

## PhD Students: How to Remain in Good Standing

1. All PhD students must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 in graduate courses. Students whose chemistry GPA falls below 3.0 are placed on departmental probation. Failure to raise the GPA to at least 3.0 within the next nine credits will result in a recommendation of dismissal from the graduate program.
2. All full-time PhD students are required to complete and receive a satisfactory grade in the 1 credit graduate course 16:160:603, Introduction to Research, within their first two semesters of graduate study (this course is normally offered in the fall semester only).
3. All full-time PhD students are required to complete and receive two satisfactory grades in the 1 credit graduate course 16:160:607/608, Research Colloquium in their first two years of graduate study.
4. All full-time PhD students are required to complete two rotations in a research lab during their first semester and to select a research advisor before the beginning of their second semester of study. Being in a research group is a prerequisite for being in good standing in the graduate program.
5. The PhD qualifying exam consists of two parts: (I) successful oral defense of a written “in-field” research proposal based on the student’s PhD thesis project, and (II) successful oral defense of a written “out-of-field” proposal on a topic not closely related to the student’s thesis research. In order to remain in good standing and be admitted to PhD candidacy, a student must complete both parts of the qualifying exam by the end of the fourth semester of full-time graduate study and have at least one pass or higher to be considered for advancement to candidacy. The student’s advisory committee will meet to discuss progress and make a recommendation to the Vice Chair on advancement to candidacy. If the student has two low passes, advancement to candidacy will be denied.
6. All full-time PhD candidates, regardless of their appointment status or source of support, are required to teach at least one semester during their graduate career.
7. The progress of PhD students is monitored by the student’s division, the Vice Chair, and the student’s advisory committee. After advancement to candidacy, students must present a progress report to members of their advisory committee each spring semester (years 3, 4, and 5+). The committee must determine whether the student is making satisfactory progress.
8. All full-time PhD students must normally be supported as a teaching assistant, graduate assistant, or fellow to remain in good standing with the program. Tuition for teaching assistants,



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graduate assistants, and fellows is either waived or paid from the same sources as the student's stipend.

9. All full-time PhD students must maintain professional behavior in the classroom, during all proctoring, grading and teaching assignments, and in fulfilling grading responsibilities.
10. The department needs to be notified that international PhD students have passed their ESL exam and be coded as a 1 or lower (may teach) and be cleared to teach by the end of their first semester.
11. Failure to satisfactorily meet any of the requirements may result in being considered "not in good standing" which can result in dismissal from the program.

*Note: Two semesters of part-time study count as one semester of full-time study with respect to the timetable for the selection of a research advisor and for both parts of the PhD qualifying exams.*