Doctoral degree, the student must complete the final examination within
the one year. Enrollment for each semester must be a minimum of 9
credit hours each to satisfy 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. A student who holds master’s degree
when he/she enters 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.

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 his/her employment to the Graduate and Professional
School. An employee should submit verification of his/her employment
at the time he/she submits 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).

Continuous Registration
A student in a program leading to a Doctor of Philosophy who
has completed all coursework on his/her 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
- Biomedical Sciences
- Clinical Psychology
- Counseling Psychology
- Epidemiology and Environmental Health
- Genetics and Genomics
- Health Services Research
- Medical Sciences
- Microbiology
- Neurosciences (School 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/#degreerequirementstext) section.