

Guidelines: Award of Dissertations D-USYS with the ETH-Medal

Only the top 8% of Ph.D. dissertations qualify for this award within the period of one year. The outstanding of the thesis must already be mentioned in the reviews of the supervisor and the co-examiners. To guarantee a high professional evaluation of the dissertations, only outstanding dissertations should be proposed, on average not more than **one per professorship within a two-year period**.

Application for the award

The supervisor (with the agreement of the doctoral committee) must hand in the application for the award within 1 month after the doctoral exam, to the attn. of the head of department.

The application must contain:

- Application letter of the supervisor
- 5 proposals for external independent reviewers (incl. address and e-mail)

Evaluation and decision of the department

The doctoral committee rank the proposed external reviewers and can - if required - name further ones.

In order to qualify for the award a dissertation should have a very high ranking in several of the following categories:

- scholarship and scientific excellence
- scientific innovation
- interdisciplinary approach and practical relevance
- language, style and presentation of the dissertation
- publication record, and
- duration of the dissertation, by considering the length of ETH employment

The criteria for the evaluation is based upon the reviews from the examination as well as the additional external reviews. The external reviews must have a very positive overall rating and the dissertation must be strongly recommended for the award.

Based on the reviews the doctoral committee makes a request to the departmental conference and the decision is taken at the first conference of the autumn term.

Application to the rector

The head of department must send the proposal of the conference to the rector by October 31 at the latest.

The decision of the rector, decree, ceremony

After the approval of the proposal, the rector will inform the Ph.D. student and the handing over of the award takes place at the awards ceremony in January.