's theoretical knowledge of the topic to which he/she applies, the skills of critical thinking, the originality of the expressed ideas, and the ability to outline ideas.

3. The applicant ensures that the submitted research proposal is an original work prepared independently, and takes responsibility for making sure that, in the course of preparing the research proposal, he/she does not infringe the copyrights of any third parties, does not include any sensitive information or information subject to publication restrictions set out in the legislation of the Republic of Lithuania.

4. The research proposal is prepared according to the following recommended requirements:

4.1. The volume of the research proposal is up to 6,000 characters (including spaces), i.e., approximately 2 pages;

4.2. The text is written in 12 pt., Times New Roman font, 1.5 line spacing, either in the Lithuanian or in the English language;

4.3. A research proposal contains a summarised description of the relevance of the research proposed in the specified topic, the formulated scientific problem, the aim and objectives of the research, its significance and the expected results, the intended procedure and methodology of the planned research, the reliability of the data, the methods of obtaining and analysing the data.

5. An applicant's research proposal is submitted for the comments and proposed evaluation (in points) by the supervisor of the dissertation topic/thematic area to which the applicant applies before the hearing of the meeting of the doctoral committee of the science field.

6. The research proposal can be verified by the similarity check system *Turnitin* used by Kaunas University of Technology, which identifies similarities in the submitted document with texts published in the global network and the academic publishers' databases, as well as with documents previously uploaded to the system, and recognises possible cases of fraud in text formatting. The generated percentage of similarities and a summary of the originality report are forwarded to the doctoral committee of the science field.

7. The members of the doctoral committee of the science field evaluate the applicant's research proposal while taking into consideration the comments and the proposed evaluation by the supervisor of the topic/thematic area.

8. The arithmetic average of the evaluation scores of the members of the doctoral committee of the science field who have evaluated the research proposal is the final score for the applicant's research proposal; the average is rounded to the nearest whole number. The highest possible evaluation score is 10 points.