

Doctoral Student Review

Although MBRS-RISE students may be funded for a maximum of 5 years, this period of funding should not be considered “guaranteed.” The UTSA RISE program will evaluate student progress, taking into consideration the length of time in doctoral education rather than length of time in the RISE program (getting into the RISE program in your 4th year, does not guarantee you 9 years of funding). The RISE Program also works closely with the doctoral studies committees of participating programs. Below are the conditions under which MBRS-RISE doctoral students are funded.

1. The NIH has recently ruled that any one student can receive only 5 years, maximum, of graduate-level MBRS-RISE funding. If a person was funded for 2 years of M.S. education, only 3 years remain in total possible funding at the doctoral level.
2. Throughout their doctoral education, the RISE program will solicit feedback in Fall and Spring semesters from both the student and their research mentor (or PI with whom they have recently rotated)
3. If Grades or problems with qualifying examinations place students on academic or doctoral program probation, **THEY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE MBRS-RISE PROGRAM.**

In addition:

1. By the end of their first year, RISE students should;
 - Submit their CV to the MBRS-RISE Program with additional information described below
 - Conferences attended
 - Students mentored
 - Community involvement
 - Additional training or professional development
2. By the end of their second year, Students should:
 - Find a RISE-approved research mentor with whom to complete their doctoral research
 - Complete their written qualifying examinations
 - Be well on their way to completing their Thesis Proposal
 - Submit their CV to the MBRS-RISE Program as described above
3. By mid-Summer of their third year, to assess continuation in year 4, all RISE students should submit
 - Paperwork indicating successful advancement to Candidacy
 - An updated CV as described
 - A copy of their Thesis proposal
 - A copy of the pre-doctoral grant that they have submitted to a federal agency
 - Transcript demonstrating completion of all coursework (including the MBRS-RISE Survival Skills and Grant Writing courses), other than seminars, special topics courses, and thesis research.
 - A description of research accomplished, demonstrating that they are on track for completing at least one of their specific aims
 - Timeline for completion of other Specific Aims.
 - A copy of scientific publications;
 - Abstracts - should have submitted an abstract and presented at a scientific conference
 - Scientific Paper: should be at least a co-author on a paper and preferably first author on a paper associated with their thesis proposal.

5. By mid-Summer of their fourth year (prior to entering fifth year of funding), all RISE students should submit:
- A letter of support from their Research mentor, including information on student progress, an estimation of graduation time, and a statement of continued support.
 - A copy of any updates made on Thesis proposal/Specific Aims.
 - A CV as described above
 - A detailed summary discussing the progress on their research and completion of individual specific aims.
 - A timeline for completion of the remaining specific aims and doctoral thesis.
 - Copies of all scientific publications:
 - Abstracts (Preferably first author on thesis topic)
 - Scientific Papers/Manuscripts (Preferably first author, on thesis topics, and submitted)