

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY

Program Committee Approval

The final approval as to whether the student is advanced to candidacy will be made by the faculty members of the CMB Program Committee, and will incorporate the totality of the student's record, including academic record, lab progress, prelim evaluations, and rotation and dissertation work.

Factors considered in determining a student's eligibility for advancement to candidacy include: a) academic record meets Rackham requirements (average of B or better); b) required CMB coursework (biochem, cell biology, genetics) has been accomplished with grades of B or better; and c) laboratory progress is satisfactory based on completion of rotations and satisfactory reports from the mentor.

The student's dissertation mentor is asked to write a detailed evaluation of the student's performance in conjunction with the review for advancement to candidacy. If clarification is needed, the student's dissertation mentor or prelim committee chair may be asked to attend the Program Committee meeting when the student's performance is discussed. If deficiencies are identified, the Program Committee will recommend procedures for correcting the deficiencies to bring the student to eligible status.

Advancement to Candidacy

Once the Program Committee decides to advance the student to candidacy, the CMB Office will process the candidacy with Rackham (typically in the Spring). Students must register for Fall and Winter terms after advancing to candidacy. Additional requirements can be found on Rackham's Doctoral Degrees policy page (<https://rackham.umich.edu/academic-policies/section4/>).

Registration

Once students achieve candidacy, they must register for CMBIOL 995 as their research course each Fall and Winter. They will continue to register for CMBIOL 850 each semester unless they are registering "unofficially" with the CMB program so they can take other courses.

Rackham has a limit on how many courses/credits candidates can take, so this helps to avoid being charged extra tuition at the end of the academic year. Click here for the [Rackham policy](#) on taking extra courses as a candidate.