EPFL rules and regulations concerning the extension of deadlines for applications for tenure and other measures concerning Tenure-Track Assistant Professors due to consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic
Of 22nd September 2020, status as at 1st March 2023

The Direction of the Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne, based on Articles 7, 9 and 10 of the Ordonnance sur le corps professoral des EPF of 18th September 2003 (RS 172.220.113.40), based on Art. 3 para. 1 letter a of the Ordonnance sur l’EPFL et l’EPFZ of 13th November 2003 (RS 414.110.37), based on the Rules and Regulations Concerning EPFL Tenure-Track Assistant Professors of 4th May 2004, status as at 13th April 2018, hereby adopts the following:

Article 1 Objective – temporal scope of application

1 Due to the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, the present rules and regulations aim to implement an exceptional extension to the deadlines regarding mid-term reviews and the submission of applications as provided for in the Rules and Regulations Concerning EPFL Tenure-Track Assistant Professors of 4th May 2004 (hereinafter: LEX 4.2.1), as well as other suitable arrangements relating to Tenure-Track Assistant Professors (hereinafter: PATT).

2 The present rules and regulations apply only to professors whose contract of employment as a PATT at EPFL commenced before 1st March 2023.

Article 2 Deadline for the completion of the mid-term review

1 The mid-term review provided for in Article 4, paragraphs 4 and 8 of LEX 4.2.1 shall be completed before the end of the first semester of the fifth year from the beginning of the PATT contract.

2 Paragraph 1 above is not applicable to any PATT for whom the mid-term review is already underway prior to the entry into force of the present rules and regulations.

Article 3 Extension of the deadline for the submission of applications

1 PATTs shall submit their application for possible appointment as associate or full professor at the latest seven years from the beginning of their PATT contract.

2 Paragraph 1 above is not applicable to any PATT having already submitted their application of for whom the submission deadline has been reached prior to the entry into force of the present regulations.

Article 4 Reduction of evaluation deadlines

1 The School shall inform Faculty Affairs (APR) upon reception of an application and shall transmit the result of its evaluation to the EPFL CEA, via the APR, within a deadline of three months from the date on which the Dean received the application. Any exceedance of this deadline shall be subject to authorisation from the Vice President for Academic Affairs on the basis of a justified request from the Dean.

2 The EPFL CEA shall present duly motivated notification of acceptance or rejection of the application for “tenure” to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, in writing, within three months of receiving the application file.
Any exceedance of this deadline shall be subject to authorisation from the Vice President for Academic Affairs on the basis of a justified request from the EPFL CEA.

3 After consultation with the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the EPFL President shall decide whether or not to propose an appointment to the ETH Board within a deadline of two months from the date on which he/she has received the notification from the EPFL CEA.

4 The total duration of the EPFL evaluation process should not exceed eight months.

Article 5 Transition period in case of negative result

If a PATT does not obtain tenure and the related decision has been taken less that twelve months before the end of his/her PATT contract, EPFL shall guarantee his/her position as Head of Laboratory beyond the term of his/her contract as an assistant professor at EPFL, for a maximum duration of twelve months from the date of the decision.

Article 6 Entry into force

The present rules and regulations, which entered into force on 22th September 2020, were amended on 15th March 2021 (version 1.1) and on 1st March 2023 (version 1.2).

On behalf of the EPFL Direction:

President: Martin Vetterli
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