

Guidelines for the Industrial PhD Programme

24 June 2011

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**The Danish Agency for
Science, Technology and
Innovation**

42 Bredgade
1260 København K
Tel. +45 3544 6200
E-mail fi@fi.dk
Website www.fi.dk
CVR no. 1991 8440

Klaus Ammitzbøll
Tel. +45 7231 8418
E-mail kamm@fi.dk

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These guidelines are in force as of 24 June 2011.

1. What is an Industrial PhD?

An Industrial PhD education is a three-year research project and research training programme with an industrial focus conducted jointly by a private company, an Industrial PhD candidate and a university. The candidate is employed by the company and enrolled at the university.

The aim of the Industrial PhD Programme is to:

- educate researchers at a PhD level with knowledge of industrial aspects of research and innovation,
- create growth in the Danish business community through the promotion of cooperation on research and innovation between universities and Danish privately held companies, and
- facilitate knowledge transfer and networking between Danish companies and researchers at universities in Denmark and abroad.

Public institutions may also apply for approval of an Industrial PhD project. If funding has been allocated for this particular purpose, public institutions may apply for subsidy at indicated application rounds, to be announced beforehand at www.erhvervsphd.dk. If no funding has been allocated, public institutions must defray all expenses for the education, including expenses for enrolment and supervision at the university, cf. section 6.

Regulations on PhD educations are established in the Executive Order No. 18 of January 14, 2008 regarding PhD programmes at universities (the PhD Executive Order). The provisions of the Guidelines for the Industrial PhD Programme contain the funding requirements of the Industrial PhD Programme, which is financed by the Danish Council for Technology and Innovation (The Council).

Significant changes since last edition of the guidelines

Commercial perspectives

The requirement for commercial perspectives in an Industrial PhD project has been strengthened compared to before. See more in section 8.

Duty to disclose all material facts and academic reporting

Academic reporting is no longer required. Instead, increased emphasis will be placed on subsidy recipients' duty to disclose all material facts. See more in section 12.

Subsidy for stays in Denmark and abroad

In projects approved hereafter, subsidy is no longer provided for food expenses for stays in Denmark and abroad. See more in section 10.

2. Application procedure and general conditions

The first step when commencing an Industrial PhD project is to submit an application to the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation (DASTI). The application is drafted jointly by a company, a university and a candidate. The company is the formal applicant, since it is the company which upon approval of the project employs the candidate and acts as the host company for the project.

When the application is received by DASTI, it is assessed by the Industrial PhD Programme Committee (the Programme Committee), which is a professional advisory committee consisting of members from the private sector and public research institutions. An application for an Industrial PhD can obtain either approval, conditional approval or rejection. DASTI will publicise titles and participants of all approved and conditionally approved projects at www.erhvervsphd.dk within 45 working days after the application deadline. If an application receives a conditional approval or is rejected, DASTI will send a letter to the applying company detailing the conditions for approval or the reasons for rejection.

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If an application is approved, the company and the university will receive a letter of commitment from DASTI. The letter of commitment contains the formal requirements for the parties during the Industrial PhD project and constitutes the contract with DASTI.

The candidate is employed in a Danish division of the company for the duration of the project. The company pays the candidate's salary and receives a wage subsidy from DASTI. The university receives a subsidy to cover supervision and other expenses related to the enrolment of the candidate. As a starting point, the student must divide his or her time equally between the company and university. Accordingly, the student is supervised by at least two supervisors: a university supervisor from the university and a company supervisor from the company. In addition, one or more third-party supervisors may also be attached to the project. The university appoints all supervisors (cf. the Executive Order on PhD Programmes, Part 11, § 26), although the company supervisor is appointed at the recommendation of the company. The university supervisor, the company supervisor and any third-party supervisor must be evident from and sign the application.

In addition to applications with a single named candidate per application, a company can apply for approval of up to five projects per application round without named candidates. Final approval is given on the condition that the company subsequently finds a qualified candidate, e.g. through job advertisements.

