

Materials Science and Engineering Guide to Ph.D. Exam Deadlines and Committee Composition

The following chart summarizes Ph.D. exam requirements and deadlines as per the School of Graduate Studies [Academic Calendar](#) for varying admission start dates. Students should refer to the Academic Calendar and [MSE Handbook](#) of their admission cycle. For example, if the admission start date is September 2020, January 2021, or May 2021, refer to the 2020/21 Academic Calendar and MSE handbook for details on each exam.

Admission Date	Comprehensive I		Proposal		Comprehensive II		Comprehensive	
Before January 2021	✓		✓		✓		X	
	Deadline	4-8 months	Deadline	12 – 16 months	Deadline	24 months		
	Examination Committee	3 appointed by the department	Examination Committee (5 in total)	SCM Examiner Chair	Examination Committee (4 in total)	SCM Chair		
January 2021 to September 2022	X		✓		X		✓	
			Deadline	12 – 24 months			Deadline	24 months
			Examination Committee (5 in total)	SCM Examiner Chair			Examination Committee (4 in total)	SCM Chair
After September 2022	X		✓		X		✓	
			Deadline	12 – 24 months			Deadline	24 months
			Examination Committee (4 in total)	SCM Examiner/Chair			Examination Committee (4 in total)	SCM Chair

To initiate an exam, please email the Graduate Administrative Assistant a minimum of 6-weeks before the proposed exam date with the following information:

Proposal Exam	Comprehensive Exam II / Comprehensive Exam
Supervisor	Supervisor
Supervisory Committee Members	Supervisory Committee Members
Proposed Examiner and/or Chair as suggested by the supervisor	Proposed Chair as suggested by the supervisor
Approximate date of examination	Approximate date of examination
Title/working title of proposal report	3 topics as approved by the supervisory committee members