

EECS Graduate Programs Handbook

University of Kansas — Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

2026–2027 | OFFICIAL DRAFT

Draft date: July 1, 2026

Role of the Graduate Handbook

The role of this graduate handbook is to guide EECS graduate students through each step of the process of obtaining a graduate degree and document the expectations and policies of the different graduate programs in the EECS department at KU. Prospective students may also review this handbook to better understand program requirements, and get a feel for the culture of the department.

Please note that the graduate handbook is not a replacement for in-person advising. Students should continue to seek advice and get their questions answered from their research/academic advisor(s) and the departmental graduate coordinator/director.

How to Use This Handbook

Overview

This handbook is designed for electronic use and includes embedded hyperlinks to webpages and online documents. Information may be incomplete if the handbook is used as a hard copy.

University Policies and Degree Requirements

This handbook is limited to information that is program or department-specific. It does not restate University policy. Instead, where University policy applies, this handbook attempts to include links to the official policy maintained by the Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs.

The Handbook as a Complement to the Academic Catalog

The Graduate Handbook serves as a complement to the Academic Catalog. While the Academic Catalog provides the source of truth for degree requirements, the Graduate Handbook provides supplemental information about timelines, procedures, and logistics, as well as department-specific policies and procedures.

Department Directory

Below is the contact information for key EECS graduate faculty administration and staff.

Table 1: Department Directory

Contact	Role	Email	Phone / Location
EECS Main Office	General information; referrals	eecs-info@ku.edu	785-864-4620 2001 Eaton Hall, 1520 W 15th St, Lawrence, KS 66045-7608
Joy K Grisafe	Graduate Coordinator	jgrisafe@ku.edu	Use main office phone Eaton Hall
Prasad Kulkarni	Professor; Associate Chair for Graduate Studies	prasadm@ku.edu	Use main office phone Eaton Hall

General Academic Policies & Procedures

Admission

Minimum requirements or pre-requisites

Master's (M.S. and M.Eng.) admissions expectations include: Bachelor's degree in a related field with GPA at or above 3.0 (4-point scale).

Ph.D. admissions expectations include: Bachelor's or Master's degree in a related field with GPA at or above 3.5 (4-point scale).

Non-native English speakers must also provide proof of English proficiency. Please refer to [KU English Proficiency Requirements](#) for specific score requirements.

Programs and Application Deadlines

Table 2: Program and Application Deadlines

Term	Programs	Deadline(s)	Notes
Fall	M.S./M.Eng/Ph.D./ Data Science Graduate Certificate	Priority: Dec 15; Final: Mar 1	Applicants after priority deadline may not be considered for fellowships/assistantships

Spring	M.S./M.Eng/Ph.D./ Data Science Graduate Certificate	Priority: Sep 30; Final: Oct 1	Applicants after priority deadline may not be considered for fellowships/assistantships
--------	--	-----------------------------------	--

Application Materials & Procedures

Master's (MS/MEng) application materials include: Optional GRE scores (school code 6871), statement of objectives and resume, official transcript, three letters of recommendation, TOEFL scores (international applicants), and a financial statement (international applicants only).

Applications are reviewed by the department-level graduate admissions committee on a rolling basis during the Fall and Spring semesters.

GRE policy note: Reporting GRE scores remains optional (but highly recommended) for PhD and MS applicants. GRE scores, when available, will be used to influence decisions regarding admission, scholarships, and employment (GTA, GRA, etc.).

Admissions Contact Information

For admissions questions, contact the EECS Graduate Coordinator listed in the Department Directory.

Enrollment

General Enrollment Information

All graduate students must meet with their advisor to discuss enrollment and other issues and accordingly update their [plan of study](#) every semester. Some students may have an enrollment hold until their plan of study is signed by their advisor and committee. The [class schedule deadlines](#) are published online by the KU registrar's office.

The students who have not enrolled in at least one course before 12:00 a.m. on the first instructional day of the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters for full-term courses are considered enrolling late, and will be charged [a late enrollment fee](#). Please refer to KU's [Full-Time Enrollment for Graduate Students](#) policy for enrollment requirements. Enrollment during the Summer semester is not required, even for students with GTA/GRA appointments.

Department-maintained enrollment forms and instructions are available on the [EECS Graduate Students](#) webpage.

Permission Numbers

For undergraduate EECS courses (courses numbers 699 and below), you will need to contact the Undergraduate Coordinator. For EECS graduate courses (courses 700 and higher), you will need to contact the professor for permission to take the course. If the instructor approves the request,

forward that email to the Graduate Coordinator who can then issue a permission number. Please note that no one can add a course that is at fire marshall capacity.

Changes in Enrollment / Late Enrollment

Once enrolled, most schedule changes should be made directly in Enroll & Pay, which updates in real time; if changes are needed after the semester begins, an online form may be required—students should always try Enroll & Pay first and consult the Registrar's schedule change and drop/withdrawal webpages for details.

Students not enrolled in at least one course by 12:00 a.m. on the first instructional day are considered late and assessed a late enrollment fee (\$150 for Fall/Spring, \$75 for Summer), with additional petition requirements after the fifth instructional day. Students who fail to enroll and are not on an approved leave of absence may be deactivated and must use a Permit to Re-Enroll (if eligible and within one academic year) or reapply for admission if inactive for four or more consecutive semesters; time spent deactivated counts toward the total time to degree. Eligibility questions should be directed to the EECS Graduate Coordinator, and the permit can be submitted online.

For updated/more information on schedule changes, please refer to the Office of the University's website at <https://registrar.ku.edu/schedule-changes>. Additional information on adding and dropping can be found at: <https://registrar.ku.edu/dropping-and-withdrawing>.

Leave of Absence: Please reference Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs' [Leave of Absence policy](#) for more information. Contact the EECS Graduate Coordinator for questions on the Leave of Absence

Academic Integrity & Misconduct

The EECS Department regards academic misconduct as a very serious matter. Students who violate conduct policies will be subject to severe penalties, up through and including dismissal from the School of Engineering. Please refer to the [University Senate Rules and Regulations policy](#) and the [Rules and Regulations of the School of Engineering](#) for specific guidelines about actions considered to be academic misconduct and the repercussions of such action.

