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CZECHOSLOVAK REGULATIONS FOR
EDUCATION OF SCIENTIFIC ASPIRANTS

[Comment: The following is the full text of a joint announcement by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Education, the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, the Central Council of Trade Unions, and the State Social Security Office pertaining to the organization and conduct of scientific aspirant study. The announcement was dated 15 February 1955; to become effective 1 January 1956; and was published in a special supplement to *Vysoka Skola*, No 2, January 1956, official organ of the Ministry of Education, published in Prague.]

The announcement was signed by Mucha, First Deputy Minister of Education; Sorm, chief secretary of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences; Tesar, deputy chairman of the State Social Security Office; and Zupka, chairman of the Central Council of Trade Unions.]

In cooperation with other participating members of the government, chairmen of the participating academies of sciences, and the chairman of the State Committee for Physical Education and Sports, the following decree is issued by the Minister of Education, the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, the Central Council of Trade Unions, and the State Social Security Office. The decree is based on Section 22, Paragraph 1, Law No 58/1950 Sb. [Sbirka zakonu, Collection of Laws] on advanced schools, and Section 3, Paragraph 5, Law No 99/1948 Sb. on national insurance, as interpreted in Law No 269/1949 Sb.; and is in compliance with Section 5, Paragraph 2, Law No 52/1952 Sb. on the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, and Section 6, Paragraph 2, Law No 90/1952 Sb. on the Czechoslovak Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

Section 1 -- Scientific "Aspirantura"

1. The purpose of the scientific "aspirantura" is to allow talented graduates of advanced schools who are devoted to the people's democratic republic and other exceptional workers who have shown an ability to perform creative scientific work the opportunity for further technical and political growth based on continuous study in a selected scientific field, in Marxist philosophy, and in language study, and to prepare them for the defense of their candidate's dissertation.

2. A scientific "aspirantura" (hereinafter referred to only as "aspirantura") can be either full-time or one which does not interrupt the employment of the aspirant, i.e., a part-time or external "aspirantura" (external aspirantura).

CHAPTER I. "ASPIRANTURA"

Part 1. General Regulations

Section 2 -- Basic Regulations

1. Scientific aspirants may be trained at faculties of advanced schools or at institutes and centers of scientific research, where the qualifications of the teachers and the equipment guarantee high scholastic standards.

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2. On consultation with the Minister of Education and other participating members of the government, the government will determine the faculties of advanced schools and the institutes and centers at which aspirants can study. Institutes and scientific centers of the academies of sciences at which aspirants can study will be determined by the government on consultation with the President of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and the chairmen of the other academies of sciences.

3. The total plan for the requirement of aspirants is a part of the state plan for development of the national economy.

4. Specializations in individual scientific fields are determined for the aspirants by the central offices and organs under whose jurisdictions the appropriate advanced schools, institutes, and centers operate according to a list of specializations approved by the government. In the case of institutes of academies of sciences, the presidium of the academy determines the specialties according to the same list. The appropriate central offices and chairmen shall assure proper distribution of "aspirantura" expenditures within the national budget according to special conditions prevailing in each field of specialization.

5. The general direction of the "aspirantura" program and control of the level of instruction from the teaching and scientific-methodological viewpoint shall be carried out by the Minister of Education for institutes and centers under the jurisdiction of appropriate central offices, and by the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences for institutes under the academies.

Section 3 -- Duration of "Aspiranturas"

1. The "aspirantura" lasts a maximum of 3 years.

2. In exceptional cases, the appropriate central office may, with the approval of the Minister of Education, or in case of the academies with the approval of the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, extend the period of the "aspirantura."

Section 4 -- Social Security Provision

1. For the duration of the "aspirantura," an aspirant is not considered to be employed; the appropriate central office or the presidium of the academy pays him a scholarship of 1,100 crowns monthly, gross; an aspirant with one dependent child receives 1,200 crowns monthly, gross. (To figure income tax, a law based on Ministry of Finance Decree No 369/1952 Uredni list states that tax will be paid on an amount exceeding 500 crowns monthly.)

To qualify for the scholarship, an aspirant must agree that after completion of the "aspirantura" he will work for 3 years at an advanced school, institute, or center, to be determined by the appropriate central office or presidium of the academy, in cooperation with the State Planning Office.

2. An aspirant who works in a location which endangers his health receives a bonus (hazard money), equivalent to the hazard pay paid to regular employees under same conditions in the same location. This bonus is paid for the duration of the aspirant's work under such conditions.

3. If an aspirant becomes sick or has an accident and is incapacitated, he receives his regular scholarship for a period of 6 weeks after the onset of the illness or accident. This is also paid to a pregnant woman aspirant or to one who is on maternity leave.

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4. An aspirant who is called to active duty for a limited time receives the stipend for the duration of his army duty, and his stipend is considered as regular wages in regard to social security provisions allotted to persons called on active duty and their dependents.

5. An aspirant who, with the approval of the educator (skolitel), engages in solving a research problem at the place where he is studying can receive part of the bonus, if such is paid, for successful completion of a research project, provided the reward was awarded to a collective. However the aspirant must also fulfill all his study assignments. He shall receive half the sum awarded him as a member of the collective. In exceptional cases, on the suggestion of the research institute, he may receive the full amount.

6. An aspirant who during his "aspirantura" teaches at an advanced school as an instructor may be paid for such activity, provided he has fulfilled all other study assignments. He can conduct this activity only in the second and third year of his "aspirantura" and then only for a maximum of 4 hours per week. The pay is equal to half that which would be received by a regular instructor for the same activity.

7. When in accordance with his study plan an aspirant is sent to a center not in the same location as the site of his regular training, the advanced school, institute, or center where he is undergoing his "aspirantura" shall pay him a travel allowance; in exceptional cases, where the aspirant incurs other necessary expenses, such as housing and meals, he may receive per-diem pay in accordance with regulations covering state employees (Ministry of Finance Directive No 480/1950 Uredni list).

8. An aspirant is entitled, in addition to the regular days of rest, to 6 weeks vacation per year, to be taken during the summer; during the vacation period the scholarship continues.

