

Second Ph.D.s, Graduate Council Policy on applications for admission to a second Ph.D. degree program

The UC Davis Graduate Council finds that there is no compelling *a priori* barrier to an individual having multiple Ph.D.s. It is Graduate Council's view that each Ph.D. degree-granting program should make its own decision on whether or not the circumstances warrant admission of an applicant who already has a Ph.D. This policy supports the concept of "local control" of decision making in these situations. The Graduate Council feels that those in the discipline are the best persons to judge whether or not the proposed program represents an area of investigation that is distinct from that of the initial Ph.D. degree.

In making admission decisions in these situations, programs must respect two policies.

1. Students may not be admitted for a graduate degree that duplicates a degree already held (p. 18, Graduate Studies Handbook).
2. Evaluation of all applicants' qualifications for admission should be based on the same academic criteria. That is, applicants who already have a Ph.D. are not to be evaluated differently than other applicants.