

### **Instruction on how to check the eligibility of your institution and your degree via anabin**

Admission to a doctorate study programme at Ruhr-University Bochum, TU Dortmund University or University Duisburg-Essen requires a Master or a Diploma degree with a typical duration of studies of at least 4 years. In case of the fast-track PhD option a very good Bachelor degree with a standard period of studies of 3 years is needed. Candidates who want to make use of the fast-track PhD option have to pass a one-year preparation period of studies prior to their start of the doctorates research programme at the host university in addition. The above mentioned Degrees must have been obtained from a recognized higher education institution and must be equivalent to the ones that were attained in Germany.

You can check the recognition of your institution and your academic qualification by using the databases of [anabin](#). The databases are in German, but by following the steps below, you will still be able to gain the necessary information:

- You can search for your institution in the [Central Office for Foreign Education's institutions database](#)
  - Switch to 'Suchen' to access the search function
  - By filtering the results by country ('Land'), city ('Ort') and type ('Typ'), you can see how your institution is classed:
    - 'H+': your institution is recognized in Germany
    - 'H+/-': your specific degree programme will have to be evaluated individually
    - 'H-': your institution is not recognized in Germany and neither are any of the degrees offered by it
  
- To confirm the recognition of your degree, you have to switch to the [database of foreign higher education qualifications](#)
  - Go to 'Suchen nach Abschlüssen'
  - Select the country ('Alle Länder'), in which you attained your previous degree, from the dropdown list in the first text box
  - Choose the degree type ('Alle Abschlusstypen') and your area of study ('Alle Studienrichtungen') from the lists in the text boxes below
  - When you have found your degree, click on the plus sign on the left. The pop-up window that opens up will show you, how your degree is classed:
    - A2: Degree with a typical duration of studies of **less than three years**
    - A3: Degree with a typical duration of studies of **less than four years**
    - A4: Degree with a typical duration of studies of **four years**
    - A5: Degree with a typical duration of studies of more than **four years**
  - If your Master degree at least equals a 4 year duration of studies (A4/A5) or your Bachelor degree equals at least a 3 year duration of studies (A3-A5), you fulfill the basic requirements to apply for the GSSP scholarship at our Graduate School.