These actions include, but are not limited to disruption of classes, threatening an instructor or fellow student in an academic setting; giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments; knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work; unauthorized changing of grades; unauthorized use of University approvals or forging of signatures; falsification of research results; plagiarizing of another's work; violation of regulations or ethical codes for the treatment of human and animal subjects; or otherwise acting dishonestly in research.

Good Academic Standing

To maintain good academic standing, graduate students must sustain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00. Graduate students are expected not to carry more than two unresolved Incomplete (I) grades at any time. A student will be subject to review by the Graduate Committee and placement on departmental probation upon the occurrence of two consecutive Limited Progress (LP) grades, three total LP grades, or a single No Progress (NP) grade. Two consecutive “unsatisfactory” PhAR assessments will also trigger a placement on academic probation.

Students on departmental academic probation have one semester to get off probation. If they are on academic probation for more than one semester, they may be dismissed. Note that departmental probation is an internal status used by the department to address concerns regarding academic progress and to establish remediation expectations. Placement on departmental probation is distinct from University academic probation. Please also see the University policy on academic probation and dismissal.

<https://services.ku.edu/TDClient/818/Portal/KB/Article/21336/Graduate-Academic-Probation>
<https://services.ku.edu/TDClient/818/Portal/KB/Article/20745/Good-Academic-Standing>

Grading

Incomplete Grades

The grade “I” (Incomplete) is used to indicate work of passing quality in a course, which a portion of is, for good reason, unfinished. The EECS department discourages Incompletes except in truly unusual emergency situations; students are advised to make the removal of any I’s on their record a matter of first priority.

An Incomplete (“I”) grade for a class may be assigned only when: (a) The student has completed a substantial portion of coursework at passing quality, (b) Completion was prevented by circumstances beyond the student’s control (e.g., serious illness, family emergency) and, (c) The instructor and student agree in advance on remaining requirements and a completion deadline (not to exceed one calendar year per University policy).

Consequences: Graduate students should not carry more than two unresolved Incomplete grades at any time. Students carrying two or more unresolved Incompletes may be placed on a departmental probation until the grades are resolved

Grading for Thesis & Dissertation Hours

The EECS department uses the SP/LP/NP (satisfactory progress/limited progress/no progress) grading scale for thesis, dissertation, and other research courses.

- SP (Satisfactory Progress): Semester goals were met and progress supports timely degree completion.

- LP (Limited Progress): Some progress was made, but goals were not fully met.
- NP (No Progress): No substantive progress toward thesis or dissertation goals was demonstrated.

Consequences: The program coordinator will track grades of LP/NP in the program.

- One LP: Advisor meets with the student to revise goals and expectations.
- Two consecutive LPs, or three total LPs, or one NP: Graduate Committee review; student placed on departmental probation and required to write a remediation plan. Students on probation are typically ineligible to be appointed as GRA/GTA.
- Two consecutive NPs or failure to complete remediation: Graduate Committee may recommend dismissal for failure to make satisfactory progress.

Annual Student Progress Review

Graduate students in EECS are evaluated annually to assess progress toward degree completion and professional development. PhD students are required to submit an annual Ph.D. Activity Report (PHAR), which is used to assess academic progress. Every Spring the EECS Graduate Office will send the PHAR form with a designated deadline. There will be a faculty review of the PHAR forms shortly after the deadline and the results will be communicated during the Summer.

The EECS Graduate Committee uses the faculty PHAR evaluations along with input from the student's advisor to assign one of three ratings: Satisfactory, Satisfactory with Warning, or Unsatisfactory.

A **Satisfactory** rating indicates: (1) that the student is meeting their goals and objectives, (2) that research is progressing, and (3) that the student is on schedule to graduate in a timely manner. In short, it indicates that the student is in good academic standing with the department and the Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs.

A **Satisfactory with Warning** rating means that some aspects of the student's progress are problematic. Although the student is in good academic standing, they are in danger of being rated Unsatisfactory during the next evaluation cycle if their progress does not improve. The specific problems noted by the Graduate Committee will be stated clearly in the letter accompanying the rating. A student who receives this rating is strongly urged to (1) meet with the adviser about how to correct the problems, (2) report plans for correcting the problems to the EECS Graduate Coordinator, and (4) correct the problems. It should be clear that Satisfactory with Warning is a warning of an impending Unsatisfactory rating in the next year, if the problems are not corrected.

An **Unsatisfactory** rating means that the EECS Graduate Committee rates the student's progress as unacceptable. Reasons for an unacceptable rating generally include some combination of sustained lack of progress in research; poor record of publication, presentations, proposals; and

GPA below 3.0. Students who receive an unsatisfactory rating are placed on academic probation with the university and are ineligible to hold graduate assistantships until reinstated to good academic standing.

A student who receives a second unsatisfactory evaluation will be placed on academic probation. Academic probation will be removed upon substantial progress as documented in the student's next PHAR; without substantial progress toward the degree, the student's Ph.D. status will be terminated.

Professional Development

EECS encourages professional development aligned with student career goals. Students should consult their advisor for recommended milestones and resources (publications, presentations, teaching preparation, internships, job search).

Grievance Procedures

Grievances arising within EECS should be handled under the [KU School of Engineering's grievance procedure](#) (Article VIIIr. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE) in the KU policy library.

Note: this procedure does not apply to graduate students in matters related to their employment as teaching assistants; a separate grievance procedure is outlined in the GTA Memorandum of Agreement (MOA).

Petitions

Exceptions to the rules and requirements of the graduate program may be granted for sufficient reason by the EECS Graduate Committee. EECS petitions and forms are linked from the [EECS Graduate Students webpage](#). Department staff can route petitions that also require School/College or University review.

Advising, Mentoring, and Communication of Assignments & Roles

EECS advising and mentoring expectations are guided by [KU's Graduate Student Advising and Mentorship policy](#).

Change of Faculty Advisor

Every graduate student is required to have a graduate advisor from the time of admission until completion of degree requirements. The EECS graduate director will serve as the *temporary* faculty advisor for new students that enter the program without an identified primary faculty advisor.

Students may change advisors at any time, provided they can identify another regular member of the department's graduate faculty willing to accept the position. Students should adhere to the following process to initiate a change of faculty advisor: (a) Student or faculty notifies the EECS Graduate Director regarding change of advisor intent, (b) Upon request, the Graduate

Director may serve or may assign a temporary academic advisor to assist with enrollment and procedural matters during the transition, and (c) The student must identify a new faculty advisor willing to serve within one regular semester (Fall or Spring) from the date the change request is submitted. When the process is finalized, the student needs to update the Plan of Study so the Plan reflects accurate advisor information.