Section 5 -- Interruption of "Aspirantura"

1. Except for cases listed in Paragraph 2 below, an "aspirantura" may not be interrupted.

2. In exceptional cases and for grave reasons, an "aspirantura" may be interrupted with the permission of the appropriate central office and approval of the Ministry of Education, or by permission of the chairman of an academy, if the aspirant is under its jurisdiction, with the approval of the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The request for permission to interrupt, accompanied by a statement from the educator, is submitted with appropriate comment by the dean of a faculty through the rector of the aspirant's advanced school. In institutes and centers under central offices and academies of sciences, the request is forwarded through the director of the institute or center, or, in the case of an academy, through the section or department in question.

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Section 6 -- Termination of "Aspirantura"

1. If an aspirant twice fails the examination for minimum "aspirantura" requirements (Section 39, Paragraphs 1 and 2), the appropriate central office (chairman of an academy) shall terminate the "aspirantura" on the basis of a notification by the dean of the faculty or director of the institute or center in question (as stated in Section 39, Paragraph 3) and shall inform the Ministry of Education or the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences of the termination.

2. If, despite a reprimand (Section 41, Paragraph 2), an aspirant is not fulfilling his study plan without a serious reason (Section 21), or if he proves unable to follow assignments (Section 17, Paragraph 3), or in the case information which conflicts with "aspirantura" acceptance conditions (Section 10) comes to light, the "aspirantura" may be terminated officially, or on suggestion, by the appropriate central office with the approval of the Ministry of Education, or by the chairman of an academy with the approval of the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The suggestion to terminate is made by the dean of the faculty or the director of the institute or center in question, after consultation with the head of the appropriate department, the faculty council, the scientific council of an institute or center, or the collective of scientific workers of a center, through the rector (head of a section or departments in case of an academy), who also comments on the suggestion.

Section 7 -- Successful Completion of "Aspirantura"

1. The "aspirantura" is considered successfully completed where the aspirant has fulfilled his study plan (Section 21) and if he has prepared a scientific dissertation (Section 25) which can be defended in accordance with Government Decree No 60/1953 Sb., on scientific titles and titles accorded to graduates of advanced schools.

2. A certificate of successful completion of the "aspirantura" is issued by the rector of the advanced school, or director of the institute or center in question, on the suggestion of a dean or chief of department and on consultation with the faculty council, the scientific council of an institute, or the collective of scientific workers. In academies, the certificate is issued by the office of the chairman of the appropriate section or department.

Section 8 -- Placement of Aspirants

The placing of aspirants shall be carried out by the appropriate central office (office of chairman of an academy), in cooperation with the State Planning Office, immediately following the completion of the "aspirantura" period, even where the aspirant has not yet completed his scientific dissertation (Section 25), which he would then complete during subsequent employment.

Part 2. Admission RegulationsSection 9 -- Competitions for Filling of "Aspirantura" Positions

To fill the planned need for aspirants as approved by the government, the appropriate central offices or the chairman of an academy announce competitive examinations for "aspirantura" positions once a year, at which time the specializations of individual faculties and departments or institutes and centers are also announced.

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Section 10 -- Admission Requirements

1. Any Czechoslovak citizen of good character who is devoted to the people's democratic regime may be accepted for an "aspirantura" position, provided he is less than 40 years of age and has successfully completed study at an advanced school in the same or related scientific field in which he is applying for an "aspirantura." He must also have had 2 years of experience in his field, unless it is technical or medical, in which case he requires 3 years of practical experience plus a certificate of specialization in the medical field. The applicant must also show an ability to do scientific research and must pass the entrance examinations (Section 13). Exceptions to the minimum length of practical experience must be approved by the appropriate central office or office of chairman of an academy. However, no exceptions are made in the case of medical subjects.

2. An applicant who has completed his advanced school study with outstanding results and who has shown unusual ability to perform scientific work during the course of his study can be exempted from the practical experience requirement by the appropriate central officer (presidium of the academy), provided he has submitted a recommendation of the faculty board to that effect. No exemption may, however, be granted in the case of medical subjects.

3. Where an applicant for an "aspirantura" position has had 5 years of experience in a chosen field and has done scientific research work, he may in exceptional cases be exempted from the requirement of having an advanced school education. This can be done only with approval of the appropriate central office and the Ministry of Education, or in the case of an academy, by the chairman, with the approval of the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

4. Foreign nationals who fulfill the requirements listed in Paragraphs 1 and 2, above, with the exception of the Czechoslovak citizenship requirement, may be accepted as aspirants, with the approval of the Ministry of the Interior.

Section 11 -- Application for Admission

Applications for admission as an aspirant are to be submitted within the specified time limit set by the dean of the appropriate faculty of an advanced school or director of an institute or center. If an applicant submits more than one application he must so state in his application and list the other locations. The following documents must be submitted with the application form:

- a. A certificate of Czechoslovak citizenship (or foreign citizenship).
- b. A degree from an advanced school.
- c. A certificate of practical work completed. Applicants in medical subjects must also submit a certificate of first-degree specialization.
- d. An evaluation of the applicant's work by the chief of the workshop and plant committee of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement, where such a committee is established.

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e. A recommendation from the faculty council or council of the advanced school (for applicants without practical experience).

f. A list of published works and two copies of a completed [personal history] questionnaire.

g. A medical certificate and a certificate issued by the applicant's okres institute of national health stating that the applicant is physically able to follow the scientific work in his chosen field.

h. A statement on the applicant's honor to the effect that he completed his military service or was rejected.

Section 12 -- Admissions Commission

1. The admission examination for the "aspirantura" is held before an admissions commission.
2. The admissions commission consists of a chairman and a maximum of five other members. The chairman shall be the dean or vice-dean of the faculty or the director of an institute or center or their deputies assigned the task of caring for the aspirants.
3. Members of the admissions commission are appointed as follows: at advanced schools, by the rector, on the recommendation of the faculty council; at institutes or sections of the academy, by the appropriate section of the academy on the recommendation of the director of the institute or center in question; and at other institutes or centers, by the appropriate central office, on recommendation of the director of the institute or center. The members are chosen from among members of the academies of sciences, professors and docents at advanced schools, and scientific workers of institutes and centers, as well as from exceptional workers in practical fields. One member of the board will be appointed the aspirant's educator (Section 16) and the other members should include a worker from the social-sciences department and one from the Russian-language department. One of the members should be a scientific worker from a center different from that at which the applicant will study.