The following sections will elaborate the different steps in applying for and carrying out an Industrial PhD project.

3. Submitting applications

Applications for Industrial PhD projects must be submitted via DASTI's online application system (e-application).

E-application in English can be found at en.fi.dk/e-application.

E-application is also available in Danish and can be found at www.fi.dk/e-ansoegning.

DASTI must receive the application no later than 6 PM on the closing date for applications. There are three yearly application deadlines. The application deadlines are continuously determined and announced at www.erhvervsphd.dk.

4. Admission requirements

The company, the Industrial PhD candidate and the university must each fulfil certain criteria when applying for an Industrial PhD.

The company must:

- be a company in the private sector with divisions or subsidiaries physically located in Denmark,
- be able to financially support the Industrial PhD project for all three years,
- designate a company supervisor capable of supervising the candidate with regard to the industrially related aspects of the project,
- have a professional working environment capable of supporting the project,
- ensure that the project is embedded in the company's organisation.

About the requirements

Company in the private sector: DASTI assesses whether an organisation is categorised as part of the private or public sector. An organisation is typically categorised as part of the private sector if at least half its revenue does not consist of subsidies from the public sector. However, other factors, such as foundation and/or establishment of purpose by law, may also be decisive. If in doubt, it is possible to ask DASTI to categorise an organisation before applying.

Company supervisor: The supervisor must have completed an education corresponding to a Danish medium length higher education or above. However, professional academic qualifications are not necessary. The supervisor may be someone on the staff or an external person attached to the project.

Professional working environment: A professional working environment consists of at least 2-3 people in addition to the company supervisor who are capable of taking over the supervisor's role. If this requirement cannot be met, the company may ask a private third party to serve in this function. Alternatively, the professional support can be assured by several companies collaborating on a project.

Several companies can work together on a joint Industrial PhD project if they:

- collectively meet the financial and professional requirements,
- enter into a binding cooperative agreement on project financing and allocation of the Industrial PhD candidate's time.
- base the Industrial PhD project in one of the cooperating companies,
- designate at least one employee to the project capable of supervising the candidate with regard to the project's industrially related aspects.

The Industrial PhD candidate must:

- hold a master's degree or equivalent,
- have obtained a weighted grade point average of at least 8.2 on the Danish 7-point grading scale or 9 on the 13-point scale for the entire master's programme (ie. for both the bachelor's and master's studies),
- have obtained at least the grade 10 on either grade point scale for any final thesis or examination project. Applicants with ungraded final projects must submit a written statement or assessment of the project. Special rules apply to applicants enrolled under a '4+4' scheme; see section 7 for more.

A calculation of the weighted grade point average for both the bachelor's and master's studies must be included with the application.

In special cases, a candidate with a slightly lower grade point average may be approved if the candidate can document research ability by, for example, peer-reviewed articles published in scientific journals, research-based patents or relevant experience with scientific research; ie. consisting of a longer period of work as a research assistant or with empirical research that meets the demands of scientific research methodology. In addition, progression in grades, top grades (minimum 10) in subjects relevant to the project, and relevant, independent references on the candidate's research ability may be considered compensation for a grade level slightly lower than required.

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Candidates with a non-Danish education at a master's degree level are required to have attained the same grade levels as applicants with Danish degrees. However, a weighted grade level calculation converted to the Danish 7-step scale is not required. Instead, an assessment arguing that the candidate's grade levels are at least comparable to those required of candidates with a Danish education must be included in the application. The assessment must be certified by the Head of Studies, Head of Department, Head of PhD programme, Associate Dean, Dean, Pro-Rector or Rector at the enrolling university. If possible, a description of the non-Danish grading scale should be submitted along with the grade assessment.

The project can be started only when the candidate is admitted to a PhD programme at the enrolling university, making it the host university for the Industrial PhD project. Prior admission to a PhD programme at the host university does not place DASTI, the Council or the Programme Committee under any commitment when considering the application.