If a new advisor is not identified by the end of the semester time-frame, the student will be placed on a departmental probation and required to meet with the Graduate Director to develop a remediation plan.

If the student remains without an advisor after one additional regular semester, the Graduate Committee will review the case and may recommend probation or termination from the program due to inability to make academic progress.

Note that

- a student is not required to obtain the consent of the current advisor to initiate a change.
- the department cannot guarantee that another faculty member will agree to serve as advisor.
- Use the [departmental form](#) to notify advisors regarding and change in advisor roles.
- The Summer semester does not count towards any specified timeframes.

Regular & Timely Feedback from Thesis/Dissertation Advisors

Faculty thesis/dissertation advisors provide regular and timely feedback and assessment on academic work and student progress enabling students to maintain timely progress towards degree completion.

The EECS department has constituted the following *minimum* meeting frequency between students and their advisors.

- Pre-comprehensive: At least one substantive meeting per month during Fall and Spring semesters.
- Post-comprehensive: At least one substantive meeting every two to three weeks during Fall and Spring semesters.
- Summer meetings should be scheduled by mutual agreement, considering funding, enrollment status, and faculty availability.

Faculty advisors are also expected to adhere to the following *minimum* turnaround timelines for feedback on student works.

- Short written submissions (approximately five pages or less): feedback normally within 10 business days during the academic year.
- Major submissions (e.g., thesis/dissertation chapters, papers, proposals): feedback normally within 15 business days during the academic year.

Advisors will notify students in advance when travel, leave, or other obligations may delay feedback. If a student is unable to obtain substantive feedback or meet with their advisor for 30 consecutive days during the academic year (excluding planned leaves or internships), the student may contact the Graduate Director for confidential guidance, mediation, or advice regarding next steps.

Clarification of Advising and Mentoring Roles

Within EECS, graduate student support is provided through a combination of academic advising and faculty mentoring, which serve complementary but distinct purposes. Academic advising focuses on program requirements, degree milestones, enrollment procedures, and compliance with University and School policies. In addition to your primary research advisor (if any), advising support may also be provided by the EECS graduate staff, the Graduate Director, and/or other faculty members, depending on the student's stage in the program and the nature of the issue.

Faculty mentoring is primarily concerned with the student's intellectual, research, and professional development. Mentoring typically includes guidance on research direction, scholarly standards, proposal and dissertation development, professional norms of the discipline, and preparation for post-graduate careers. While advising responsibilities may be shared across multiple roles in the department, sustained mentoring is ordinarily provided by the student's primary research advisor, chairing the thesis, project, or dissertation committee.

Shared Responsibilities in the Advising and Mentoring Relationship

Effective graduate education in EECS relies on a shared commitment among students, faculty advisors, and the department. Students are expected to engage proactively in the advising and mentoring process by communicating regularly, meeting established deadlines, preparing for meetings, and taking responsibility for understanding program requirements and policies. Students are also responsible for seeking guidance when issues arise that may affect academic progress.

Faculty advisors are expected to provide guidance consistent with the policies outlined in this handbook, including regular and timely feedback, availability for advising and mentoring interactions, and clear communication of expectations. The department, through the Graduate Director and Graduate Committee, maintains responsibility for ensuring advising continuity, addressing breakdowns in advising or mentoring relationships, and taking appropriate action when academic progress concerns arise.

Also see, [Additional Mentoring Resources](#).

Information for Graduate Assistants (GTA/GRA/GA)

General Information for All 3G Positions

Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs), Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs), and Graduate Assistants (GAs) (collectively referred to as 3G positions) are appointed to support the instructional, research, and professional missions of the University and the Department. These appointments provide financial support and professional development opportunities while students pursue graduate degrees.

GTAs

The EECS hires GTAs each Fall and Spring semesters, and appoints them for one semester at a time. The department will notify students when it is time to apply (and send out a link for the application), and students will need to apply each semester they need a GTA position. Students not in good standing (including those on probation) are not eligible to be selected as GTAs. The GTA Selection Committee will give preference to students that are actively engaged in research. The Office of Graduate Studies requires all applicants whose native language is not English to demonstrate English proficiency. Refer to [English proficiency requirements](#) for more information about this requirement. Every first time GTA will be required to complete the mandatory GTA training through the KU Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE).

EECS has set a maximum term limit of 12 for GTA appointments.

Mandatory GTA training information can be found on the CTE's website at:

<https://cte.ku.edu/gta-support-and-resources> which is also a good resource for GTAs.

Additionally they have information on teaching-related policies and practices for GTAs at <https://cte.ku.edu/teaching-related-policies-practices>.

General Expectations for Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs)

Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs) play an essential role in the instructional mission of EECS. In accepting a GTA appointment, students are expected to carry out their instructional duties in a professional, ethical, and responsible manner while maintaining satisfactory academic progress toward their degree.

GTAs are expected to:

- Fulfill assigned instructional responsibilities as directed by the supervising faculty member. These responsibilities may include assisting with lectures, leading laboratory or discussion sections, holding office hours, grading assignments and examinations, proctoring exams, and supporting course administration.
- Demonstrate professional conduct in all interactions with undergraduate students, faculty, and staff, including respectful communication, punctuality, and appropriate classroom demeanor.

- Prepare adequately for instructional duties, including attending required course meetings, staff meetings, and training sessions, and completing assigned tasks in a timely and reliable manner.
- Follow course policies and instructional guidance established by the supervising faculty member, including grading standards, assessment procedures, and expectations related to academic integrity.
- Communicate promptly and professionally with the supervising faculty member regarding instructional issues, student concerns, absences, or circumstances that may affect assigned duties.
- Protect student privacy and confidentiality, including appropriate handling of grades, records, and academic information, consistent with FERPA and University expectations.
- Maintain appropriate balance between teaching and academic responsibilities, ensuring that instructional duties do not interfere with degree progress or academic standing.
- Adhere to workload expectations associated with the GTA appointment and raise concerns regarding workload or working conditions through appropriate departmental channels.
- Participate in required training and professional development, including teaching orientations, pedagogical workshops, or English-language proficiency requirements, as applicable. Failure to meet these expectations may result in non-reappointment, or other measures consistent with departmental, School, and University policies.

