

# REQUIREMENTS

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## Credit Requirements

The approved range of graduate credit for the doctoral degree is 90-142 quarter credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree. However, some colleges, schools and departments may have different requirements; consult the specific graduate program for details.

Students enrolled in a graduate program should not take courses towards another degree program unless the student has been accepted into the second program, and no more than three courses may be earned at the University of Denver and applied towards a degree program before acceptance into that degree program. Graduate coursework and credit hours already applied toward a degree received from the University of Denver cannot be applied towards another graduate degree of the same level or less.

Advanced degrees are not awarded automatically on completion of the required number of courses or hours of credit.

## Residency Requirements

Enrollment in at least six quarters (four semesters), minimally 45 credit hours, including at least two consecutive quarters (one semester) of full-time attendance is required for graduation.

## Advising

Responsibility for securing approval of a proposed program of study rests with the student. Consultation with the advisor at regular intervals is essential to satisfactory planning and progress toward a degree. The requirements outlined in the college, school, or departmental summaries serve as a guide to program planning and are subject to specific determination in consultation with program advisors, and the student must assume full responsibility for meeting basic requirements and deadlines, as well as the specific requirements outlined by the program advisor.

## Research Tool Requirements

Candidates may be required to demonstrate proficiency in the required tools for research and advanced study.

Where required, tool requirements are determined by the candidate's advisor and committee, and may include one or more languages, statistical methods, laboratory or other research skills. Consult the college, school or department for requirement details.

## Doctoral Advancement to Candidacy

The formal acceptance of a student as a candidate for the doctoral degree is the responsibility of the student's department. Once a student has advanced to candidacy, notification to the Office of Graduate Education should be submitted using the Doctoral Advancement to Candidacy form (found on the OGE website (<https://www.du.edu/graduate-education/faculty-staff-resources/>)).

Generally, advancement to candidacy allows the student to enter the research phase of the doctoral degree program and occurs after all course work and comprehensive exam requirements are satisfied. Doctoral programs may require satisfactory completion of other degree requirements such as a qualifying exam, research tool, language proficiency, etc.

## Comprehensive/Competency Examination

This examination is either a written or an oral test designed to evaluate the student's work in the major and related fields. The examination is scheduled at least three quarters (two semesters) prior to graduation. A candidate who fails one or all parts of the examination may petition the college, school or department for re-examination. If granted, a re-examination may not be scheduled until the following quarter.

It is generally expected that students will complete the comprehensive exam prior to defending the dissertation proposal. Students should consult with their unit regarding the timing of the comprehensive exams and the proposal defense.