The university must:

- be a university or institution of higher education in Denmark or abroad. Non-Danish universities must be officially authorised by the country in question to conduct PhD programmes,
- designate a university supervisor for the project. The university supervisor must be a permanent employee at the university and academically qualified to act as the candidate's supervisor within the project's field,
- have an academic working environment capable of supporting the project, ie. the university must have several employees working within the field in question who could take over as supervisor if necessary.

If the host university is non-Danish, a Danish university must be attached to the Industrial PhD project as a third party.

5. Third parties

Other relevant parties – third parties – capable of professionally supporting the project may be attached to the project. Third parties can be based in any country. Each third party must designate a third-party supervisor to the project. The third-party supervisor is to assist in supervising the Industrial PhD student.

Third party eligible for subsidy: Subsidy may be provided for only one third party. To be eligible for subsidy, the third party must be a university or research institution within the public sector, and must not be part of the host university. A subsidy of up to DKK 45,000 from DASTI is provided for supervising an Industrial PhD candidate. The third party will be jointly responsible for ensuring the academic completion of the project.

Third parties not eligible for subsidy: Third parties from both the private and public sector may be attached to the project. However, private sector third parties cannot receive subsidy from DASTI. Public sector third parties which are not universities or whose primary purposes do not include research also cannot receive subsidy from DASTI.

If several universities take part in an Industrial PhD project in which an employee from a university other than the host university is a third-party supervisor, a binding agreement concerning cooperation on the Industrial PhD project must be made. The project is based at the host university.

6. Industrial PhD projects in the public sector

Public institutions may also apply for approval of an Industrial PhD project in cooperation with a university, provided the project meets the requirements for regular Industrial PhD projects. The public institution functions as a private company in the Industrial PhD project.

If funding has been allocated for this specific purpose, public institutions may apply for subsidies for Industrial PhD projects at indicated application rounds, to be announced beforehand at www.erhvervsphd.dk. Should any funding remain from the first application round where available, the remainder can be applied for at subsequent application rounds. If granted subsidy, a project receives the same subsidy amounts as projects within the private sector.

If no special funding has been allocated, public institutions must defray all expenses for the education, including expenses in connection with enrolment and supervision at the university.

Public organisations may jointly finance and apply for an Industrial PhD project.

The purpose of Industrial PhD projects in the public sector is:

- to support the public sector's focus on possible improvements through targeted, practical, research based projects,

- to train scientists with insight into the importance of research and development in the public sector,
- to build knowledge-sharing networks between public institutions and research institutes.

The Industrial PhD Programme in the public sector targets:

- public institutions and organisations financially and professionally capable of supporting a three-year research and training project,
- holders of a master's degree with the necessary qualifications to complete a PhD project, cf. section 4,
- universities as supervisors, cf. section 4 and 5.

A project where a public research institution employs the candidate and accordingly functions as the host company must not fall within the institution's established research activity fields. As an example and particularly relevant to the health sector, including hospitals, the programme can include research on organisation, working procedures etc. However, projects in the fields of general medical and health science cannot obtain subsidy, since these fields are covered by the health care sector's regular PhD programmes.

7. Industrial PhD projects under 4+4 schemes

The following rules apply to projects approved after 17 February 2005 under '4+4' schemes:

- As with three-year Industrial PhD projects, a project application is made. At the time of application, the candidate should have completed or be working towards completing four years of university studies. In addition, the candidate should be enrolled in a 4+4 PhD programme at a university or should be able to render it probable that he or she can be enrolled into such a programme.
- The Programme Committee will assess the project description and give a conditional approval if the application meets the programme requirements and the candidate has a weighted grade point average of at least 8.2 on the Danish 7-point grading scale at the time of application.
- The student is enrolled or hired at the university during the first two years according to the university's own regulations.
- After the first two years of the PhD education, the candidate submits a statement or grade for the examination which is part of the PhD education at the university and which the student is taking instead of the traditional thesis or final master's project. If the examination is graded, the student must have earned at least the grade 10. If DASTI, possibly in consultation with the Programme Committee, assesses that the candidate lives up to the Industrial PhD candidate requirements, the company will then hire the candidate on the ordinary Industrial PhD terms.