Failure to meet these expectations may result in non-reappointment, or other measures consistent with departmental, School, and University policies.

An Essential Guide to Teaching at KU: A Handbook of Resources can be found online at https://cte.ku.edu/sites/cte/files/documents/TeachingGuide_2022.pdf.

GRAs/GAs

Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs) and Graduate Assistants (GAs) are appointed primarily to support research or professional activities. Their responsibilities are typically research- or project-focused and are supervised by a faculty principal investigator or designated supervisor. Expectations emphasize research productivity, scholarly development, adherence to research timelines, and professional collaboration.

- Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs) are typically supported by externally funded research grants or contracts and work under the supervision of a faculty principal investigator (PI).
- Graduate Assistants (GAs) may support departmental, instructional support, outreach, or professional activities and are supervised by a designated faculty or staff member.

Students holding GRA or GA appointments are expected to:

- Perform assigned research or professional duties diligently and responsibly, consistent with the scope of work described by the supervising faculty member or supervisor.

Duties may include conducting experiments, developing software or hardware systems, analyzing data, performing literature reviews, preparing technical documentation, supporting project management, or assisting with professional or administrative activities.

- Engage in research or professional activities ethically and responsibly, including adherence to research integrity standards, responsible conduct of research requirements, data management practices, and applicable compliance or safety training.
- Maintain regular communication with the supervising faculty member or supervisor regarding progress, expectations, deadlines, and any challenges affecting assigned responsibilities.
- Meet agreed-upon milestones and deliverables, recognizing that timelines may be influenced by project requirements, funding agency expectations, or collaborative research schedules.
- Contribute professionally to the research or work environment, including collaboration with faculty, staff, and other students, respectful communication, and appropriate use of shared facilities and resources.

Degree Requirements & Procedures

Academic Catalog

The University Academic Catalog is the definitive source for requirements and regulations for every academic program. However, the Catalog is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a contract. Degree requirements listed in the Catalog have been approved by established University Governance procedures. Degree and program requirements and course descriptions are subject to change. Students are subject to the requirements in the catalog of the year they are admitted. This handbook serves as a supplement to provide further details on the requirements, policies, and procedures described in the Catalog.

Below, please find the Academic Catalog degree requirement links (EECS).

Master of Science in Computer Science (catalog):

<https://catalog.ku.edu/engineering/electrical-engineering-computer-science/ms-computer-science/>

Master of Science in Computer Engineering (catalog):

<https://catalog.ku.edu/engineering/electrical-engineering-computer-science/ms-computer-engineering/>

Master of Science in Electrical Engineering (catalog):

<https://catalog.ku.edu/engineering/electrical-engineering-computer-science/ms-electrical-engineering/>

Master of Engineering in EECS (catalog):

<https://catalog.ku.edu/engineering/electrical-engineering-computer-science/me-electrical-engineering-computer-science/>

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science (catalog):

<https://catalog.ku.edu/engineering/electrical-engineering-computer-science/phd-computer-science/>

Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering (catalog):

<https://catalog.ku.edu/engineering/electrical-engineering-computer-science/phd-electrical-engineering/>

Admission

Admission to EECS graduate programs requires that applicants meet the University's Admission to Graduate Study policy, including possession of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution (or equivalent) and, for non-native English speakers, proof of English proficiency at the required level. Admission is open to applicants whose academic records demonstrate strong preparation for graduate study, as evidenced by prior coursework, letters of recommendation, and (optionally) GRE scores; highly qualified applicants may be admitted directly to the Ph.D. program without completing an M.S. degree. Priority application deadlines are December 15 for Fall and October 1 for Spring, with final material deadlines of April 1 (Fall) and November 1 (Spring); applications submitted after priority deadlines may not be considered for funding. Required application materials include an online application, statement of purpose, resume, official transcript(s), three letters of recommendation, English-proficiency scores (for international applicants), and a financial statement (international applicants only), all submitted electronically.

Master's Degree Requirements

The Master of Science (M.S.) degree in EECS requires completion of 31 credit hours, including EECS 802 and at least eight graduate courses, with no more than two courses at the 500–600 level, and at most one approved course outside EECS counting toward the degree. In addition to EECS 802 and the 8 graduate courses, students must select one completion option: a thesis (6 hours of EECS 899), a project (3 hours of EECS 891 plus one additional course), or a coursework-only option (two additional courses). All students must complete a Plan of Study in their first semester, identifying coursework and the chosen completion option. Students completing a thesis or project must pass an oral examination in the final semester, evaluated by a faculty committee. The program prepares graduates for advanced professional practice or doctoral study by developing broad disciplinary knowledge, depth in a specialization, and strong research and communication skills; students wishing to continue to the Ph.D. must submit a formal change-of-major request.

Culminating Effort Expectations: For the thesis or project option, EECS M.S. students are expected to identify a topic and faculty advisor early, form an examining committee in consultation with the advisor, and prepare a written thesis or project consistent with disciplinary standards. The oral examination is held in the final semester, and the written document and defense notice must be submitted *at least three weeks* prior to the scheduled defense. The committee evaluates the written work, oral presentation, and disciplinary knowledge and communicates the outcome, including any required revisions. Students completing the coursework-only option satisfy degree requirements upon successful completion of the approved Plan of Study. See catalog pages for details:

<https://catalog.ku.edu/engineering/electrical-engineering-computer-science/#graduatetext>

Doctoral Degree Requirements

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in EECS requires completion of 37 coursework credit hours, including EECS 802 and 36 hours of approved graduate coursework, with no more than two courses at the 500–600 level and up to two approved courses outside EECS counting toward the degree. Students admitted with a prior M.S. degree may transfer up to 18 credit hours, thus reducing required coursework accordingly. Doctoral students must file an approved Plan of Study and select a major advisor and doctoral committee in their first semester, complete the Qualifying Examination, submit annual Ph.D. Activity Reports (PHAR), and pass the Comprehensive Examination before beginning dissertation credit (EECS 999). Students must complete 18 post-comprehensive dissertation hours (EECS 999) to defend their dissertation. Additionally, the student must be enrolled in EECS 999 in the semester they defend. The program culminates in the completion of an original doctoral dissertation and a final oral defense, evaluated by the doctoral committee, with honors awarded for exceptional scholarly achievement, as assessed by the student's Ph.D. committee.

