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[http://www.education.umd.edu/studentinfo/graduate\\_info/Policyhdbk.html](http://www.education.umd.edu/studentinfo/graduate_info/Policyhdbk.html)

1. **Doctoral Progress.** The expectations and timeframes indicated below are the requirements of the Graduate School, the College, and are the minimum requirements of the Departments within the College of Education. \*

Students are expected to make satisfactory progress to degree completion. Students who do not achieve the progress expectations will be permitted to continue in the doctoral program only upon the approval of the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies in the College of Education.

Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average. The Gradu

be dismissed from the Graduate School at the end of the semester for failure to comply with the continuous registration requirement.

A student who is dismissed for non-registration may appeal dismissal during a 30-day period following the end of the semester of non-registration. If the student does not appeal, or if the appeals are denied, and the student wishes to continue in the Graduate School, the student must apply for readmission. In this case, readmission does not alter the initial requirements for time to complete the degree or advance to candidacy.

#### Registration Waivers:

##### Waiver of Registration for Pre-Candidacy Doctoral Students

Pre-candidacy doctoral students who will be away from the University for a semester or

be extended to two semesters as needed, if so requested by the applicant prior to the expiration of the approved one-semester leave of absence. The time taken on an approved leave of absence is not included in the time limit for degree completion and advancement to candidacy. Students are responsible for following the proper procedures for making such a request.

#### International students

Non-immigrant F-1 and J-1 students and their dependents must maintain legal immigration status at all times. Students with F-1 visas must be enrolled full time every semester at the University while they remain in the United States. The only

comprehensive may not be taken until an approved program of study form is on file with the College Graduate Studies Office, and must be completed prior to admission to candidacy.

7. **Admission to Candidacy.** A doctoral student is expected to be admitted to candidacy (i.e., a status in which the student has completed all formal degree requirements other than the dissertation proposal meeting, the public final dissertation examination, and the doctoral dissertation) within 5 years after acceptance into the doctoral program, and must complete the remaining degree requirements within 4 years after admission to candidacy. Doctoral students, who advance to candidacy early, are given a total of 9 years from the admission date to complete the degree. Doctoral students, who are admitted on a provisional status, may not advance to candidacy until the provisional conditions have been met.
8. **Successful Completion of the Dissertation Proposal .** A student must be advanced to candidacy prior to seeking approval of a doctoral research committee or acceptance of a dissertation proposal. All proposals are conducted in close collaboration with the advisor. The advisor must give initial approval of the topic and of the committee members. Students should obtain and complete the Certification of Doctoral Research Committee and Dissertation Proposal form prior to the proposal meeting and present it at the proposal meeting. As applicable, Institutional Review Board approval for any research involving human subjects is a prerequisite for initiating the research.
9. **Dissertation Completion.** The dissertation must be completed within the time frames specified in number 7, of this document. In extraordinary circumstances, and with advisor and department approval, the student may apply to the Graduate School (through the College of Education) for an extension.