



**PhD Student Progression Guidelines**  
*Also located in the PhD Student Handbook*

Student Category	Required & Recommended Progression Benchmarks
<b>EEO Students:</b> Junior & Senior Year Undergraduate Program	<b>Complete didactic and clinical courses successfully as per the undergraduate academic program plan. Substitute PhD courses where recommended (e.g. N706)</b>
	<b>Meet all standard undergraduate program progression criteria<sup>1</sup></b>
	<b>Complete honors research experiences as contracted with honors faculty advisor</b>
	<b>Identify potential major professors and formally apply for the PhD Program in Nursing</b>
	<b>Attend a research group regularly</b>
<b>First Year (full-time*)</b>	<b>Develop preliminary program plan (including minor area of study) in consultation with advisor</b>
	<b>Complete courses successfully as per program plan (Minimum graduate GPA of 3.00. No more than 1 grade below a “B” or a “U” grade in any 12 month period.)<sup>2</sup></b>
	<b>Complete guided research experiences (i.e. N990, N999) as contracted with advisor</b>
	<b>Attend research colloquia regularly</b>
	<b>Develop preliminary statement of research focus and potential research questions</b>
	<b>Develop a timeline for NRSA submission or other external grant that supports PhD education or dissertation</b>
<b>Second Year (full-time*)</b>	<b>Finalize program plan (including minor area of study) in consultation with advisor</b>
	<b>Complete courses successfully as per program plan (Minimum graduate GPA of 3.00. No more than 1 grade below a “B” or a “U” grade in any 12 month period.)<sup>2</sup></b>
	<b>Complete guided research experiences (i.e. N990, N999) as contracted with advisor</b>
	<b>Attend research colloquia regularly</b>
	<b>Present research at a colloquium<sup>3</sup></b>
	<b>Co-author a manuscript</b>

	Write and submit an NRSA or other external grant that supports PhD education or dissertation
	Co-author an abstract for regional/national presentation
<b>Third Year (full-time*)</b>	<b>Complete courses successfully as per program plan (Minimum graduate GPA of 3.00. No more than 1 grade below a "B" or a "U" grade in any 12 month period.)<sup>2</sup></b>
	<b>Complete guided research experiences (i.e. N990, N999) as contracted with advisor</b>
	<b>Select a Preliminary Examination Committee and prepare for preliminary examination</b>
	<b>Attend research colloquia regularly</b>
	<b>Complete preliminary exam</b>
	<b>Write a first-authored manuscript</b>
	Resubmit NRSA or other external grant that supports PhD education and dissertation
	Develop plan for supervised teaching or mentoring experience
<b>Fourth Year and Beyond (full-time*)</b>	<b>Complete and submit Dissertation Committee Approval Form</b>
	<b>Develop and defend dissertation proposal</b>
	<b>Complete dissertation research and defend dissertation</b>
	<b>Attend research colloquia regularly</b>
	<b>Submit first-authored manuscript for publication</b>
	<b>Present peer-reviewed research at a regional/national conference</b>
	Complete supervised teaching or mentoring experience
	<b>Graduate</b>

<sup>1</sup> School of Nursing Academic Guide – Academic Status (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/nursing/nursing.pdf>)

<sup>2</sup> Graduate School Requirements for Satisfactory Progress (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>)

<sup>3</sup> Students should plan to present their research at a minimum of one research colloquium during the PhD program. Presenting early in the program is recommended.

\* Students should explain adjustments to the timeline as applicable for part-time status.