

Procedure for the conferment of professorship

I. Preliminary information

- 1) Legal basis: Polish Journal of Laws of 2020 item 85, Art. 227 – Art. 231
<https://dziennikustaw.gov.pl/D2020000008501.pdf>
- 2) Procedure for the conferment of the title of professor is conducted exclusively by the Council of Scientific Excellence (RDN).
- 3) The title of professor is conferred by the President of the Republic of Poland upon the request of RDN.
- 4) The title of professor is conferred in a field of science or in a field and in a discipline of science, or in a field and disciplines of science.

II. Requirements for candidates applying for the title of professor (Art. 221, Para. 1):

- 1) holding the post-doctoral degree of doctor habilitated;
- 2) demonstrating outstanding national and international achievements in science (accomplishments constituting the basis for the conferment of the title of professor may also include original project, engineering and design or technological achievements);
- 3) participating in research teams realizing projects financed through national or international competitions or internships completed in scientific institutions, also abroad, or conducting research or development works at universities or scientific institutions, also abroad.

The title of professor may be conferred only upon a person who in the period of 22 July 1944 to 31 July 1990 was neither employed by nor served in nor collaborated with the state security organs. Otherwise, the title shall not be conferred even if all the previously-mentioned conditions are fulfilled.

III. Commencement of the procedure

- 1) It is advisable to notify the director of the institution where the candidate is employed about his/her intention to submit the application for the title of professor.
- 2) The fee for the conduct of the conferment procedure shall be paid to RDN by the institution where the candidate is employed.
- 3) The candidate applying for the title of professor submits a written application directly to RDN.
- 4) The application should include a detailed justification of the fulfillment of the requirements set out in Point II hereof.

Detailed information on the form and content of the application dossier is available on the RDN website:

<https://www.rdn.gov.pl/postepowanie-profesorskie.wymagania-dokumentacyjne-wnioskow-w-sprawie-nadanai-tytulu-profesora.html>

IV. Preliminary stage (application overview, appointment of reviewers, Art. 228)

- 1) RDN conducts a preliminary verification of the application and may refuse to commence the procedure if it deems that the statutory requirements are clearly not fulfilled, Art. 227, Para. 1.
 - i. In the event of a negative decision of RDN on the commencement of the procedure, the candidate may appeal against this decision to RDN.
 - ii. If, upon consideration of the appeal, RDN shall uphold the decision to refuse to commence the procedure, the candidate for the title of professor may apply again for the commencement of the procedure for the conferment of professorship after at least 5 years.
- 2) In the event of a positive initial verification of the application, RDN shall select 5 reviewers by drawing lots.

V. Procedure for the conferment of professorship

- 1) Within 3 months from the date of the order, the reviewers shall issue opinions on whether the scientific accomplishments of the person applying for the title of professor fulfill the requirements set out in Point II hereof. The opinions should end with an unequivocal conclusion, negative or positive.
- 2) Within 3 months of receipt of all the opinions of the reviewers and upon analyzing of the application dossier, RDN by way of an administrative decision shall:
 - i. apply to the President of the Republic of Poland for granting the title of professor to the candidate or
 - ii. refuse to apply to the President of the Republic of Poland for granting the title of professor to the candidate.
- 3) Within 21 days from the moment of issuing a **positive** decision, RDN shall apply to the President of the Republic of Poland for granting the title of professor. Further proceedings for the conferment of professorship are continued at the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland.
- 4) If there are indications of the possibility of copyright infringement by the candidate, the President of the Republic of Poland may request RDN to supplement the application with an opinion of the Science Ethics Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences.
 - i. If the above-mentioned opinion confirms the possibility of copyright infringement, RDN shall reopen the procedure for the conferment of professorship.

VI. Appeal procedure

- 1) Within 3 months from the date of delivery of the decision (be it positive or negative), the candidate may file a petition to RDN **to reconsider the case**.
- 2) The procedure for reconsideration of the application for professorship is

conducted by RDN within 6 months from the delivery of the petition. During the proceedings RDN may consult the reviewers, including those who prepared opinions in the course of the main procedure.

- 3) In the event that RDN issues a final decision to refuse to apply to the President of the Republic of Poland for granting the title of professor, the candidate may refile a motion to commence the procedure for the conferment of professorship, but not earlier than after 5 years of receipt of the negative decision.

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