Section 13 -- Entrance Examination

1. The entrance examination consists of test in:
 - a. The specialization in the chosen field of sciences.
 - b. The basic principles of Marxism and Leninism.
 - c. The Russian language.
2. In the examination in his specialty, the applicant should show a knowledge in his chosen field of science which is greater than that of a graduate of an advanced school. In medical subjects, this knowledge should be equal to that of a first-degree specialist. This examination is oral, lasts about one hour, and is the first of the three tests to be administered. If the admissions commission decides that the applicant has not passed this examination, examinations in the other subjects (Paragraph 1b and 1c above) are not given.

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3. In the examination on the principles of Marxism and Leninism, the applicant must show a knowledge of the principles, and also that he is interested in the domestic and foreign political situation, that he is interested in the building of socialism in Czechoslovakia, and that he has mastered the main points of the literature [on this topic] listed by the Ministry of Education, in cooperation with the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The examination is oral and lasts about 30 minutes. If the admissions commission decides that the applicant has failed, examination in the third subject (Paragraph 1c above) is not given.

4. In the examination in the Russian language, the applicant must show a basic knowledge of Russian. The examination is oral and, if necessary, also written.

Section 14 -- Evaluation of Entrance Examination

1. The admissions commission decides on the results of the entrance examination in a secret meeting and by majority vote, with the complete commission present. In case of a tie, the decision will be the one for which the chairman has voted.

2. A detailed report on the progress of the examination and the decision of the commission shall be made and will include the names of the members of the commission, the date, and data on the length of the examination, the questions asked, the results of individual parts of the entrance examination, the over-all evaluation of the examination accompanied by valid impressions obtained during the course of the examination, and the progress of voting by the commission.

3. The result of the examination is graded as "passed" or "failed." The chairman of the committee shall orally inform the applicant of the results in the presence of all members of the committee and then issue a written certificate. If the applicant has failed, the chairman appends a statement showing the reasons for the failure and returns all application documents to the applicant.

4. After completion of the entrance examinations the commission decides on the order of placement of those who have passed and publishes this list. In cases of equal examination results, the applicant who has had successful practical experience and has published some works is given preference in the listing.

5. An applicant who has failed his examination may not reapply to become an aspirant in the same field of endeavor until at least one year has elapsed. Regulations stated in Sections 11 through 14 remain in force for resubmission of applications and repeated admission examinations.

Section 15 -- Acceptance of Applicant and His Appointment as an Aspirant

1. The dean of a faculty, or the director of an institute or center, using the list prepared by the admissions commission, compiles a statement recommending the acceptance of the applicant and forwards it, with all other documents, including the report on the progress of the examination, through the rector of the advanced school or through a section of an academy to the appropriate central office or chairman of an academy, which will decide on the acceptance of the aspirant.

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2. If an applicant who has successfully passed an examination in a field of specialization cannot be accepted because of lack of space at the advanced school, institute, or center where he passed the examination, he may be accepted at another center in the same specialization where space is available. The appropriate central office or office of chairman of an academy then rules on this acceptance, after ensuring that the applicant and the advanced school or institute where the aspirant is to be trained are in agreement.

3. After the rulings on acceptance have been made, the appropriate central office or office of chairman of an academy notifies the rector of the advanced school, or the director of the institute or center, or presidium of a section of an academy in question, giving the results of the examination, the names and first names of applicants, and other data pertaining to accepted applicants, and listing the approved educators who have been selected (Section 16 Paragraph 3). The applicants are then appointed aspirants by the rector. A list of accepted applicants showing their field of specialization and the names of their educators are forwarded to the Ministry of Education by the appropriate central office. The office of the chairman of an academy of sciences forwards the same type of list to the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

4. After an applicant has been officially appointed as an aspirant (Paragraph 3 above), the dean's office or director of the institute in question starts a file on the study progress of the aspirant (personal file of the aspirant).

5. The places of learning of Marxist philosophy (Section 26) and language (Section 27) are determined for the new aspirants by the Ministry of Education, or by the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences for aspirants of academies of sciences.

6. The applicant whose acceptance as aspirant was not approved by the appropriate central office (or chairman of an academy) is so informed by the rector of the advanced school, or the director of the institute or center, and in academies by the chairman of the section or department, in a brief written note giving the reasons for the disapproval. Documents submitted at the time of application are returned to him.

Part 3. Technical Direction

Section 16 -- The Educator

1. Technical direction of an aspirant is conducted by the educator.

2. Educators at advanced schools must be only doctors of sciences, professors, or certified docents; at institutes and centers of the academies, they shall be members of the academies of sciences, doctors of sciences, first-degree scientific workers, candidates of sciences and, in exceptional cases second-degree scientific workers, and in some cases other scientific workers at an equal scientific level may instruct at institutes and centers. On approval by the Ministry of Education and the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, the function of educator is granted in agricultural fields on approval of the chairman of the Czechoslovak Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

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3. Educators for individual aspirants are appointed by the rector of the advanced school, or director of the institute or center in question in writing, on approval of the appropriate central office or chairman of an academy and on the suggestion of the dean of the faculty or the director of the institute or center. In cases where the educator is not directly under the jurisdiction of a central office or academy of sciences, but is a regular worker, the appropriate central office or chairman of the academy must still approve his selection.

4. The educator is responsible to the dean of the faculty for the education and training of the aspirant at an advanced school, or to the director of the institute or center in other cases.

5. One educator may have simultaneous charge of a maximum of five aspirants.

6. An educator who is employed at an advanced school carries out his functions as educator as part of his regular teaching duties. An educator who is employed at an institute or center carries out his functions as part of his regular employment duties.

Section 17 -- Basic Duties of the Educator

1. The educator shall train the aspirant assigned to him so that the aspirant reaches a high level of education and so that he will be capable of independent scientific activity. With this aim in mind, the educator prepares the aspirant's study plan (Section 21) and, in cooperation with the aspirant, chooses the subject of the aspirant's scientific dissertation (Section 25). At least once a week, in regular consultation, the educator checks the aspirant's progress in fulfilling the study plan, advises him, and supervises his scientific and pedagogical work [studies?].

