DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
IN AGRICULTURAL
LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION,
AND COMMUNICATIONS

Additional Requirements

• Residence (p. 1)
• Time Limit (p. 1)
• Continuous Registration (p. 1)
• Admission to Candidacy (p. 1)
• Languages (p. 1)
• 99-Hour Cap on Doctoral Degree (p. 1)
• Application for Degree (p. 2)

Residence
A student who enters the doctoral degree program with a baccalaureate
degree must spend one academic year plus one semester in resident
study at Texas A&M University. A student who holds master's degree
when they enter doctoral degree program must spend one academic year
in resident study. One academic year may include two adjacent regular
semesters or one regular semester and one adjacent 10-week summer
semester. The third semester is not required to be adjacent to the one
year. Enrollment for each semester must be a minimum of 9 credit hours
each to satisfy the residence requirement. A minimum of 1 credit hour
must be in a non-distance education delivery mode. Semesters in which
the student is enrolled in all distance education coursework will not count
toward fulfillment of the residence requirement.

To satisfy the residence requirement, the student must complete a
minimum of 9 credit hours per semester or 10-week summer semester in
resident study at Texas A&M University for the required period. A student
who enters a doctoral degree program with a baccalaureate degree may
fulfill residence requirements in excess of one academic year (18 credit
hours) by registration during summer sessions or by completion of a less-
than-full course load (in this context a full course load is considered 9
credit hours per semester).

Students who are employed full-time while completing their degree
may fulfill total residence requirements by completion of less-than-full
time course loads each semester. In order to be considered for this, the
student is required to submit a Petition for Waivers and Exceptions along
with verification of their employment to the Graduate and Professional
School. An employee should submit verification of their employment
at the time they submit the degree plan. See Registration (http://
catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/academic-expectations-general-degree-
requirements/#registrationandacademicstatustext).

See Residence Requirements (http://catalog.tamu.edu/
graduate/academic-expectations-general-degree-requirements/
#degreerequirementstext).

Time Limit
All requirements for doctoral degrees must be completed within a period
of ten consecutive calendar years for the degree to be granted. A course
will be considered valid until 10 years after the end of the semester in
which it is taken. Graduate credit for coursework more than ten calendar
years old at the time of the final oral examination may not be used to
satisfy degree requirements.

After passing the required preliminary oral and written examinations for a
doc toral degree, the student must complete the final examination within
four years of the semester in which the preliminary exam is taken. Exams
taken in between terms will expire at the end of the term that ended prior
to the exam. For example, a preliminary exam taken and passed during
the fall 2019 semester will expire at the end of the fall 2023 semester. A
preliminary exam taken in the time between the summer and fall 2019
semesters will expire at the end of the summer 2023 semester.

A final corrected version of the dissertation or record of study in
electronic format as a single PDF file must be cleared by the Graduate
and Professional School within one year of the semester in which the
final exam is taken. Exams taken in between terms will expire at the end
of the term that ended prior to the exam. For example, a final exam taken
and passed during the fall 2022 semester will expire at the end of the fall
2023 semester. A final exam taken in the time between the summer and
fall 2022 semesters will expire at the end of the summer 2023 semester.
Failure to do so will result in the degree not being awarded.

Continuous Registration
A student in a program leading to a Doctor of Philosophy who has
completed all coursework on their degree plan other than 691 (research)
are required to be in continuous registration until all requirements for the
degree have been completed. See Continuous Registration Requirements
(http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/academic-expectations-general-
degree-requirements/#registrationandacademicstatustext).

Admission to Candidacy
To be admitted to candidacy for a doctoral degree, a student must have:

1. completed all formal coursework on the degree plan with the
   exception of any remaining 681, 684, 690 and 691, or 791.
2. a 3.0 Graduate GPA and a Degree Plan GPA of at least 3.0 with no
grade lower than C in any course on the degree plan,
3. passed the preliminary examination (written and oral portions),
4. submitted an approved dissertation proposal,
5. met the residence requirements. The final examination will not be
   authorized for any doctoral student who has not been admitted to
candidacy.

Languages
A student is required to possess a competent command of English. For
English language proficiency requirements, see the Admissions section
of this catalog. The doctoral (PhD) foreign language requirement at
Texas A&M University is a departmental option, to be administered and
monitored by the individual departments of academic instruction.

99-Hour Cap on Doctoral Degrees
In Texas, public colleges and universities are funded by the state
according to the number of students enrolled. In accordance with
legislation passed by the Texas Legislature, the number of hours for
which state universities may receive subvention funding at the doctoral
rate for any individual is limited to 99 hours. Texas A&M and other
universities will not receive subvention for hours in excess of the limit.
Institutions of higher education are allowed to charge the equivalent of non-resident tuition to a resident doctoral student who has enrolled in 100 or more semester credit hours of doctoral coursework.

Doctoral students at Texas A&M have seven years to complete their degree before being charged out-of-state tuition. A doctoral student who, after seven years of study, has accumulated 100 or more doctoral hours will be charged tuition at a rate equivalent to out-of-state tuition. Please note that the tuition increases will apply to Texas residents as well as students from other states and countries who are currently charged tuition at the resident rate. This includes those doctoral students who hold GAT, GANT, and GAR appointments or recipients of competitive fellowships who receive more than $1,000 per semester. Doctoral students who have not accumulated 100 hours after seven years of study are eligible to pay in-state tuition if otherwise eligible.

Doctoral students who exceed the credit limit will receive notification from the Graduate and Professional School during the semester in which they are enrolled and exceeding the limit in their current degree program. The notification will explain that the State of Texas does not provide funding for any additional hours in which a student is enrolled in excess of 99 hours. Texas A&M University will recover the lost funds by requiring students in excess of 99 hours to pay tuition at the non-funded, non-resident rate. This non-funded, non-resident tuition rate status will be updated for the following semester and in all subsequent semesters until receipt of a doctoral degree. Please see the Tuition Calculator (https://tuition.tamu.edu/) at the non-resident rate for an example of potential charges.

The following majors are exempt from the 99-Hour Cap on Doctoral Degrees and have a limit of 130 doctoral hours:

- Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics
- Biomedical Sciences
- Clinical Psychology
- Counseling Psychology
- Genetics and Genomics
- Health Services Research
- Medical Sciences
- Microbiology
- Neurosciences (College of Medicine)
- Nutrition
- Oral and Craniofacial Biomedical Sciences
- Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Public Health Sciences
- School Psychology
- Toxicology

Application for Degree
For information on applying for your degree, please visit the Graduation (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/academic-expectations-general-degree-requirements/#degerequirementstext) section.