Additional Details:

Research Skills and Responsible Scholarship: All Ph.D. students must complete the University requirement in Research Skills and Responsible Scholarship prior to the oral comprehensive examination. In EECS, the responsible scholarship requirement is satisfied by completion of EECS 802, to be taken in the first semester of the program. The research skills requirement is satisfied through the successful completion of the Ph.D. Qualifying Examination.

Doctoral Committee: Ph.D. students must select a major advisor and doctoral committee during their first semester, and include the committee on the approved Plan of Study. The doctoral committee consists of a minimum of five graduate faculty members, including the major advisor as chair, at least three tenured or tenure-track EECS graduate faculty, and one Graduate Studies Representative from outside the EECS Department. Committee membership is proposed by the student in consultation with the advisor and is reviewed and approved by the department.

Requests for external or non-KU committee members must follow University procedures for exam privileges.

Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination: The Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination is taken after the successful completion of the Qualifying Examination, EECS 802, and at least two-thirds of the required coursework. Prior to the exam, the student must submit a written dissertation proposal to the committee. The comprehensive exam is an oral examination evaluating the proposal and the student's depth of knowledge in the chosen specialization. The student, in coordination with the advisor, is responsible for scheduling the exam and submitting required forms and materials by department deadlines. The student must notify the department *at least three weeks* prior to the scheduled Comprehensive Examination.

Dissertation Proposal: In EECS, the dissertation proposal is integrated into the oral comprehensive examination rather than treated as a separate milestone.

Post-Comprehensive Enrollment: After passing the comprehensive examination, students must enroll in doctoral dissertation credit (EECS 999) in accordance with University post-comprehensive enrollment requirements. EECS 999 hours may be counted toward the degree only after successful completion of the comprehensive examination. The student must complete at least 18 hours of EECS 999, and need to be enrolled in at least 6 hours each semester until the 18 hour requirement is met.

Dissertation and Final Oral Examination: The doctoral dissertation must represent original research that advances the field of EECS and meet University formatting requirements. The final oral dissertation defense consists of a public presentation followed by questioning by the committee. Required defense notices and the final dissertation document must be submitted by EECS deadlines, at least three weeks prior to the defense. The committee assigns an outcome of Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory, may require revisions by a specified deadline, and may recommend Departmental Honors for exceptional work. See catalog pages for details: <https://catalog.ku.edu/engineering/electrical-engineering-computer-science/#graduatetext>

Certificate Requirements

The Graduate Certificate in Data Science requires completion of four graduate courses (12 credit hours), consisting of one required core course (EECS 835: Advanced Data Science) and three approved elective courses selected from data science–related offerings in EECS and Mathematics. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 3.0 across certificate coursework, with a minimum grade of C in each course. Transfer credits from other institutions are not permitted for this certificate. See details here: <https://catalog.ku.edu/engineering/electrical-engineering-computer-science/certificate-data-science/#certificaterequirementstext>

Other Topics

Graduate Travel Support

The EECS Robb Travel Award provides department-level support for graduate students to offset expenses associated with professional travel, such as presenting research at conferences, attending workshops, or participating in short courses. In addition, the Graduate Engineering Association (GEA) Travel Award offers School-wide support for graduate students who are presenting research at regional, national, or international conferences. Both awards are competitive, reimbursable, and subject to eligibility requirements, funding availability, and application deadlines announced by the department or School. Students are encouraged to consult current EECS and School of Engineering announcements for application procedures and timing.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

This section contains information on requirements and policies of the Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs, hereafter referred to as “the University”. It is not a complete list of all policies pertaining to graduate students. Only those policies that *most commonly* affect graduate students are included.

Policies are described in general terms and are intended to help students understand what is expected. They do not reflect the exact language of the official policy and should not be confused with official policy. Specific information and restrictions as well as links to relevant forms may be accessed by clicking on the policy headings. Links to the official policies in the KU policy library are found at the bottom of each policy description. Students are accountable to and should familiarize themselves with the University's official policies.

GENERAL POLICIES

The following University policies apply to ALL graduate students regardless of degree, program, or department. These are minimum general requirements. Your department or program may have more restrictive policies in any of these areas.

[Admission](#)

Degree or non-degree seeking applicants must have a bachelor's degree (as evidenced by an official transcript from the institution the degree was obtained).

Related Policies and Forms:

- [Admission to Graduate Study](#)

[English Proficiency Requirements](#)

The University requires all applicants, international or domestic, to demonstrate English proficiency for admission to any graduate program at KU. There are multiple ways to prove English proficiency:

- Declaration of native or native-like speaker status on the online application for graduate study.
- Official scores from an English proficiency standardized test (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS-Academic, or PTE), sent by the testing agency to the University of Kansas. Official scores must be less than two years old. Scores must be reported to KU directly by the testing service. Self-reported scores or unofficial scores are not accepted. TOEFL scores should be sent by ETS to KU institution code 6871. IELTS should be sent to KU Graduate Admissions via the e-delivery service. PTE score sheets containing the Score Report Code and Registration ID should be emailed to graduateadm@ku.edu for verification.
- Graduation with a baccalaureate degree (or higher) earned in residence from an accredited English-medium college or university or an accredited college or university in the United States. Degrees earned online may not be used to verify English proficiency. Note: this option is not sufficient for employment as a Graduate Teaching Assistant.
- AEC Curriculum: Students who haven't taken one of the listed tests may complete coursework through the KU [Applied English Center](#) (AEC) to demonstrate English proficiency.
- US Military Employment: If you are employed as an officer in the U.S. military with documentation of selection or promotion to the rank of Major or higher (or the equivalent U.S. Navy or Coast Guard rank), then you will be considered fully proficient and will not be required to complete AEC testing.

Additional English Competency Requirements for GTAs:

English proficiency requirements for GTAs are governed by the Kansas Board of Regents and must be met separately from the English proficiency requirement for admission to a KU graduate program. Detailed information on English proficiency requirements for GTAs may be found on Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs' [Spoken English Competency page](#).