DASTI does not provide any subsidy during the first year of an Industrial PhD education under a 4+4 scheme. DASTI will provide subsidy to the company for the final two years of the education. DASTI will provide subsidy to the university for the final three years of the four-year education.

8. Application content and assessment

Applications are sent to DASTI, but are assessed by the Programme Committee.

The application, the final Industrial PhD thesis and all other communication must be in either Danish or English.

Industrial PhD project in a private company

An application for an Industrial PhD project in the private sector must include:

- A clear research hypothesis or research questions for the project
- A description of the state-of-the-art for the project's field of research
- A description of the project's academic research news value and perspectives
- A project description divided into phases
- A knowledge dissemination plan (see section 13 on dissemination requirements)
- An account of the news value and commercial perspectives for the company

The commercial perspectives of a project can be prospects of direct or indirect economic gain. Indirect economic gain can be achieved by, for example:

- improving administrative efficiency,
- acquiring knowledge which increases the company's revenue,
- strategically working towards establishing new products or markets, and/or
- development of long term concepts and/or strategies for the company.

Industrial PhD projects in a public institution

An application for an Industrial PhD project in a public institution must include:

- A clear research hypothesis or research questions for the project
- A description of the state-of-the-art for the project's field of research
- A description of the project's academic research news value and perspectives
- A project description divided into phases
- A knowledge dissemination plan (see section 13 on dissemination requirements)

Commercial perspectives are not required for Industrial PhD projects in the public sector. Instead, the application should describe the project's news value and benefits to the institution, for example by:

- improving administrative efficiency,
- knowledge building which directly increases the institution's competencies,
- systematic dissemination of knowledge, and/or
- strengthening the quality of the product/service provided by the institution.

A project where a public research institution employs the candidate and accordingly functions as the host company must account for how the project does not fall within already established fields of research in the institution.

Additional assessment criteria

The Programme Committee evaluates applications by the criteria listed above, as well as:

- whether the company/institution is able to professionally and financially support the project,

- whether the candidate is qualified to conduct a research project in the area specified,
- whether the university milieu is relevant to the specific project,
- whether the university supervisor is academically qualified to supervise the Industrial PhD student within the project's field of research,
- whether there is a financial and professional distinction between the company and the university,
- whether it has been made likely that the project can be carried out within the framework specified.

Please note that it is only possible for the candidate to stay at the company's non-Danish divisions for a total of up to two months as part of the project.

9. Assessment procedure

An application for an Industrial PhD can obtain either approval, conditional approval or a rejection. If a project is conditionally approved, the applicant must meet a number of conditions before the project can commence. DASTI will send the applying company a letter detailing these conditions after processing the application. When the conditions have been met, the project may commence.

Applications without named candidates can obtain either a conditional approval or a rejection. If conditionally approved, the company must subsequently find a qualified candidate for the project, for instance through job advertisements. When the candidate has been selected, the company must submit documentation of the candidate's qualifications to DASTI. If DASTI, possibly after consulting the Programme Committee, assesses that the candidate lives up to the Industrial PhD candidate requirements, the company can hire the candidate and the project may commence. A candidate must be found and approved no later than six months after the project has obtained a conditional approval.

If more qualified applications are received than there are means to subsidise, the Programme Committee will prioritise applications based on considerations of research, academic and industrial sector aspects. Here, the purposes of the Industrial PhD Programme and the Council's objectives will be taken into consideration.

If a project is rejected, the applying company will receive a letter stating the grounds for rejection. A rejected Industrial PhD project cannot be initiated, regardless of whether the project has the university's approval. However, it is possible to resubmit the application. When resubmitted, an application must detail how the grounds for the previous rejection have been addressed. All application material incl. new signatures must be resubmitted when reapplying.