2. According to need the educator suggests the nomination of a secondary educator (Section 18), arranges for the aspirant to be sent to other centers or on a study trip abroad, and ensures that all such suggestions are entered into the study plan. The educator is present at all examinations taken by the aspirant. He also makes sure that no work is assigned to the aspirant which is not listed in the study plan, and ensures that the study of the aspirant is facilitated, both materially and financially.

3. Toward the end of the sixth month of the "aspirantura," the educator submits a written report on the capabilities of the aspirant for conducting scientific work to the dean of the faculty, or the director of the institute or center in question, with a suggestion recommending the continuation of the "aspirantura" or its termination. The dean then discusses the report with the faculty council. In the jurisdiction of the academy of sciences, the director of an institute or center in question submits his report with his suggestion to the appropriate section or department for decision; in other institutes and centers the report is discussed by the director in the scientific council of the institute or in the collective of scientific workers of a center.

4. At the end of each year of the "aspirantura," the educator submits a written report on the work of the aspirant during the past year to the dean of the faculty or the director of the institute or center in question. The report must contain information on the individual

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characteristics of the aspirant, bringing out his capabilities and showing the results achieved in his scientific and teaching activity, as well as a detailed report on the fulfillment of the individual study plan, including an opinion as to whether the aspirant should continue his study. In a report submitted at the end of the second year of the "aspirantura," the educator shall append a report on the examination taken by the aspirant and their results, as well as a suggestion as to where the aspirant should be placed after the end of the "aspirantura."

Section 18 -- Secondary Educator

1. The dean of a faculty (director of an institute or center) may, in conjunction with the study plan and on the suggestion of the educator, appoint a secondary educator in order to widen the knowledge of the aspirant in a particular section of a given subject. The secondary educator shall be a scientific or technical worker employed at the advanced school or at the institute or center where the aspirant is trained or outside these installations.
2. The secondary educator is responsible for the preparation of the aspirant in one particular section of a subject. Regulations listed in Section 16, Paragraph 7, and Section 17, Paragraphs 1 and 2, above, pertain to the secondary educator inasmuch as this educator is preparing the aspirant in a particular part of a subject.
3. A secondary educator may be appointed only with the prior approval of his employer, and then only for a specified period of time.

Section 19 -- Duties of Other Officials Responsible for Training of Aspirant

The department head, the dean of the faculty, and the rector of the advanced school, the chief of the technical department or the director of the institute, and the chairman of the section or department of the academies in question are also responsible for the training of the aspirant. These officials shall create the best conditions for the aspirant and, above all, attend to the timely settlement of study plans and topics of scientific dissertations. The dean of the faculty or the director of the institute or center in question makes sure that the entire staff associated with the center, especially at the department level where the aspirant is being trained, take an interest in the education and training of an aspirant. He also checks the work of the educators and evaluates their progress in meetings of the faculty council (in the scientific council at an institute or in the collective of scientific workers) and facilitates the exchange of experiences by calling at least two meetings of all educators per year.

Part 4. Study

Section 20 -- Division and General Principles of Study

1. The study of an aspirant is divided into a technical part, the study of Marxist philosophy, and the study of languages.
2. The study period for the aspirant is divided into two periods. The first period lasts a maximum of 18 months, during which time the


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aspirant must pass examinations for minimum "aspirantura" (candidate) requirements (Section 30). The second period terminates with the submission of the scientific dissertation (Section 25).

3. The basic method applied in the education of an aspirant is his individual study, especially his independent study of scientific literature and the acquisition of the fundamentals of scientific research, and the preparation of a scientific dissertation as outlined in the study plan (Section 21) and of reports and lectures which the aspirant gives at a department of an advanced school, or in the scientific council of an institute or collective of scientific workers of a center, or at other scientific meetings.

Section 21 -- Study Plan

1. The study of an aspirant progresses according to an individually prepared study plan within the framework of the whole "aspirantura." It is always prepared in detail for one year. The study plan is to be prepared in such a way that the time required for its fulfillment will not exceed 48 hours per week.

2. The outline of a study plan is prepared by the educator, with the participation of the aspirant during the first month of the "aspirantura," and contains the last and first names of the aspirant and educator, the name and location of the faculty and department of an advanced school (institute or center and their technical department), the date of appointment as aspirant, the field of specialization and field of basic science, the requirements for the study of a specialization and its broad scientific base, the dates of examinations, assignments connected with preparation of the scientific dissertation, a timetable for preparation of the scientific dissertation, and material for study of Marxist philosophy and foreign languages and for teaching activity. The individual assignments in the study plan must be so arranged that they can be checked at predetermined intervals (partial control examinations etc.).

3. The outline of the study plan, signed by the educator and discussed in his presence at a meeting of the department (technical section of an institute) and by the faculty council (scientific council of an institute or center) shall be approved by the dean of the faculty (director of institute or center) within 2 months from the date of appointment of the aspirant. Up to the time of final approval of the study plan, the education of the aspirant follows the outlines of the study plan prepared by the educator.

4. The study plan is binding on all parties.

5. The study plan may be changed or amended only in exceptional cases. The regulations set forth in Paragraph 3, above, also govern changes and amendments to the study plan.

Section 22 -- Material Provisions for Safeguarding Study

1. The study plan of an aspirant should be so prepared that the equipment at the place where he is training is adequate for his use.

2. Central offices and organs under whose jurisdiction come the advanced schools and scientific research institutes will allow aspirants who are trained at other locations to become acquainted with equipment and instruments, as well as methods of work, used at the advanced schools and scientific research institutes.

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3. If in some cases it is not possible for the aspirant to carry out his study plan with available equipment, and if the aspirant is to conduct experiments and other tests on special equipment which is not even available at other locations, the educator, with the help of the aspirant, compiles a list of equipment needed and ensures that it is incorporated into the material and financial budget of the department or faculty (technical section of an institute or center) in question, within the framework of the over-all plan of the advanced school (institute or center) where the aspirant is in training.

4. The new equipment thus requested must be such that it can be used in the scientific activity of the advanced school (institute or center) which is ordering it.