Related Policies and Forms:

- [English Proficiency Requirements for Admission to Graduate Study](#)
- [Spoken English Language Competency of Faculty and Graduate Teaching Assistants, Kansas Board of Regents Policy](#)

Enrollment

For graduate students, advising on enrollment and course selection take place at the department level. While individual units may have additional enrollment requirements, for students who are required to enroll full-time (e.g. students holding a GTA/GRA/GA

appointment, international students on an F-1 or J-1 visa, students receiving federal financial aid, etc.) the University defines full-time enrollment it as follows:

Fall and Spring semesters:

- Enrollment in 9 credit hours;
- Enrollment in 6 credit hours plus a GTA, GRA, or GA appointment, regardless of percentage of appointment;
- Enrollment in 6 credit hours for graduate students using the Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty (MGIB-AD) and Post-9/11 GI Bill – Active Duty;
- Doctoral candidates enrolled in dissertation hour(s). *See Doctoral post-comprehensive enrollment.
- Enrollment in 6 competencies for students in a Competency-Based Education (CBE) program

Summer sessions:

- Enrollment in 6 credit hours;
- Enrollment in 3 credit hours plus a GTA, GRA, or GA appointment, regardless of percentage of appointment;
- Enrollment in 3 credit hours for graduate students using the Montgomery GI Bill – Active Duty (MGIB-AD) and Post-9/11 GI Bill – Active Duty;
- Doctoral candidates enrolled in dissertation hour(s).
- Enrollment in 6 competencies for students in a CBE program

Graduate students are not normally permitted to enroll for more than 16 hours a semester or more than 8 hours in summer session.

While these are KU's definitions of full-time enrollment, other institutions may have different definitions. Be sure to consult with your financial aid and/or health insurance providers before making enrollment decisions.

Students not enrolled by 11:59pm the day before the first day of classes will be assessed a late enrollment fee. The University Registrar then deactivates the KU ID of any not enrolled by the last Friday in October (for Fall) or last Friday in March (for Spring). Students who wish to enroll after that must submit a [Permit to Re-Enroll](#) to be reactivated.

Students who wish to leave their graduate program should inform the department of such plans in writing so that a Voluntary Withdrawal form may be submitted on their behalf. Please note that voluntarily withdrawing from your program does **not**

automatically withdraw you from coursework. You must also withdraw from all classes in Enroll & Pay via the “Withdraw from the University” option.

Deadlines for adding, changing, dropping, or withdrawing from all courses, as well any fines associated with the change, are set by the University. **Deadlines vary from year to year. Students should carefully review the current [Academic Calendar](#).**

You may also wish to consult the Registrar's page on [Effects of Dropping or Withdrawing on your Transcript](#).

Your graduate program coordinator (or similar title) is available to guide you through any enrollment scenarios or questions that come up. In order to avoid problems on your record, please consult with them prior to dropping or changing enrollment.

Related Policies:

- [Discontinued Enrollment](#)
- [Enrollment](#)
- [Full-time Enrollment for Graduate Students](#)
- [Graduate Coursework Expiration Dates](#)
- [Master's Degree Requirements](#)

Graduate Credit (Including Transfer Credit)

The University's Graduate Credit [policy](#) defines KU's conditions for the following:

- Definition of graduate credit for the purposes of a course “counting” towards a graduate degree or graduate certificate at KU;
- Transfer of graduate credit to KU from an outside institution;
- Reduction in the required number of graduate hours for Master's students;
- Counting credit hours taken as non-degree seeking student towards a later graduate degree at KU;
- Counting credit hours taken as a certificate seeking student toward another graduate degree.

Transfer Credit

The transfer credit option allows master's students to add graduate-level coursework completed at another institution to their KU transcript to count toward their KU degree. Upper-level coursework taken as an undergraduate, even courses numbered at the graduate level, is not eligible for transfer in any case. Additional restrictions apply to what non-KU graduate courses and the number of credit hours that can be counted

toward a KU master's degree, so students should carefully review the information provided in the link above and the related policies below, as well as consulting with their DGS. In all cases, transfer credit must first be approved at the department or program level. To begin the transfer process, students should consult with their DGS to submit the required transfer materials. These include a transcript reflecting the courses to be transferred and descriptions and/or syllabi for the courses in question.

No transfer of credits is allowed for the Ph.D. In circumstances where students enter the Ph.D. program with an M.A. from another institution or other relevant graduate coursework, it may be possible for students to request a reduction in the number of hours required for the Ph.D. Students should consult with their DGS about their enrollment plan.

Reduced Credit Hour Degree

KU policy defines 30 hours as the minimum for master's degrees. Departments may petition for a reduced hour degree master's degree for individual students in cases where they may provide evidence that the student entered the program especially well-prepared to complete a graduate-level degree and the student is able to maintain a superior grade point average. Reduced credit hour degrees must be based on coursework or experiences that can be objectively measured, such as coursework or qualifying internship or study abroad programs. Professional or life experience does not qualify. A reduction in hours is distinct from a transfer of credit and is reserved for students whose prior coursework doesn't qualify for transfer credit (e.g. was already used to fulfill requirements towards a completed degree) and there are no modifications on the transcript.

Restrictions apply to the number of credit hours that can be reduced for a master's degree, so students should carefully review the information provided in the link above and the related policies below.

In all cases, a reduction in hours must first be approved at the department or program level, so to begin the process for approval, students should consult with their DGS. Students must also provide documentation of the coursework or experience being used to justify the reduced hours (e.g. transcripts, program descriptions).

Because there is no minimum number of required hours for the Ph.D., reduction of required hours based on prior degrees or experience is determined solely at the program level. Doctoral students should consult with their DGS about their enrollment plan.

Related Policies:

- [Graduate Credit](#)
- [Co-enrollment](#)
- [Master's Degree Requirements \(on Reduced Hour Master's Degree\)](#)

Credit/No Credit

The University supports and encourages interdisciplinary study, which may include graduate students enrolling in coursework at the graduate level that is outside of their primary discipline. The Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) is an option for graduate students who are taking a course that is not required for their degree or certificate and who do not wish to have the course grade reflected in their cumulative graduate GPA. Rather than a grade appearing on the transcript, the student receives a designation of CR or NC, which does not factor in the GPA.

No course graded CR/NC will count toward the satisfaction of any graduate degree or certificate requirement. This includes, but is not limited to, courses taken to fulfill the Research Skills and Responsible Scholarship requirement for doctoral students.

Students make the CR/NC election via the Registrar's CR/NC [online request](#) form. Elections and changes to elections can only be made during the specific CR/NC period. For regular semester courses, this period begins after the last day to add a class and extends for approximately two weeks. Exact dates may be found on the current [KU Academic Calendar](#). Please keep in mind, short courses may have [alternate dates](#).

