

## Neuroscience Graduate Program Timelines

**Note: the academic fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30**

### **Year 1: July 1- August 1**

Begin graduate program (complete a rotation if you start in July)  
Course work and 2 rotations

**Summer** – join dissertation lab mid-June if not doing a third rotation or by mid-August with an extra rotation

### **Year 2: July 1- August 1**

Complete coursework and teach in a neuroscience course  
Learn laboratory techniques for dissertation work; complete pilot experiments

### **Year 3: July 1- August 1**

Transition to dissertation advisor's support July 1  
Complete second teaching assignment (and any selectives not possible to complete in year 2)

#### ***Qualifying exam***

**August 30** – submit proposed aims for qualifying exam and suggested committee members to Curriculum & Tracking Committee for review

**October 15** – submit qualifying exam proposal to committee

**October 30** – Complete oral qualifying exam with examination committee

#### ***Thesis Proposal***

**January** – choose Dissertation Advisory Committee & meet with them to discuss dissertation aims

**May** – dissertation proposal presented in seminar and approved by dissertation committee

**April (or August year 4)** – submit NRSA or equivalent (suggested, not required)

**June** - Admission to candidacy

**Years 4-5** – Complete and defend dissertation work