The Danish Council for Technology and Innovation is the appeals body for all announced decisions, cf. the Act on Technology and Innovation (Act 419 of June 6, 2002). All rejections are elaborated and supplied with guidelines on how to appeal. Decisions on professional, academic and legal grounds may be appealed to the Council. The Council's decisions cannot be appealed to any other instance, as its decisions may not be brought before any other administrative authority, cf. § 4 (1-5).

10. Subsidy and financing

When the project has been finally approved by DASTI, it is initiated from the date of the Industrial PhD candidate's enrolment into the host university's PhD programme. This date must be on or after the date of DASTI's approval.

Subsidy is provided from this date on, but is not paid out before DASTI has received signed signature sheets from the letter of commitment sent to the company and university as well as documentation for enrolment. The subsidy is annulled if the Industrial PhD project has not commenced within six months of receipt of the letter of commitment.

Subsidy to the company:

The wage subsidy to a company is DKK 14,500 per month or DKK 522,000 for three years.

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In addition, subsidies are available for the following activities:

- Short stays in Denmark and abroad: Subsidy is provided to cover documented expenses for the Industrial PhD candidate's project-relevant stays at non-Danish universities or research institutions (but not at the company's non-Danish divisions), incl. lodging, and a single round trip to the destination per stay. The duration of the stay must be less than two months.

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Subsidy is also provided to cover documented expenses for the Industrial PhD candidate's participation in project-relevant conferences or courses in Denmark and abroad, incl. lodging and a single round trip to the destination per stay. The duration of the stay must be less than two months. The subsidy cannot be used for participation in courses that should have been held at the host university.

A total subsidy of up to DKK 75,000 is available for 'Short stays in Denmark and abroad' for the entire period.

- Longer stays abroad: Subsidy is provided to cover documented expenses for the Industrial PhD candidate's project-relevant stays at non-Danish universities or research institutions (but not at the company's non-Danish divisions). incl. lodging and a single round trip to the destination per stay. A total subsidy of up to DKK 62,000 is available for the entire period. The duration of the stay must be more than two months and must not exceed one year.
- Stays at non-Danish host universities: A subsidy of up to DKK 122,000 is granted for the entire period. The subsidy covers documented expenses for the Industrial PhD candidate's stays at his or her host university abroad. The host university is where the student is enrolled during the entire project period. DKK 32,000 is granted to cover travelling expenses for the entire period and DKK 90,000 for living expenses, incl. lodging.

In projects approved before 24 June 2011, the above subsidies may also be used for food expenses.

Private sector projects eligible for subsidy must not be co-financed by other public sources. The subsidy recipients must accordingly be able to document a financial and professional separation between the Industrial PhD project and any other projects in the company receiving subsidy from other public national or international sources, including the EU and Scandinavia. DASTI will not provide financial support for the Industrial PhD project if it is co-financed by other public sources. The project may be co-financed by other private sources.

Public sector projects which have obtained subsidy when available in certain application rounds may not be co-financed by private sources (incl. private non-profit foundations). However, unlike projects in the private sector, it is permitted to include co-financing from other public sources. The subsidy recipients must be able to document a financial and professional separation between the Industrial PhD project and any other projects in the public institution co-financed with private means. DASTI will not provide financial support for the Industrial PhD project if it is co-financed by private sources.

The company must pay all other expenses for the project.

As a point of departure, subsidy is paid out to the company once a year when the financial report is submitted. Alternatively, the company may choose to submit financial reports quarterly or semi-annually and subsequently receive the corresponding subsidy. The financial report must contain a statement of expenses eligible for subsidy in the period itemised by type and the amount of subsidy requested. An auditor's statement, verifying that the receipts declared in the financial report exist, must be submitted annually. Forms for financial reporting and auditor's statement are available at www.erhvervsphd.dk.

For projects approved after 17 January 2011, any third party eligible for subsidy will receive its subsidy of up to DKK 45,000 by invoice to the company. The company will subsequently be reimbursed by DASTI by including these expenses on the financial report.

