

L.N. 31 of 2025

**Statutes of The Chinese University of Hong Kong
(Amendment) Statutes 2025**

(Made by the Council of The Chinese University of Hong Kong under section 13 of The Chinese University of Hong Kong Ordinance (Cap. 1109) with the approval of the Chancellor of The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

1. Commencement

These Statutes come into operation on 18 April 2025.

2. Statutes of The Chinese University of Hong Kong amended

The Statutes of The Chinese University of Hong Kong in Schedule 1 to The Chinese University of Hong Kong Ordinance (Cap. 1109) are amended as set out in sections 3 and 4.

3. Statute 22 repealed (retirement of certain officers and academic staff)

Statute 22—

Repeal the Statute.

4. Statute 26 amended (degree and other awards)

Statute 26—

Repeal paragraph 8.

Made this 21st day of January 2025.

Amelia CHAN Wai-ping
Secretary of The Chinese University
of Hong Kong

Approved this 14th day of February 2025.

John KC LEE
Chancellor of The Chinese University
of Hong Kong

Explanatory Note

Statute 22

The current provision under Statute 22 of the Statutes of The Chinese University of Hong Kong in Schedule 1 to The Chinese University of Hong Kong Ordinance (Cap. 1109) provides that all salaried officers (other than the Vice-Chancellor and the Provost) and teachers may retire upon attaining the age of 55 and before attaining the age of 60; and must retire upon attaining the age of 60 unless the Council by a vote of at least two-thirds of the number of members present requests any such person to continue his or her office or appointment.

2. Arising from the Government's decision to raise the retirement age of new recruits joining the civil service in January 2015, the University Council, after a comprehensive review and consultation in October 2015 approved the policy to extend the retirement age to 65 for new recruits joining the University on or after 1 January 2016. The retirement age for other serving staff appointed on or before 31 December 2015 remains unchanged and the University has in place an established and effective mechanism to consider extending service beyond the age of 60 of individual staff on a case-by-case basis.
3. The fixed retirement age of 60 for all salaried officers and teachers under Statute 22 was first implemented back in 1963, although there are minor changes over the years on the cut-off date (originally by September and subsequently changed to July) or the rank specified for teachers. In light of the evolving global trends and social norm regarding the extension of retirement age, as well as the effective mechanism available for

extending appointments beyond the age of 60 for those appointed on or before 31 December 2015 which the University will continue to adopt, Statute 22 is considered obsolete.

4. Further, the amendment provides for a greater flexibility to the University in formulating its own strategic recruitment and staff retention policies, having regard to its own circumstances, which is in line with the prevailing practices observed across other UGC-funded universities.
5. Therefore, the University proposes to repeal Statute 22.

Paragraph 8 of Statute 26

6. The current provision under paragraph 8 of Statute 26 of the Statutes of The Chinese University of Hong Kong in Schedule 1 to The Chinese University of Hong Kong Ordinance (Cap. 1109) provides that the degree of Doctor of Literature, Doctor of Science, Doctor of Social Science, Doctor of Business Administration or Doctor of Medicine must not be conferred upon any person unless the person is a graduate of the University of not less than 7 years standing and has made a sustained contribution of distinction to the advancement of his or her subject.
7. The limitations under paragraph 8 of Statute 26, in particular the requirement on being a graduate of the University of not less than 7 years standing, have become antiquated and similar provisions are not found in the Ordinances or statutes of other UGC-funded universities.

8. The requirement under paragraph 8 of Statute 26 will unreasonably limit the scopes or options for potential students graduated from universities other than The Chinese University of Hong Kong which is not in line with the University's overall student recruitment strategy under the increasingly competitive and complex global market for higher education.
9. Therefore, the University proposes to repeal paragraph 8 of Statute 26.