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Section 23 -- Rights and Duties of Aspirant During His Study Tour

1. The aspirant is considered to be a member of the department of an advanced school (technical section of an institute or center) at which he is undergoing training. He regularly attends the meetings of the department (technical section or center) held to discuss scientific or pedagogical questions.
2. The aspirant must conscientiously fulfill his study plan, pass examinations within given time limits, and prepare and submit the scientific dissertation within the given time.
3. The aspirant is directly responsible to the educator for the fulfillment of his study plan. In the working area he has to abide by all standing regulations in regard to safety, work discipline, etc. He does not have to follow the regular working hours of regular employees, but his assignments should be so scheduled as to cover a 48-hour week.
4. The aspirant has the right to use all laboratory equipment, libraries, scientific publications, and other material at the advanced school (institute or center) to the same extent as they are used by teachers at the advanced school or by scientific workers at an institute or center.
5. No other assignments but those listed in the study plan are to be given to the aspirant. This also pertains to emergency assignments.

Section 24 -- Specialized Study

1. In the first period of his study, the aspirant shall direct his work toward a better understanding of the chosen specialty within a field of science. He therefore concentrates on the study of a wide scientific background, that is, subjects which form the theoretical basis for specialization.
2. Where the aspirant's study plan calls for him to take partial control examinations in basic sciences, he does so in the presence of his educator and is examined by the teacher who taught him in that particular field.
3. In the second period of his study, the aspirant concentrates on preparation of the scientific dissertation.
4. A list of subjects of wide scientific background for individual specialization is determined by the Ministry of Education, in cooperation with the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and in agreement with the appropriate central offices and chairmen of academies of sciences.

Section 25 -- Scientific Dissertation

1. The subject of the aspirant's scientific dissertation is chosen by the educator, in cooperation with the aspirant, in such a manner that it deals with a problem within the scope of work of the center where the aspirant is being trained. The subject is approved by the dean of the faculty (director of the institute or center) after discussion with the department concerned (technical section of an institute or center) and the faculty council (scientific council of the institute or collective of scientific workers of a center). Before discussing the subject, the faculty council (scientific council of an institute or collective of scientific workers of a center) may ask for suggestions and recommendation from other interested schools, institutes, or agencies. The dean of the faculty (director of institute or center) decides on the suggested subject not later than 6 months after the beginning of the "aspirantura."

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2. The aspirant, with the aid of his educator, prepares a plan of work on the given subject no later than by the end of the first year of the "aspirantura," according to which the individual sections of the scientific thesis are then to be worked out.

3. The finished sections of the scientific dissertation are evaluated as they are submitted in meetings of the department (technical section of the institute or center) where the aspirant is being trained, or are sometimes discussed at seminars in the same or in an allied field. Scientists from fields of endeavor may be invited to participate in the discussions on the submitted work.

4. The completed thesis, accompanied by a report from the educator, is evaluated by the appropriate department (technical section of an institute or center). If shortcomings are found, the appropriate department will suggest changes.

5. The scientific thesis is submitted to the dean of a faculty (director of an institute or center) by the aspirant at the latest by the end of the "aspirantura." The faculty council (scientific council of an institute or collective of scientific workers of a center) then determines whether the thesis is suitable for submission and defense. In an affirmative decision, the suggestion is made to the rector of the advanced school (director of an institute or center; in academies to the chairman of the section or department) that the aspirant be given a certificate of satisfactory completion of the "aspirantura" (Section 7). If the aspirant does not submit his thesis by the time he finishes his "aspirantura," he can finish it at the place of his regular employment but cannot receive a certificate of completion until he does so.

Section 26 -- Study of Marxist Philosophy

1. The following are the aims of the study of Marxist philosophy:
 - a. To educate aspirants to become responsible scientific workers of the people's democratic republic with an understanding of the historical role of its working class and its revolutionary Marxist party and an understanding of the legality of the development of society, and to acquire the Marxist method of understanding and changing the world.
 - b. To educate aspirants in the spirit of socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism to become active builders of socialism, who know how to combine practice and theory in their work.
 - c. To cause the aspirants constantly to acquire methods and understanding of the most progressive sciences, especially Soviet science, and to continue the most progressive traditions of Czechoslovak science.
2. The main method of studying Marxist philosophy is through individual study, directed by the Department of Dialectical and Historical Materialism or by department of basic Marxism-Leninism at advanced schools which have no Department of Dialectical and Historical Materialism.
3. Education in Marxist philosophy is mandatory until the minimum requirement examination is passed, and is arranged for by the Ministry of Education or, for students of the academies, by the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. After completion of admission procedures the assignment of individual aspirants to departments responsible for teaching Marxist philosophy is carried out by the Ministry of Education or by the presidium of the academy which submits a complete list of aspirants to the department in question. This procedure is not applicable for aspirants specializing in philosophy, history of the CPSU (Communist Party of the Soviet Union), or history of the KSC (Communist Party of Czechoslovakia).

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4. The departments which are responsible for teaching the aspirants Marxist philosophy also arrange lectures, consultations, and seminars for groups of aspirants in individual fields. A minimum of 6 hours monthly is to be devoted to this subject. Groups of aspirants, as a rule, consist of 5-10 members. The lectures and seminars must be taken in the first year of the "aspirantura." In cooperation with departments which teach Marxist philosophy, individual departments of institutes or centers where the aspirant is studying may arrange lectures on methodology and ideology.

5. Each aspirant is assigned to a teacher of Marxist philosophy who will be his consultant. Departments will choose the best teachers of Marxist philosophy as consultants. During the entire period of study the consultant maintains a record of each aspirant, in which he lists the progress, the level and results of teaching, the subjects of written papers and reports, and data on length and content of consultations.

6. After passing the minimum requirement examination in Marxist philosophy, the aspirant then independently studies Marxist literature dealing directly with scientific problems. He may ask for help and advice from the department which formerly trained him.

7. The basic list of literature, with suggested subjects for seminars and lectures for the study of Marxist philosophy, is published by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. Departments which instruct aspirants in Marxist philosophy will make sure that this instruction be as close as possible to the technical specialization and problems of the aspirant's given field.

8. If the center where the aspirant is in training is not in the same location as the department charged with teaching Marxist philosophy, special permission may be granted by the Ministry of Education, on the recommendation of the appropriate central office (or the presidium of the academy, on the recommendation of the chairman of the appropriate academy), to permit the aspirant to study Marxist philosophy under different conditions than stated in Paragraphs 3 and 6, above. This permission is granted by the ministry or presidium of the academy only if proper education in Marxist philosophy is assured. In this case, the expenses are to be covered by the appropriate central office or academy.