Subsidy to the university:

The university receives a subsidy from DASTI covering:

- supervision of the Industrial PhD student
- the university's dialogue with the company
- the Industrial PhD candidate's work facilities at the host university
- the Industrial PhD candidate's participation in relevant PhD courses at the university
 - If the host university does not offer relevant courses in the discipline, the host university may use some of its subsidy to pay for the student's participation in PhD courses at other universities.
- assessment of the PhD thesis

Subsidy (incl. overhead) to Danish host universities for projects approved after 1 January 2009:

- DKK 360,000 for projects within the fields of natural, technical, agricultural, veterinary and health sciences

- DKK 252,000 for projects within the fields of social science and the humanities.

Subsidy (incl. overhead) to Danish host universities for projects approved before 1 January 2009:

- DKK 300,000 for projects within the fields of natural, technical, agricultural, veterinary and health sciences
- DKK 210,000 for projects within the fields of social science and the humanities.

Subsidy to host universities is paid out according to currently valid “Terms and Conditions for Grants” (“Vilkår for bevillinger”) for DASTI. 85 pct. of the university subsidy is paid out at the project’s commencement. The remaining 15 pct. is paid out upon the candidate’s obtainment of the PhD degree.

An annual subsidy of up to DKK 100,000 per year will be paid out for three years to a non-Danish host university for an Industrial PhD Education within a framework approved by DASTI.

Subsidy to third parties:

Danish or non-Danish universities and public research institutions may participate as third parties and receive up to a total of DKK 45,000 for all three years, corresponding to 80-100 hours of supervision. Applications for subsidy for a third party may be submitted while the education is ongoing. Applications must be approved by DASTI before subsidy can be paid out. DASTI can provide subsidy to only one third party.

For projects approved after 17 January 2011:

Subsidy for third parties is paid out by invoice to the company for expenses related to supervising the candidate, up to a total of DKK 45,000. The company can subsequently be reimbursed by DASTI by including these expenses in its financial reporting.

For projects approved before 17 January 2011:

DASTI pays out 85 pct. of the third party subsidy when the third party enters the project. If the third party is participating in the project from the outset, the third party subsidy is paid out at the project’s commencement. The remaining 15 pct. is paid out upon the candidate’s obtainment of the PhD degree.

Projects without subsidy

For projects without subsidy the company must cover all expenses, including expenses for the business course.

11. Employment, salary and leave

The company hires the Industrial PhD candidate for the three year duration of the project as a full-time employee on ordinary terms for salaried employees. A formal employment contract, freeing up the candidate from any work not part of the Industrial PhD education, must be drawn up and agreed to for the entire period of commitment. The candidate’s work tasks and time at the company must

be devoted exclusively to the Industrial PhD project and thus be part of the candidate's research education.

Industrial PhD candidates are subject to the provisions of the Danish act on employee inventions while supervisors at Danish universities and other Danish public research institutions are subject to the provisions of the Danish act on inventions at public research institutions. Any questions about intellectual property rights should be resolved before signing the employment contract.

Industrial PhD candidates receive a salary in accordance with an individual agreement with the company or any pre-existing collective agreements. However, the salary must as a minimum correspond to the current pay rate (incl. pension) of the collective agreement for PhD fellows employed in the Danish state. Excepted are Industrial PhD students employed in the Danish state as part of a project in the public sector. Here, salary is determined by the collective agreement for academics in the state and is not affected by the agreement's appendix 5 on regular PhD fellows.

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All questions regarding the pay rate level for PhD students in the Danish state must be directed to The Department of University Law (*Kontor for Universitetsjura*) in The Danish University and Property Agency (*Universitets- og Bygningsstyrelsen*).

As a starting point, the candidate's working hours must be divided equally between the university and company over the three year course of the project.

The company may be ordered to repay any subsidy received if it breaks off an Industrial PhD education or prevents the planned execution of an Industrial PhD project which the host university and the candidate are still interested in and capable of continuing. On the other hand, the candidate is obligated to fulfil the research and employment conditions agreed upon in the application.

The obligations of the company, university and any third party eligible for subsidy to DASTI are set out in the letter of commitment drawn up by DASTI.

