

Doctoral studies at MDH/in Sweden

-Terms and conditions

Doctoral studies at MDH

- MDH was given the right to issue doctorates in the year 2001
- Approximately 150 doctoral students
- 9 postgraduate programs (Computer science, Electronics, Innovation and Design, Energy and environmental engineering, Mathematics/Applied mathematics, Biotechnology/Chemical engineering, Industrial economics and organization, Didactics, Working life studies.)

- Computer science has the largest postgraduate program (approximately 50 Phd-students)

Terms and conditions

- In Sweden its free of charge to study for doctors degree, you even get paid for doing it
- Limited positions a doctoral student (In 2007 only 19 doctoral students was enrolled)
- A doctoral student have the same rights as anyone employed by the university
- Monthly salary of about 2300 euro

- A postgraduate program takes ideally 4 years of fulltime study (1/3 courses and 2/3 dissertation)
- Most students studies 80% on the postgraduate program and does 20% departmental duties

How to get enrolled?

- Only future Phd-students who can be offered supervision and acceptable conditions for their studies in other respects can be enrolled.
- On enrolment each Phd-student is to be assigned a group of supervisors comprising a principal supervisor and one or more assistant supervisors. (One of these have to have special training for supervisors according to the law)

- The principal supervisor has the overall responsibility for the Phd-student's study program. The assistant supervisors can take on the direct supervision or provide different subject expertise, where interdisciplinary research is involved, for instance.

- The hard part is always to get funds for the Phd-students. The University is obligated to pay their salaries for 4 years

- It's obligatory (according to law) that the supervisors write an individual study plan (syllabus) together with the Phd-student before enrolment. Afterwards the study plan has to be updated every year and signed by the supervisors and the PHD-student. The study plan contains information on activity, both in the postgraduate program and other activities etc.

Things to think about for a future collaboration

- An agreement have to be made by MDH and the other university
- Types of financing: who are going to pay, for what periods, how much money?
- Expenses: Travels, conferences etc, who is going to pay?

- Supervision, the principal supervisor have to be approved by the faculty board at MDH
- Immaterial rights: Who owns the results, patents etc?