Section 27 -- Language Study

1. Language study of an aspirant consists of the study of Russian, as the main language, and the study of another foreign language, usually German, English, or French.

2. The Russian language and the other foreign language are studied by the aspirant at departments of an advanced school. Assignment of aspirants to individual departments is made by the Ministry of Education (Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences) immediately after completion of acceptance procedures, as outlined in Section 26, Paragraph 3, above. If the center where the aspirant is being trained is not in the same location as an advanced school, or where there is an advanced school but no language department, the Ministry of Education (Presidium of the Academy of Sciences) can proceed as outlined in Section 26, Paragraph 8, above.

3. The chairman of the [language] department shall select the best teachers to teach the two languages and shall pay special attention to the method of language instruction.

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4. Increased care shall be given those aspirants who, through no fault of their own, were not able to obtain the necessary preliminary language knowledge.

Section 28 -- Study of the Russian Language

1. The aim of studying the Russian language is to give the aspirant such a knowledge of the language that he will be able to use specialized Soviet literature in his specialized work, read technical periodicals, listen to technical lectures, and in case of need discuss questions dealing with his field with an adequate knowledge of terminology. The aspirant must also be able to master the fundamental skills of writing, sufficient to write short reports, resumes, etc.
2. Before taking the minimum requirement examinations in Russian, the aspirant studies at least 2 hours per week under the direction of a Russian-language teacher, in groups of from two to five participants. The method of progress and teaching is determined by the head of the appropriate department, in consultation with the faculty council.
3. After passing the minimum requirement examination in the Russian language, the aspirant may ask the department where he learned Russian for help, advice, and consultation, especially in regard to technical terminology and phrassology in the field studied. The method of consultation is determined by the department head, in agreement with the aspirant and his educator.

Section 29 -- Study of a Second Foreign Language

1. Besides Russian, the aspirant shall study another foreign language listed in Section 27, Paragraph 1, above, in which important world literature dealing with the aspirant's field is written. The choice of the language is made by the admissions commission during the aspirant's entrance examination.
2. The aim of studying the language selected in Paragraph 1 above is to enable the aspirant to gain sufficient knowledge to use foreign literature and listen to lectures. The study is directed especially toward obtaining knowledge of terminology in the field which the aspirant is studying.
3. Regulations set forth in Section 28, Paragraphs 2 and 3, are also applicable in the study of a second foreign language.

Part 5. Control of Study

Section 30 -- Minimum Requirement Examinations

1. During the first part of his "aspirantura," the aspirant shall take minimum "aspirantura" requirement examinations in the following subjects:
 - a. Technical subject.
 - b. Marxist philosophy.
 - c. Russian language.
 - d. Second foreign language.

The aspirant who is specializing in the field of philosophical sciences, history of the CPSU, or history of the KSC does not take the examination listed under b. The aspirant who is specializing in the field of Russian language or Russian literature does not take the examination listed under c.

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2. Minimum requirement examinations are taken before examination commissions of the advanced schools (institutes or centers) where the aspirants are studying.

3. Examinations listed in Paragraph 16, c, and d, above, are always taken at departments of an advanced school (academies of sciences), even if the aspirant is studying elsewhere.

4. The aspirant must report within a given period to the chairman of the examination commission to take the examination on the recommendation of the educator, or consultant in the case of Marxist philosophy or languages; the aspirant may request the chairman of the examination commission to allow him to take the examination before the scheduled period.

Section 31 -- Examination Commissions for Specialist Examinations

1. The examination commission for specialized subjects is composed of a chairman and at least three other members.

2. The chairman of the commission is the dean or vice-dean of the faculty (director or his deputy of the institute or center) where the aspirant is studying. One of the members of the examination commission is the educator of the aspirant.

3. Other members of the commissions are nominated, on the recommendation of the chairman, by the rector of the appropriate advanced school (chairman of section). In institutes or centers of central offices, the appropriate central office nominates the members, who shall be scientific workers of the appropriate scientific field; one of the members must be from a center other than that at which the examination is being held.

Section 32 -- Examination Commission for Examinations in Marxist Philosophy

1. The examination commission for examinations in Marxist philosophy is composed of a chairman and two members.

2. The chairman is the head of the department of social sciences or his deputy, and the other members are the aspirant's consultant in Marxist philosophy and the aspirant's educator or his deputy.

Section 33 -- Examination Commission for Language Examinations

1. The examination commissions for language examinations is composed of a chairman and two members.

2. The chairman is the head of the department of a given language or his deputy, and the members are the aspirant's language teacher and his educator or his deputy who knows the language in which the aspirant is being examined.

Section 34 -- Specialized Examination

1. The specialized examination covers subjects of a wide scientific background approved for specialization and the specialization itself.

2. The examinations in subjects of wide scientific background are usually oral and should not last more than one hour.

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3. The examination in the specialization is oral and written. The written part consists of preparing a report on a subject similar to the subject of the scientific dissertation determined by the educator. The written report is submitted by the aspirant to the chairman of the examination commission one month before the oral examination. The oral examination usually lasts one hour.

4. The examinations in subjects of wide scientific background and in the specialization itself must be taken not later than 18 months from the beginning of the "aspirantura."

Section 35 -- Examination in Marxist Philosophy

1. The examination in Marxist philosophy shall be taken by the aspirant after the first year of the "aspirantura," but no later than the 18th month of the "aspirantura."

2. The examination is oral and usually lasts one hour.

Section 36 -- Examination in the Russian Language

1. The examination in the Russian language shall be taken by the aspirant not later than 8 months from the beginning of the "aspirantura."

2. The examination is both oral and written.

3. The written part consists of a translation of a specialized text of at least 20 lines into Czech or Slovak. The subject is usually taken from the same or an allied scientific field which the aspirant is studying. The written examination lasts about one hour.

4. In the oral examination, which usually lasts 30 minutes, the aspirant should show the following:

a. Ability to read any technical text in his field and translate it correctly into Czech or Slovak using the dictionary only for difficult words or rare terminology.

b. That he understands a short technical text and is capable of summarizing it in Russian.

c. Ability to speak on the subject of his field of study [in Russian].

d. A knowledge of appropriate specialized dictionaries and ability to use them quickly and correctly.

