PhD Candidacy Policy (updated 4-29-15)

1) Purpose
This policy outlines the programmatic expectations for attaining PhD candidacy, which is a prerequisite to register for PhD dissertation credits.

2) Requirement
Admission of PhD students in Pharmaceutical Sciences to candidacy for the doctoral degree is granted after:
- Completion of all didactic coursework as outlined in the approved Plan of Study (see Plan of Study Policy)
- Successfully passing of the Comprehensive Qualifying Examination (see Comprehensive Qualifying Examination Policy)
- Acceptance of the PhD Dissertation Proposal (see PhD Dissertation Proposal Policy)
- Prior to admission to doctoral candidacy, all doctoral students shall complete a residency requirement by enrolling in 10 graduate credit hours (12 if funded by a Graduate Assistantship) per semester for two out of three consecutive semesters of study (including summer). Part-time students are not exempt from enrollment requirements to achieve residency.

3) Timeline
Advancement to PhD candidacy must be achieved by the end of the 3rd year of enrollment. Failure to comply with this expectation may result in dismissal from the graduate program due to insufficient progress towards the intended degree.