to the School of Engineering and Digital Sciences PhD student Handbook of the autonomous organization of education Nazarbayev University



## SEQUENCE OF MILESTONES FOR SEDS PHD PROGRAMS

## Year 1

- Take core/elective courses in both semesters
- > By the end of the Spring Semester:
  - ✓ [Annex 2] Have SC approved
  - ✓ Sit CQE (if failed, can be retaken within 3 months, and, if failed again, up for dismissal)

## Year 2

- Fully dedicated to thesis research
- > By the end of the Fall Semester:
  - ✓ [Annex 3] Sit RQE (if failed, can be retaken within 3 months, and, if failed again, up for dismissal)
- > By the end of the Spring Semester:
  - ✓ [Annex 6] Sit PRC examination (if failed, retake it within 3 months, and, if failed again, up for dismissal)

## Years 3, 4 (and possibly 5 and 6)

- Fully dedicated to thesis research
- > By the end of the Spring Semester:
  - ✓ [Annex 6] Sit PRC examination (if failed, retake it within 3 months, and, if failed again, up for dismissal)
- From Year 4 onward:
  - ✓ [Annex 7] Submit PhD Thesis, and defend it after 3 months
  - ✓ If passed, the PhD is awarded after the required amendments (if any) are successfully completed
  - ✓ If failed, a new defense may take place at least 6 months after the failed defense (if failed again, up for dismissal)