Section 37 -- Examination in a Second Foreign Language

1. The examination in a second foreign language is taken by the aspirant no later than the end of the first year of the "aspirantura."

2. The examination is both oral and written.

3. Regulations set forth in Section 36, Paragraph 3, above, also apply to this written examination.

4. In the oral examination, which usually lasts 30 minutes, the aspirant should show the following:

a. Ability to read fluently and translate specialized scientific literature into Czech or Slovak, using a dictionary for difficult terminology.

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- b. A basic knowledge of grammar.
- c. A knowledge of specialized dictionaries and the ability to use them quickly and correctly.

Section 38 -- Proceedings of the Examination Commissions, Voting, and Record of Proceedings

1. Examination commissions debate, negotiate, and decide on the results of an examination in closed session by voice vote in the presence of all members according to majority rule. In case of a tie, the decision is that for which the chairman votes.

2. Results of the examination are graded as follows:

- a. Excellent.
- b. Very good.
- c. Good.
- d. Unsatisfactory.

The examination may not be repeated in an effort to improve grades b and c.

3. A record of the proceedings at the examination is kept and shall contain personal data regarding the aspirant, the composition of the commission, the type of examination, the date, place, and length of examination, the type of questions given, the results achieved, any noteworthy happenings which may have occurred during the examination, and, finally, the proceeding of the voting. The report is signed by the chairman and all the members of the commission.

4. The aspirant shall receive a written certificate from the commission showing the result of the examination.

Section 29 -- Repetition of an Examination

1. If an aspirant has failed the specialized examination or the examination in Marxist philosophy, he may repeat it once, but no earlier than 3 months following the unsuccessful examination and no later than the end of the second year of the "aspirantura"; in some cases, the examination commission has the right to refuse the aspirant permission to repeat the examination. The aspirant may appeal against a decision barring him from repeating an examination to the rector of the advanced school, or to the appropriate central office if the examination is being taken at an institute or center, or to the chairman of the appropriate section of an academy, within 3 days of the date of examination.

2. If the aspirant has failed a language examination, he may repeat it twice, always 3 months after the unsuccessful examination, but no later than the end of the second year of the "aspirantura."

3. Failure in a repeated examination or the decision by the examination commission not to allow the repetition of an examination is communicated immediately by the dean of the faculty (director of the institute or center) to the appropriate central office (chairman of an academy), which then terminates the "aspirantura" according to Section 6, Paragraph 1, of this decree.

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Section 40 -- Other Controls of the Study Plan

1. Fulfillment of the study plan is constantly controlled by the method provided by the plan. Constant control is also maintained by the department head (head of the technical section of an institute or center), the dean of the faculty and rector of the advanced school (director of the institute or center), and, in academies of sciences, also by the chairman of the section or department in question.
2. At least twice a year the work of the aspirant is evaluated at a meeting of the departments of the advanced school or technical sections of the institute or center in question.
3. Once a year the aspirant's work is evaluated by the faculty council at the advanced schools, by the scientific council of the institute or center, or by the collective of scientific workers in the center in question. This evaluation is based on the written report of the educator (Section 17, Paragraph 4), which was discussed at a meeting of the technical section. According to the result of this evaluation, the dean of the faculty (director of the institute or center) will decide whether the aspirant should continue in his work or whether a suggestion should be made to terminate the "aspirantura." The decision is approved at advanced schools by the rector, at institutes and academies by the chairman of the section, and elsewhere by the appropriate central office.

Part 6

Section 41 -- Maintaining Aspirant Study Discipline

1. If the aspirant, without serious reason, is not fulfilling his duties as outlined in the organizational and study regulations for scientific aspirants (Section 23), his educator shall rebuke him and, in repeated instances, shall give him a warning.
2. If the aspirant is not fulfilling his duties as listed in Paragraph 1, above, despite the rebuke and warning, the dean of the faculty (director of the institute or center), on the suggestion of the educator and with the approval of the department head (head of the technical section), shall accord the aspirant a reprimand which is written into the aspirant's personal file as a breach of regulations.
3. Within 15 days of receipt of the written decision the aspirant may appeal this reprimand to the rector of an advanced school, appropriate central office, or to the chairman of a section or division of an academy. Their decision, however, is final.

Part 7. National Insurance of Aspirants

Section 42 -- Basic Regulations

1. For purposes of national insurance, the activity of the aspirant conducted within the framework of the organizational and study regulations for scientific aspirants shall be considered as regular employment. Aspirants are then insured like other workers, with the exceptions listed below.

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2. According to this directive, aspirants who are sent to study abroad by the Ministry of Education and the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences are also insured, with exceptions listed in Section 45 below.

Section 43 -- Allotments and Family Allowances

1. Sick pay (Section 36 of Law No 99/1948 Sb. and No 269/1949 Sb.), hospital benefits (Sections 45-56 of the same law), and financial aid in maternity cases (Section 44, Paragraph 2, of the same law) are granted to aspirants from the day after which the aspirant no longer receives his stipend as a result of work disability. The period of assistance is calculated from the first day of the aspirant's disability.

2. Aspirants who are insured according to Section 42 above are entitled to receive an allowance for all minor children, according to regulations governing family allowances. The period of insurance according to this decree is the deciding factor in claiming family allowances.

Section 44 -- Accidents at Work

Any accident, including one which occurs on the way to or from the place of employment (Section 42, Paragraph 1), is considered an accident at work (Section 77 of the Insurance Law).

Section 45 -- Aspirants Abroad

Aspirants who are sent abroad to study (Section 42, Paragraph 2) do not receive the allotment which is due them under this insurance for the duration of their stay abroad. However, family allowances to family members who remain in Czechoslovakia and family allowances for children who remain in Czechoslovakia are paid for the duration of the aspirant's stay abroad.

Section 46 -- Premiums

1. National insurance premium payments are based on the stipend and bonuses paid for activities performed within the framework of the organizational and study regulations for scientific aspirants. The stipend which would usually be paid an aspirant if he were in Czechoslovakia is used as a basis for computing insurance premiums for aspirants who are studying abroad (Section 42, Paragraph 2).

