2.2 Requirements for Candidacy

Candidacy status is an indication that a doctoral student has developed sufficient mastery of a discipline to produce an original research contribution in his or her field.

Click on a topic below for more information:

- (A) Eligibility
- (B) Timing
- (C) Procedure
- (D) Effective date
- (E) Previous policy (for students who started their degree programs prior to Fall 2017)

(A) Eligibility

To be eligible for candidacy, a student must meet the following requirements:

1. Complete all program requirements for candidacy: coursework and other training required by the degree program, including program required JPE training
2. Complete qualifying examinations required by the degree program
3. If required by the degree program, obtain approval of a dissertation prospectus
4. Complete TATTO 600, TATTO 605, and JPE 600 (also see item 1)
5. Resolve any Incomplete (I) or In Progress (IP) grades
6. Be in good standing with a minimum cumulative 2.70 GPA
7. Have earned at least 54 credit hours at the 500 level or above

TATTO 610 and JPE 610 may be completed after entering candidacy. In addition, programs may reserve the dissertation prospectus and committee requirement to be completed after candidacy (see 2.3: Dissertation Committee).

(B) Timing

Students should enter candidacy as soon as all requirements have been completed. Students must reach candidacy by September 15 of their fourth year.

Students who do not meet this deadline will be placed on academic probation, will not be eligible for PDS funds, and may forfeit financial support. These sanctions will be lifted when the student enters candidacy.

(C) Procedure

Students enter candidacy by submitting the application to enter candidacy, available on the LGS website. The application requires programs to affirm that all program requirements have been met (1-3 above), and LGS affirms that remaining requirements have been met (4-7).

Students are considered “in candidacy” when the Dean has approved the application to enter candidacy.
(D) Effective Date

This policy is effective starting fall semester 2017, and applies to all students immediately, with two exceptions: students who started their programs before the fall of 2017 must meet the candidacy deadline in effect when they first enrolled, and must be in candidacy no later than August 1 before their fifth year of study; and students who started their programs before the fall of 2017 will not be placed on probation if they fail to meet the candidacy deadline.

(E) Previous Policy

For students who started their degree programs prior to Fall 2017, please refer to the previous candidacy policy and associated requirements (found most recently in the 2016-17 LGS Handbook).

- [Download the 2016-17 LGS Handbook](#)

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