



## Dissertation Checklist

The items listed below must be completed with the offices noted in order to meet degree completion requirements.

### Registrar:

- Registration for the semester in which the degree will be conferred is required.
- A Degree Application, for the semester you plan to graduate, must be on file with the Registrar's Office.

**Please Note:** To attend commencement in May, you must file a degree application with the Registrar's Office and attend status check. Please visit the [Commencement website](#) for more information.

### Office of Graduate Education:

- PART I: Prior to submission, the items below must already be on file in the Office of Graduate Education.**
  - An approved Plan of Study must be on file with the Registrar's Office and a copy on file with the Office of Graduate Education. Courses listed on the Plan of Study must agree with courses shown on your transcript.
  - An approved [Doctoral Committee Nomination Form](#) must be on file with the Office of Graduate Education.
  - A record of successful completion of the Candidacy Examination must be on file with the Office of Graduate Education.
- PART II: The items listed below must be submitted to the Office of Graduate Education before a formal review of the dissertation will be conducted. In order to complete the review process and notify the Registrar's Office that your dissertation requirement has been met, it is highly recommended that your dissertation submission is completed before, but not later than, the published deadline.**
  - A [Record of Dissertation Exam Form](#) with the original signatures of your Examining Committee must be provided to the Office of Graduate Education. Once your dissertation has been reviewed and officially approved, this form is signed by the Dean of Graduate Education and sent to the Registrar's Office.
  - A [Survey of Earned Doctorates Certificate](#). Survey must be completed on-line ONLY beginning Fall 2014 and a "Certificate of Completion" submitted (instead of the actual Survey).
  - A completed [Graduate Student Exit Survey Form](#) must be submitted.
  - We ask that you please take a moment to complete the [Future Plans Survey](#) located at the [Center for Career and Professional Development](#) website. We have many employers who request compensation guidelines for PhD graduates. This data can help strengthen salary offers for our students.
- PART III: The following must be submitted electronically.**
  - You will need to use a credit or debit card to pay a \$27.00 fee as part of the UMI ETD Administrator submission process. This fee covers the cost of UMI/ProQuest supplying a bound paper copy of your dissertation to the Rensselaer Libraries for preservation. Please note that you may file for copyright registration via UMI/ProQuest for an additional \$55.
  - Submit the electronic copy of your dissertation via UMI/ProQuest's [ETD Administrator website](#) in PDF format. The dissertation submitted must already have been approved by your committee.
- PART IV: Reviews and Final Approval.**
  - Any requests for changes to submitted theses will be communicated electronically and students will need to make adjustments as soon as possible.
  - The Office of Graduate Education will approve dissertations once all requirements have been met and will then release to ProQuest after it is signed off by the Dean of Graduate Education.