The student should consult with their own program advisor about the appropriateness of the course prior to enrolling; however, in cases where CR/NC is elected, the course instructor is not informed of the election unless the student chooses to share this information.

Additional restrictions apply. Students should carefully review the information in the link above.

Related Policies and Forms:

- [University Senate Rules and Regulations \(USRR\), Section 2.3.8](#)

Probation & Dismissal

Probation is an academic status that can be assigned to a graduate student that is not making [satisfactory progress](#) toward completing their degree. The department initiates the probation process and will inform the student of why they are not making

satisfactory progress, what they must do to return to good standing, and the deadline for doing so.

Students are most commonly placed on probation due to their graduate cumulative GPA dropping below a B average (3.0 on a 4.0 scale). In these cases, probation occurs automatically and is reflected on the student's record for the semester following the semester in which the student's GPA drops below 3.0. If the student's cumulative GPA is raised to 3.0 by the end of the probationary semester, the student will be automatically returned to good academic standing.

Individual Schools/the College may set more stringent GPA requirements.

Students may also be placed on probation by their departments for other reasons that constituting a failure to make satisfactory progress towards degree. These may include, but are not limited to;

- Lack of progress on the thesis, dissertation, or capstone project
 - Unacceptable academic performance on program milestones outside of coursework (e.g. exams)
 - Unsatisfactory grades or GPA within foundational required courses (despite the overall cumulative GPA)
 - An unsatisfactory result in their department's annual progress evaluation
- Nearing or going beyond their maximum time to degree. See the Time Limits section below for more information.

Students should carefully review the [Good Academic Standing policy](#) for graduate students at KU for more information on what constitutes making satisfactory academic progress.

Individual programs may also have additional measures of progress. Students should also consult the Annual Review section of their department graduate handbook or the degree requirements section and with their program advisor for more information.

If a student is unable to raise their cumulative GPA or otherwise meet the communicated terms of the academic probation, the department will reconsider their continuation in the program, and in most cases will recommend the student for dismissal. Once dismissed, a student is no longer able to be enrolled in coursework and cannot complete their degree. Students dismissed from any graduate program may not be admitted to any other graduate program at the University of Kansas.

A student on probation or facing dismissal should discuss their status with their advisor.

Related Policies:

- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Dismissed Enrollment](#)
- [Good Academic Standing policy](#)

Grading

The Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs' (GPA) [Grading policy](#) governs requirements for the grading of graduate students above those described in [Article II](#) of the University Senate Rules and Regulations. Additionally, individual schools, departments, or programs may have grading policies that are more stringent than those of GPA.

Students should also consult their advisor and the departmental grading section of this handbook for additional information that may affect them.

At minimum, for all graduate students at KU, at least a B average is required on course work counted toward any of the master's degrees at KU, and only courses graded A, B, or C (excluding C-) may be counted. Course work counted toward a doctorate, including that for a master's degree if obtained at KU, should average better than a B.

Related Policies:

- [University Senate Rules & Regulations](#)
- [Grading](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Dismissed Enrollment](#)

Time Limits

The University expects that master's degree should typically be completed in two (2) years of full-time study, the doctorate degree in five (5) years of study, and both the master's and doctorate together in six-seven (6-7) years of study.

Students who anticipate exceeding these targets should review the information in the policies below, as well as consult with their program advisor to create a timeline for degree completion. In order to support this process, students are encouraged to use a Mentoring Agreement Template and/or adapt to their own needs to support effective mentoring and a positive mentoring relationship.

Note that individual schools/the College/degree programs may require Mentoring Agreements for students who are nearing their maximum time to degree.

Related Policies and Forms:

- [Master's Degree Program Time Constraints](#)
- [Engagement and Enrollment in Doctoral Programs](#)
- [Doctoral Degree Comprehensive Oral Exams](#) (on exam expiration and recertification)
- [Doctoral Program Profiles with Time to Degree Information](#)
- [KU CLAS Mentorship Agreement Template](#)
- [Univ. Michigan Rackham Graduate School Mentoring Plan Templates](#)
- [KU Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs IDP template](#)

Leave of Absence

In exceptional circumstances (e.g. cases of illness, emergency, financial hardship, military leave, to pursue family responsibilities, or to pursue full-time activities related to long-range professional goals) it may be necessary for graduate students to take a break from their program temporarily, without having to withdraw entirely from the program. An approved leave of absence allows a student to take a temporary break from enrolling in graduate coursework while remaining in good standing with the University and the department and while “stopping the clock” on their time to degree. When a student is on Leave of Absence status it is understood that they have temporarily suspended their graduate work and therefore will not make use of University resources, including faculty time.

Requesting a Leave of Absence is done through a University petition. University petitions must first be approved and supported at the program level, so students wishing to initiate the petition process should first consult with their Director of Graduate Studies and review their department's internal petition procedures. Units or the Director of Graduate Study may request documentation to support the student's need for a leave of absence.

In order for a Leave of Absence to be approved, the student must be withdrawn from all active and/or future enrollment. Withdrawal for the purposes of Leave of Absence is still subject to all Registrar deadlines, required forms, and applicable tuition and fees.

Students on Leave of Absence are automatically reactivated after their leave is over and are eligible to enroll for their intended semester back during the normal enrollment periods. See the KU [Academic Calendar](#) for exact dates that enrollment begins.

If at any time plans change and a student wishes to return and enroll before leave was supposed to end, they may contact their department to be reactivated early.

Related Policies and Forms:

- [Leaves of Absence](#) (policy)
- [Leave of Absence](#) (GPA website, form linked at bottom of page)

Required University Milestones

All graduate students must complete one or more exams as part of their degree requirements. In addition to department or program guidelines, the following milestones are required for all students and specific regulations apply:

- Master's Final Culminating Exam (written or oral)/Thesis Defense for Master's degree
- Doctoral Comprehensive Oral Exam
- Doctoral Final Exam/Dissertation Defense

*A final culminating effort is not required for departments with an approved coursework-only master's degree option in the Academic Catalog (note that programs with a capstone are considered coursework only).

