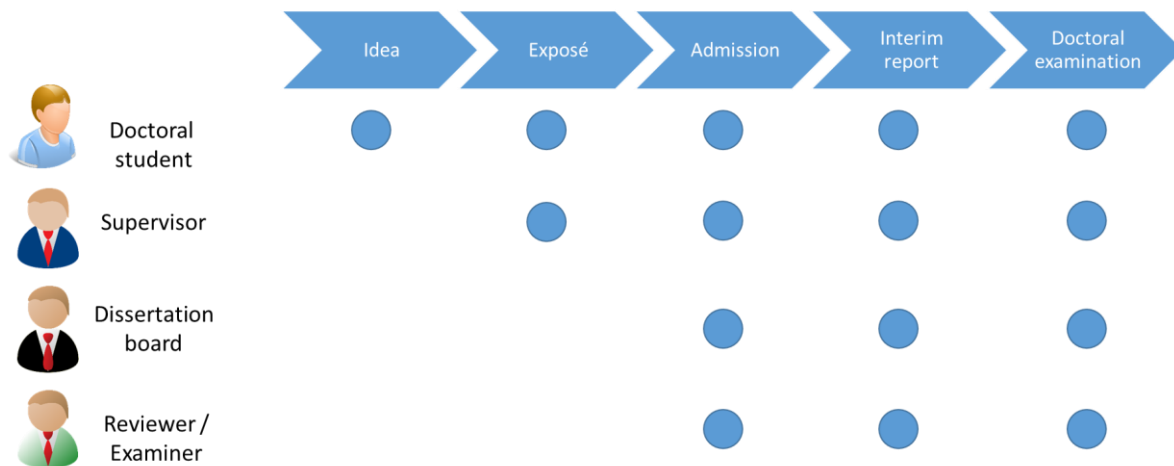Are you interested in doing a Ph.D. at the Doctoral Center for Applied Computer Science (PZAI)?

Here you will find non-binding information about the procedure (legally binding are the doctoral regulations "Promotionsordnung"). For details and all application forms see http://www.pzai.de

1. **Prerequisites**: In order to be admitted to the PZAI as a doctoral candidate, you must have a Bachelor's and Master's degree (300 CP ECTS) in a relevant subject area with a final grade of 2.0 or better (for details or possible exceptions, see the doctoral regulations).
2. **Supervision**: The first supervisor of your doctoral project must be a member of PZAI who has already supervised a successfully completed PhD program. Second and third supervisors are possible (for details, see the doctoral regulations)
3. **Exposé**: A prerequisite for an application for acceptance is the development of your research questions and methodology in the form of an exposé (see guidelines). For the preparation of the exposé, you will work intensively with your team of supervisors. Workshops for the preparation of exposés are offered regularly by the graduate school.
4. **Admission**: You can submit an application for admission to the Chair of the PhD Committee via the PZAI office at any time. Please enclose a supervision agreement and your exposé. The PhD Committee will appoint a reviewer for your exposé. Depending on the formal criteria and the review, the PhD Committee will decide on your admission to the PZAI. This can take about 2 months. You will be informed of the result in writing. Enrolment at the relevant university is recommended.
5. **Research work**: During your PhD program, you will work in a goal-oriented and independent manner according to the rules of good scientific practice. You should take advantage of the continuing education opportunities offered by the PZAI. You should regularly report to your supervisors in writing on the current status of your work. You should also publish your research results and participate in conferences. You can expect support from the team of supervisors for your scientific career planning.
6. **Interim report**: 18 months after admission, we usually expect an interim report from you. This should be structured similar to the exposé, i.e. it should contain (possibly updated) research questions and methodology. In addition, a comprehensive literature research and the structure of the dissertation should be presented. Like the exposé, the interim report will be reviewed.

7. **Doctoral examination**: You must submit your dissertation no later than 5 years after admission (for details or possible exceptions, see the doctoral regulations). At your suggestion, the doctoral committee will appoint at least two reviewers for your thesis. These may not be members of your supervision team (separation of supervision and review; for details see the doctoral regulations). As soon as the reports for your thesis are available, the doctoral committee will set up an examination board. You will defend your thesis in a disputation and will be notified of the final grade at the end (for details see doctoral regulations).