

Microbiology and Immunology Department
PhD Student Action Plan
Deadlines Entering Class 2024

| Deadline | Action |
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| Rotation 1: September 23 – November 15, 2024 Rotation 2: January 6 – February 28, 2025 Rotation 3: March 3 - April 25, 2025 (1st and 2nd semesters of Year 1) | Laboratory rotations (3 different rotations, 4th rotation optional) |
| April 28 to May 9, 2025 (1st year of study, end of 2nd Semester) | Select Research Advisor (subject to approval by Department Chair) |
| November 3, 2025 (2nd year of study, 1st semester) | Submit title and specific aims of Dissertation Proposal. |
| December 1, 2025 (2nd year of study, 1st semester) | Dissertation Committee formed. |
| December 2025 (2nd year of study, 1st semester) | Meet with Curriculum Committee for instructions regarding Qualifying Exam |
| January 5, 2026 (2nd year of study, 2nd semester) | Submit title and specific aims of Qualifying Exam Proposal (subject to approval by Curriculum Committee) |
| January 16, 2026 | Students informed of acceptability of their proposals. |
| March 6, 2026 | Qualifying Exam proposals must be submitted |
| March 9 – April 17, 2026 (Qualifying exams must be given to Qualifying Exam Committee at least 1 week prior to Oral Exam) | Qualifying Oral Exam must be completed. Students who have not passed Qualifying exams after 2 attempts must withdraw from Program. Students who have received a “Pass” for both written and oral will enter Ph.D. Candidacy after completing all coursework. |
| October 9, 2026 (3 rd year of study) | Dissertation research proposal submitted to Dissertation Committee for review |
| December 1, 2026 (3 rd year of study) | Final dissertation research proposal submitted to Department |
| Annually after admission to Ph.D. Candidacy | Presentation of seminar based on dissertation research to department; Dissertation Committee Meeting 1 st seminar must be given in Fall semester of Year 3. |
| 2 Weeks Before Defense (oral exam) | Provide complete unbound copy of dissertation to Dissertation Committee members and written request to the Graduate School Dean. |
| Deadlines Published by Graduate School: https://louisville.edu/graduate/current-students/thesis-dissertation-information/thesis-dissertation-information | Student must deliver dissertation to Graduate School and complete degree application. |