2. If insurance premiums have been paid for the aspirant before the publication of this directive, regardless of the amount, the aspirant is insured from the day on which the insurance premiums were paid.

Section 47 -- Organs

Insurance matters according to this directive are handled by organs designated for insuring employees of the organizational unit which handles personnel matters for the aspirant. Insurance matters of aspirants sent abroad (Section 42, Paragraph 2) are handled by organs for insuring employees of the Ministry of Education or of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

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Section 48

1. The obligations of employers are listed in Law No 100/1953 Sb.; No 136/1952 U. l.; and No 96/1954 U.l. Administrative work is performed by those organs which normally handle employees of the organizational component to which the aspirant is attached.
2. If another organizational unit pays the scholarship, that unit will be responsible for paying the insurance premiums.

Chapter II. PART-TIME "ASPIRANTURA"

Section 49 -- General Regulations

1. A part-time [external] "aspirantura" may be introduced at faculties and departments of advanced schools (institutes and centers) at which aspirants may be trained according to a government directive.
2. The plan of need for the requirement of part-time aspirants is part of the state plan for the development of the national economy.
3. Training of aspirants in part-time "aspiranturas" is carried out without interruption of regular employment [on the part of the aspirant].
4. The length of the part-time "aspirantura" is determined in each individual case in the study plan according to the scholastic and scientific level of the part-time aspirant. However, it should not exceed 5 years.

Section 50 -- Admission Regulations

1. Within the framework of the need for part-time aspirants, the appropriate central office (chairman of an academy) announces competitive examinations for part-time "aspiranturas," usually once a year, at advanced schools (institutes and centers), and lists the specialties available.
2. Admission and selection usually takes place between 1 March and 30 September of any year.

Section 51 -- Requirements for Admission and Procedure During Admission of Part-Time Aspirants

1. Any Czechoslovak citizen of good character, regardless of age, can be accepted as a part-time aspirant, provided he has graduated from an advanced school in a chosen scientific field and has shown ability to perform research work, has the necessary pedagogical or technical experience, and has worked for at least 3 years in his field. His line of work should be in agreement with his formal education. Exceptions may be granted by the appropriate central office or chairman of an academy. If the exception made amounts to an exemption from the requirement of an advanced school education, permission has to be granted by the Ministry of Education or the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. In such cases, the Ministry of Education and the presidium of the academy keep each other informed. In medical fields the mandatory length of practical experience is 5 years and cannot be waived.
2. Application for admission is submitted by the applicant to the dean of the faculty (director of the institute or center) and must, in addition to the documents listed in Section 11 a through 11 f, bear a written certificate of consent by the applicant's employer, showing that there is no objection to the applicant being accepted as a part-time aspirant.

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3. Sections 12 through 15 remain in effect for entrance examinations, admissions commissions, requirements of entrance examinations, and procedure in accepting part-time aspirants and their nomination as part-time aspirants.

Section 52 -- Part-time Aspirant

1. Applicants who have been admitted to the "aspirantura" entrance examinations shall be entitled to paid leave, not to exceed 3 days.

2. Part-time aspirants who are successfully fulfilling their individual study plan shall receive paid leave every year to conduct practical experiments or other study work, take examinations, or defend scientific dissertations as outlined in their study plans. The length of this leave, not to exceed 30 working days, is arranged for in mutual agreement by the dean of the faculty (director of the institute or center) with the educator and the employer of the part-time aspirant. The legal right of the part-time aspirant to normal leave for vacation purposes remains unchanged.

3. The part-time aspirant is not entitled to receive a stipend, as outlined in Section 4, Paragraph 1.

4. The part-time aspirant is entitled to reimbursement for train or bus fare when he attends examinations, consultations, seminars, exercises, or other assignments included in the study plan. These expenses are covered in Section 7 of Ministry of Education Decree No 20/1955 U. L. on easier working conditions for persons taking part in part-time studies and also on reimbursing them for expenses. Travel expenses are covered by the advanced school (institute or center) where the aspirant is being trained; the part-time aspirant however, cannot get reimbursement for such expenses from his employer.

Section 53 -- Study of Part-time Aspirants, Their Technical Training, and Control of Their Study

1. Where there are no other regulations concerning part-time aspirants, regulations governing the study and control of aspirants listed in Sections 16 through 41 above are valid, with the exception of Section 21, Paragraph 1.

2. Minimum "aspirantura" requirement examinations are taken at given intervals, but no later than the end of the second year of the "aspirantura."

Chapter III. TEMPORARY AND CONCLUDING LEGISLATION

Section 54

Until the publication of a list of subjects of wide scientific background for individual specializations, these subjects are determined by the dean of the faculty on the suggestion of the educator and the department head, and after consultation with the faculty council (director of the institute or center on the suggestion of the educator and technical department head, and on consultation with the scientific council or collective of scientific workers).

Section 55

1. All [other] regulations concerning the organization and study of "aspiranturas" are hereby rescinded, particularly the following laws and directives:

a. Ministry of Education, Sciences, and Arts directive dated 27 August 1952 No S/1-359-1/8-52 published in Vestnik ministerstva skolstvi, ved a umeni, 1952, page. 320.

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b. Ministry of Advanced Schools directive dated 20 March 1953 No 50 468/52, published in Vysoka skola, issue No 3, 1953.

c. Ministry of Advanced Schools directive dated 31 July 1953 No 77.701/53 published in Vestnik ministerstva skolstvi, 1954, page 12.

d. Ministry of Education directive dated 21 December 1953 No 79.976/53-A/2 published in Vestnik ministerstva skolstvi 1954, pages 5 and 6.

e. Ministry of Education directive dated 11 May 1954 No 30.779/54-C III/3, published in Vestnik ministerstva skolstvi, 1954, pages 127-129.

2. The following legislation remains in effect:

Ministry of Education directive dated 20 October 1954 No 81.895/54-C III/3, which included directives for registration of scientific aspirants, educators, and training centers (Vestnik ministerstva skolstvi, 1954, page 329), and an appendix to Ministry of Education directive dated 21 December 1953 No 79.976/53-A/2, which included directives for the study of Marxist philosophy in scientific "aspiranturas" (Vestnik ministerstva skolstvi, 1954, pages 5 and 6).

Section 56

This directive becomes effective 1 January 1956 .

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