

# Regulations on the accreditation of academic disaffiliation

Governing Council Decision CG/2019/07/41, of 11 December 2019, approving the regulations on the accreditation of academic disaffiliation

## Office of the Vice-Rector for Teaching and Research Staff

 A favourable report on this document was issued by the Staff and Social Action Committee on 28 November 2018.

# APPROVAL OF THE REGULATIONS ON THE ACCREDITATION OF ACADEMIC DISAFFILIATION

### Factual and legal basis

Article 49 of Law 1/2003, of 19 February, on Universities in Catalonia (LUC) establishes academic disengagement from the convening university as a requirement for admission to recruitment processes for contracted full professors and associate professors.

Article 50 of Organic Law 6/2011, of 21 December, on Universities (LOU), as worded in Organic Law 4/2007, of 12 April, establishes that a stay at a renowned university or



research centre in Spain or abroad other than the convening university is a preferential merit for accessing the category of assistant professor (*professor ajudant doctor*). The category of *professor ajudant doctor* established in the LOU is equivalent to the category of *professor lector* mentioned in Article 49 of the LUC.

The stabilisation programme for temporary, full-time contractual staff and for research staff on the Ramon y Cajal and Beatriz Galindo programmes, approved in Governing Council Decision CG/2018/05/16, of 23 June, establishes the disengagement criteria foreseen in the aforementioned legislation as a requisite for completing the stabilisation process.

The Interuniversity Council of Catalonia (CIC) established, at a series of meetings, equivalent general criteria for the entire Catalan university system, as well as transitional measures for adapting to these criteria.

Having analysed the development of selection processes convened once this measure has been put in place, the judging committees have stated that it would be appropriate, within the framework established for the entire Catalan university system, to specify and develop the criteria for accrediting disaffiliation as a tool to facilitate the work of these committees in the selection process. This development will also be a tool that helps to clarify the requirements that must be met by professors who participate in the stabilisation programme.

For the reasons stated above, in the exercise of the competencies outlined in Article 206 of the Statutes, having received the favourable report of the Staff and Social Action Committee, the Governing Council states that it has taken the following

#### **DECISION**

ONE. To approve the regulations on the accreditation of academic disaffiliation.

# APPROVAL OF THE REGULATIONS ON THE ACCREDITATION OF ACADEMIC DISAFFILIATION

#### **Article 1. Object**

The object of these regulations is to establish the application criteria and procedure for accrediting academic disaffiliation at the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC).

#### Article 2. Scope

These regulations apply to selection processes in which academic disengagement from the UPC is a preferential merit or requirement.

It also applies in the accreditation of the requirement established for passing the UPC's stabilisation process.



#### Article 3. Academic disaffiliation

Persons are considered to have been academically disaffiliated from the UPC when they have taken the entirety of their doctoral studies at another university and they been awarded their doctoral degree by that other university or, alternatively, when they can prove that they have carried out pre- or postdoctoral teaching or research, or technology or knowledge transfer, at a body other than the UPC for at least two years after their initial training (bachelor's or master's degree or equivalent).

Although the end of the contractual relationship may indicate academic disaffiliation, the latter does not necessarily imply the end of the contractual relationship.

#### Article 4. Criteria for evaluating academic disaffiliation

- 1. Carrying out the entirety of doctoral studies at another university, which awarded the doctoral degree, accredits academic disaffiliation.
- 2. Being awarded a permanent or assistant professor post or equivalent at the UPC in a call before 31 December 2014 accredits academic disaffiliation.
- 3. The criteria that will be taken into account to evaluate the rest of the activities carried out after the person's initial training (bachelor's or master's degree or equivalent) are discussed below.
  - a. As regards the nature of the activities carried out, the following will be considered:
    - University teaching.
    - Research, development and innovation.
    - · Technology and knowledge transfer.
    - Professional activities that are relevant to the contract.
  - b. As regards the duration of the activities, the following will be considered:
    - · Periods of activity of more than three months.
    - Periods of less than three months but more than two, up to a maximum of five periods of this duration.
  - c. As regards the relationship with the body at which the activity was carried out and with the UPC:
    - The consideration of activities as academic disaffiliation is independent from the specific relationship (contract, grant, training stays, etc.) with the external body, if the set of criteria in these regulations is fulfilled.
    - The external bodies may be universities, research centres, public or private enterprises, etc.; they must in any case have legal personality, which includes self-employment.
    - Bodies linked to the UPC that have their own legal personality (and tax identification number) are considered external bodies. In any event, training stays at linked bodies may not be claimed as disaffiliation periods whilst there is an employment relationship with the UPC, although activities carried out under contract with the body can be.
    - Academic disaffiliation may be accredited even if in the period considered there is a contractual relationship with the UPC: mobility or sabbatical leave, leave of absence, study leave, etc., as long as minimum duration requirements are met and the leave has been authorised in accordance with prevailing regulations. If the



relationship with the UPC is as an adjunct professor, the existence or otherwise of academic disaffiliation during this period is determined by the principal activity and other external activities carried out.

• In any event, activities at external bodies may not be claimed as disaffiliation periods if there is an infringement of the restrictions on the holding of multiple posts for UPC staff, without prejudice to the liabilities arising from said infringement.

#### d. As regards supporting documents

- The stay or stays that make up the disaffiliation period may be accredited by any legally valid means (contracts, certificates, etc.) in the form established in the corresponding call. The supporting documents provided must at the very least identify the body at which the stay was carried out, the end and start dates and its content.
- If the activity was carried out on a self-employed basis, documents giving details of the tasks carried out must also be provided.
- In all cases, the UPC reserves the right to ask for additional, original documents to evaluate the disaffiliation.

## Article 5. Evaluating academic disaffiliation

- 1. Academic disaffiliation is a binary requirement or preferential merit; it is fulfilled or it is not fulfilled, and it cannot be assessed in part.
- 2. In selection processes, for the preferential merit to be considered the value of the academic disaffiliation must be equal to or greater than that given to any of the other merits considered in the selection process.

#### Article 6. Procedure for accrediting disaffiliation periods

Academic disaffiliation must be accredited in the form established in the corresponding call of the selection process or the stabilisation programme.

In any event, once a selection process at the UPC in which candidates have accredited the merit or proved that they meet the requirement has been passed, this merit or requirement will be considered to have been accredited for future selection processes at the UPC.

In the same manner, if disaffiliation is accredited in the stabilisation programme it will be considered to have been accredited for future selection processes.

#### Additional provision

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 6 of these regulations, a procedure for UPC staff to accredit disaffiliation that enables them to participate in selection processes and the stabilisation programme must be designed and approved within six months from the approval of these regulations.