Assessment Principles for Granting Additional Time to Graduate Students at the Thesis Stage Due to Disasters and Epidemics

Purpose

Article 1 - This document sets out the assessment criteria for implementing the provision of the Regulation for Eastern Mediterranean University Graduate Studies and Examinations concerning "granting additional time to graduate students at the thesis stage in the event of disasters and epidemics," and aims to ensure that applications are concluded objectively, consistently, and in accordance with the principle of equality.

Legal Basis

Article 2 - These principles have been prepared on the basis of the provision of the Regulation for Eastern Mediterranean University Graduate Studies and Examinations concerning the granting of additional time to graduate students at the thesis stage in the event of disasters and epidemics.

Scope

Article 3 - These principles apply exclusively to applications for additional time submitted by master's and doctoral students who are at the thesis stage due to a disaster or epidemic.

General Principles

Article 4 -

1. Granting additional time is an exceptional application.
2. Additional time is assessed upon the student's request; it is not granted automatically.
3. Applications are examined individually if the conditions stipulated in the Regulations are met.
4. Each application is assessed in light of its specific circumstances.
5. The discretionary authority granted to the administration under the Regulations regarding the granting of additional time shall be exercised with due regard to the principles of equality, proportionality, objectivity, and public interest.

Assessment Criteria

Article 5 -

The following matters may be taken into consideration when assessing applications:

a) Whether the disaster or epidemic has affected the student directly or indirectly;

b) Whether the disaster or epidemic has significantly disrupted the conduct of the thesis research;

c) Whether access to research laboratories, archives, fieldwork, data sources, or research infrastructure has been restricted;

d) The supervisor’s opinion on whether the delay is attributable to the disaster or epidemic;

e) Official documents or other information and documents supporting the application;

f) The current progress of the student’s thesis research.

Supporting Documents

Article 6 -

Where possible, the applicant shall attach to the application form, documents demonstrating the impact of the disaster or epidemic on the thesis research.

Where it is not possible to provide documentation, the application may be assessed separately in light of the available information and circumstances.

Granting Additional Time

Article 7 -

1. If it is determined that the conditions stipulated in the Regulations have been met, the student may be granted one additional semester.
2. If the effects of the disaster or epidemic continue and the student submits a new application, a second additional semester may be granted within the maximum limits stipulated in the Regulations.
3. The additional time granted shall not count towards the maximum period of study, in accordance with the Regulations.

Decision-Making Authority

Article 8 -

Applications shall be assessed by the Institute of Graduate Studies and Research Directorate and decided in accordance with the procedures and authority stipulated in the Regulation for Eastern Mediterranean University Graduate Studies and Examinations and these assessment principles.

Entry into Force

Article 9 -

These assessment principles shall enter into force as of the 2026–2027 Academic Year.

Implementation

Article 10 -

These principles shall be implemented by the Eastern Mediterranean University Institute of Graduate Studies and Research.