

DECISION

November 4, 2025

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Faculty of Law Board
Stockholm University

Guidelines: Admission as Non-Salaried Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law

Adopted by the Faculty of Law Board on November 4, 2025.

Replaces previously adopted guidelines of January 16, 2025, March 8, 2022, and March 1, 2004.

In General

Pursuant to the decision of the Office of the Vice Chancellor dated 15 March 1993, a faculty board may admit a researcher as associate professor in accordance with the main principles adopted by the Vice Chancellor.

A faculty board may admit a researcher as associate professor if it is deemed to benefit research and education within the faculty. The purpose is to satisfy the faculty's need for high competence. This entails that an applicant does not have any unconditional right to be admitted as an associate professor even if he/she happens to possess the required competence. The concept associate professor [Swedish: docent] is a title signifying a particular competence and admission as an associate professor does not entail any form of employment at Stockholm University.

An associate professor can regularly be admitted within these specific subject areas:

- Jurisprudence
- Private law
- European Integration law
- Tax law
- Public International law
- Private International law
- Environmental law
- Public law
- Procedural law
- History of law
- Law and Information Technology
- Criminal law

An applicant who is already a professor is not entitled to a salary increase upon admission as associate professor.

Eligible to be admitted as associate professor are persons who have earned a doctoral degree and who fulfil the requirements set by the faculty board regarding scientific and pedagogic ability for an associate professorship.

Admission as an associate professor is primarily intended for applicants who conduct research, teaching activities or who are in some other manner involved in the activities of the Stockholm University Faculty of Law, if such is deemed to be of benefit within the Faculty. Other applicants can be admitted if they have defended their doctoral thesis at the Faculty of Law notwithstanding that they were not at the time of application directly involved in the Faculty's research or teaching, if such is deemed to be of benefit within the Faculty.

Scientific and pedagogic grounds for assessment

As specific criteria in the assessment of scientific and pedagogic ability, respectively, the following is to be considered:

Scientific qualifications

The applicant shall have demonstrated skilfulness in scientific method within his/her research subject, solid analytical ability as well as independence and creativity. The requirement of scientific qualifications entails that the applicant shall have broadened and expanded his/her experience as a researcher as well as his/her subject competence above and beyond the requirements for a doctoral degree.

The scientific publications shall demonstrate significantly higher research qualifications as compared with the doctoral dissertation. The requirements of such additional qualifications may vary depending on the quality of the applicant's doctoral dissertation. A small selection of publications (1-2) produced prior to the doctoral degree may be taken into consideration. As to the quantity, the scientific works should correspond to two doctoral dissertations of high scientific quality. Works cited in the application for consideration shall have been published or accepted for publication. For co-authored works, a co-author certificate stating the efforts of the respective authors must be attached. Deviations from these requirements may be permitted in special cases.

Also to be considered as scientific qualifications, to the extent it can be expected in relation to the nature and potentialities of the subject area, is that the applicant has participated in national and international scientific discourse. The applicant is in such cases expected to have contributed to the scientific debate as a speaker or author of papers submitted at conferences and seminars, research administration as well as through publications and appointments as reviewer of articles for established law journals.

In making the assessment, consideration shall be given to the research subject's level of difficulty as well as the significance the research findings can be expected to have within the scientific sphere and in society at large. Furthermore, it is also of significance that the applicant can present his/her future plans as well as his/her advancement within research.

Pedagogic qualifications

The applicant shall have solid experience of teaching at the first- or second-cycle levels within his/her subject area. Experience in educational development and leadership, the production of teaching materials as well as popular science activities also count as pedagogic qualifications. The applicant ought also demonstrate a solid and well-documented ability to communicate knowledge within his/her subject.

Consideration is also to be given to the scale of the applicant's popular scientific activities such as participation in further education efforts, publication of popular scientific publications and participation in public debate on educational and research issues.

In assessment of an associate professor, the scientific qualifications must be given greater importance than the pedagogic qualifications.

Application Procedure

The application shall be addressed to the Faculty of Law Board. Processing of applications takes place via SU's recruitment system. For access to the recruitment system before applying for admission as a non-salaried associate professor via the system, applicants must contact the Office of the Faculty of Law and state that they wish to submit an application.

The applicant shall append to the application his/her curriculum vitae, and the scientific works and other documents through which he/she wishes to document scientific ability. In addition to the doctoral dissertation, a maximum of nine scientific publications may be cited. A letter of acceptance from an editor or equivalent must be attached to work that has not yet been published but has been accepted for publication. Pedagogic qualifications shall be documented through particulars concerning pedagogic education as well as the extent of teaching and, if possible, its level of quality, as well as other documentation with which the applicant wishes to prove his/her pedagogic qualifications. Cited merits cannot be modified after the date of the submission of the application.

The Faculty Board shall initially consider whether the applicant's possible admission as associate professor would be of benefit for research and education within the Faculty.

If the Faculty Board finds that the requirement of benefit is fulfilled, the Board shall, based on the proposal of the head of the subject in question [Swedish: ämnesföreståndare], appoint two specialist assessors. The specialist assessors ought to be professors of another faculty. Only in the event that there are special reasons, such as that the relevant expertise is lacking in other faculties, may specialist assessors be appointed from the Stockholm Law Faculty. Once the specialist assessors' assessments of the applicant's scientific and pedagogic qualifications have been received, the Faculty Board shall decide on the matter of admission. It shall be decided at that juncture whether the applicant can be deemed to have fulfilled the requirement of pedagogic qualifications through his/her teaching activities and thereby be exempted from a teacher's test. In the event that no exemption from the teacher's test is granted, the Faculty of Law shall arrange such a test.