Before a student is allowed to complete any of these three exams, pre-approval from the school/College is required in advance of the exam date. This pre-approval request will be submitted on the student's behalf by their department after the exam date has been scheduled. The school/College reviews the student record and verifies all University requirements have been fulfilled. The full list of these requirements may be found via the link in the heading above. Students should work with their departments well in advance of their planned exam date, to schedule their exams in a timely fashion and to ensure that all University policies relating to oral exams are being followed.

There are additional policies requirements for oral exams. The following are University policies pertaining to oral exams:

Oral Exam Committee Composition

All voting committee members must be appointed members of the Graduate Faculty of KU. Additionally, a majority of committee members serving on a graduate student oral examination committee must be tenured/tenure-track faculty in the candidate's department or program of study.

Many additional restrictions apply, especially for doctoral exam committees. Master's and doctoral students should carefully review the University policies pertaining to

exams, as well as consult with their Director of Graduate Studies when forming an exam committee. Your graduate program coordinator can assist with confirming the qualifying status of any faculty member at KU, or outside of KU.

Oral Exam Attendance

Oral Exams may be conducted in-person, remotely, or a hybrid of both. There are no University level requirements for physical presence; however, there are strict regulations on participation.

In all cases, all committee members must be present, either physically or via phone/video conference, for an exam to commence. **If a committee member does not arrive or appear, the exam may not begin and if a committee member leaves or loses connection such that they cannot fully participate, the exam may not proceed. Oral examinations that do not meet these attendance requirements are not valid.**

Master's and doctoral students should carefully review the policies below, as well as consult with their Director of Graduate Studies in the formation of an oral exam committee.

Related Policies and Forms:

- [Master's Student Oral Exam Committee Composition](#)
- [Doctoral Student Oral Exam Committee Composition](#)
- [Oral Exam Attendance](#)
- [Graduate Faculty Appointments](#)

DOCTORAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the student's individual Ph.D. program's degree requirements, the following are University requirements for graduation with a Ph.D. at KU.

Enrollment Requirement

Prior to the semester in which the comprehensive exam is held, all doctoral students must complete a minimum program engagement equivalent to two full-time semesters. This may be accomplished through either of the following:

- Two semesters (fall and/or spring) of full-time enrollment in KU coursework, as defined by University policy
- At least 18 hours of enrollment in KU coursework spread out over several part-time semesters

Related Policies and Forms:

- [Engagement and Enrollment in Doctoral Programs](#)

Continuous Enrollment for Post-Comprehensive Students

During the semester in which the doctoral oral comprehensive exam is completed and each fall and spring semester follows, doctoral students must adhere to very specific enrollment requirements. These requirements may be different than enrollment requirements prior to the oral comp exam.

Failure to properly comply with the enrollment requirements may cause delays to graduation or additional enrollment requirements to make up what was missed, increasing tuition expenses near the end of your degree program.

To avoid delays or additional costs, you are also strongly advised to meet with your graduate program coordinator the semester before your oral comprehensive exam.

Your graduate coordinator will work with you to develop an enrollment plan that meets all policy requirements, while also preventing unnecessary or avoidable fees.

Post-comprehensive enrollment requirements also apply to students with GTA/GRA/GA appointments, but these students must be certified to drop their enrollment levels.

Departments are responsible for tracking student enrollment and will submit the certification form on the student's behalf **at least two weeks prior** to the beginning of the semester in which the enrollment will drop below 6 hours. Students who are certified to reduce hours continue to meet the University's definition of full-time enrollment, as well as the enrollment requirements of their employment contract.

Related Policies and Forms:

- [Full-time Enrollment for Graduate Students](#)
- [Doctoral Candidacy](#)

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

The University offers a variety of [Approved Graduate Certificate Programs](#) to encourage current graduate students to pursue interdisciplinary study, gain a credential for

expertise in an outside area of study, or provide an option for a coherent course of advanced study for those not ready to commit to a full degree program. Note that students must be fully admitted to a graduate certificate by the end of the last course that will count to fulfill the certificate. Students wishing to complete the certificate should apply as early as possible. Students whose interests or career goals may be served by a Graduate Certificate should familiarize themselves with the University's policies relating to Certificate programs (found below) early in their graduate career, in addition to individual certificate program requirements.

Related Policies and Forms:

- [Graduate Certificate Programs: Eligibility and Admission Criteria](#)
- [Policies & Procedures for Graduate Certificate Programs](#)

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Master's & Ph.D.)

In addition to all program requirements, students [planning to graduate](#) must complete all University graduation requirements **prior to the published Graduation Deadline** in a given semester. Students should consult the current [Academic Calendar](#) for the published Graduation Deadline, which varies by semester.

Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs Graduation Checklists ([Master's](#) | [Doctoral](#))

These graduation checklists provide a comprehensive list of all University requirements for graduation and should be consulted by every graduating master's or doctoral student as soon as graduation is expected. Submission of the final draft of the thesis or dissertation is done electronically. Students must comply with all University requirements for [formatting](#) and [electronic submission](#) of the thesis or dissertation. There is no University requirement that students provide a bound or printed copy of the draft.

We strongly encourage students to submit an Application for Graduation as early as possible; ideally prior to the 20th day of classes of the semester they intend to graduate.

GRADUATE & POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Office of Graduate & Postdoctoral Affairs (GPA) offers funding opportunities in several different categories. Students interested in applying should direct inquiries to the department's Director of Graduate Studies or to GPA. Some of the available funding includes:

[Summer Research Scholarships](#): intended primarily for post-comp doctoral students.

[Graduate Student Travel Fund](#): intended for graduate students presenting a paper at a national or regional meeting of a learned or professional society. A student may receive an award (max \$750) only once per academic year, with priority given to students who have not received the fund previously. Funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

[Doctoral Student Research Fund](#): Designed to support KU doctoral students who need assistance to carry out research that advances progress toward the degree. Applications for this fund are accepted only for a limited time as funding is available. Students are eligible to receive one award from this fund during their doctoral career. Students should check the link above for additional information and restrictions.

Policies Regarding Freedom of Expression on Campus

Kansas State Law (HB2333) requires postsecondary educational institutions in Kansas to publish in their handbooks and orientation programs the institution's policies, regulations, or expectations of students regarding free expression on campus.

Per KU General Counsel, this includes the following two policies:

- [KU Public Assembly Policy](#)
- [Kansas Board of Regents Statement on Free Expression](#)

Note that the two policies listed above apply to ALL members of the campus community; they are not specific to graduate students.