Leave

The company may request a leave of absence for the Industrial PhD candidate from DASTI. DASTI must approve the request before the leave can commence.

The request must:

- state the project's reference number,
- state the period of the leave requested,
- state the reason for the request,
- state the new end date of the project – the end date is postponed by the period of leave,
- be signed by both the company and the candidate.

The request can be emailed as a PDF file to the Industrial PhD Secretariat.

DASTI does not pay out wage subsidy to the company during periods of leave. Pay during leave is determined by the company's existing rules and practice for its employees.

12. Other obligations

Business course

Industrial PhD candidates must complete DASTI's business course, which is approved as an integral part of the combined PhD programme. Business courses commenced after 10 April 2008 comprise 7.5 of the approx. 30 ECTS points required for a Danish PhD education. Candidates will be invited to take the course during the first or second year of their education. Further information on the business course is available at www.industrialphd.dk.

Duty to disclose all material facts

As recipients of subsidy, the company and university must keep their duty to disclose all material facts to DASTI. DASTI must be informed as soon as possible in case of changes in the basis for payment of subsidy. Among other things, this includes:

- supervisor changes,
- leave,
- major disruptions or delays, or
- significant project changes.

It is not possible to objectively define what significant project changes are. However, as a main rule these are changes so significant the project cannot be immediately recognised as the one originally approved.

The project can continue only if and when DASTI, possibly after consulting the Committee, approves the changes.

If the duty to disclose all material facts is not upheld, DASTI may decide to cancel its subsidy and demand repayment of any paid out subsidies.

Academic reporting

As of April 2011 academic reporting to DASTI is no longer required. The Industrial PhD candidate's achievement of the PhD degree will document that the project has fulfilled the academic requirements of a PhD education.

Knowledge dissemination requirement

All Danish PhD programmes require students to gain experience in disseminating knowledge which, to the extent possible, is directly related to their PhD project, cf. the Executive Order on PhD Programmes, Part 3, § 7.

The company, Industrial PhD candidate and university agree on the extent, type and period of knowledge dissemination. The company and university must ensure that the candidate's knowledge dissemination proceeds as outlined in the application. If dissemination activities are not carried out, DASTI may demand repayment of subsidies to the university.

13. Granting of PhD degree and Industrial PhD certificate

The university appoints the PhD Assessment Committee, which in Denmark must include at least one person with relevant corporate research experience within the field of research, cf. the Executive Order on PhD Programmes, Part 11, § 26.

At the outset, any questions about confidentiality must be agreed upon in advance between the parties to the education and should not cause any delays in the PhD thesis defense.

The host university approves the complete PhD education and confers the PhD degree once the PhD thesis has been accepted and defended at a public thesis defense. If the candidate is enrolled at a non-Danish university, this university must confer the PhD degree in accordance with the national provisions for the country in question.

When the PhD degree is obtained and the business course passed, the candidate will additionally receive an Industrial PhD certificate. The certificate can be issued as soon as the above is documented to DASTI. DASTI issues the Industrial PhD certificate on behalf of the Committee.

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If the Industrial PhD education is discontinued

If the Industrial PhD project does not conclude with a PhD degree and an Industrial PhD certificate, the company and university must jointly submit a short written account to DASTI within three months after the end of the project. The deadline for submission can be extended if special circumstances arise. The account must briefly and precisely outline why the Industrial PhD project did not result in a PhD degree and an Industrial PhD certificate.

14. Right to information and confidentiality

The provisions on administrative transparency also apply to the Industrial PhD programme. The provisions generally distinguish between the parties' right of access to documents in cases that concern themselves and the public's right of access to documents in every case.

The right of access to documents does not apply to information about individuals' private circumstances, technical devices etc., if it is financially imperative to the person or company concerned that the information is withheld. The right of access to documents may also be limited to the extent necessary to protect private and public interests, ie. when warranted by considerations of secrecy or other special circumstances.

Each case must consider specifically whether it is plausible that public access to information could be damaging to that party's interests, ie. the opportunity to exploit the results commercially in the short or long term.