

6.2 Supervisors

Procedures in place for the appointment/establishment of supervisors:

- recognise that being a supervisor is a professional role that requires both being an active researcher in the relevant area, as well as particular skills and capacities regarding supervision
- include clearly defined formal responsibilities, criteria on the eligibility of persons having specific roles in a supervisory team, and mechanisms to ensure supervisors are making themselves aware of these

Qualified research-active staff are provided with supports and structured training as research degree supervisors and, in the case of inexperienced supervisors, obliged to avail of these at the early stages of supervising. Supports and training include provider regulations governing the normal contact with students and the operation of research programmes, assessment, examinations and expectations regarding quality assurance.

Procedures allow for continuity of adequate supervision in cases such as those related to supervisors being removed from the role, being absent for significant periods or leaving the provider's employment.

Supervisors that are external to the provider have access to information and training relating to their role, responsibilities and the institutional requirements for the research degree programme.

Procedures are in place to record all ongoing staff roles as supervisors, or as members of a supervisory team.

Procedures in place recognise research supervision and membership of supervisory teams as contributions to staff workloads and have in place agreed, context- and discipline-appropriate, flexible standards and criteria as to the relative weights of the various roles.