

## *Probation and Literature Review*

Reference USyd Probation form:

<http://www.medfac.usyd.edu.au/currentstudent/postgrad/Probation.pdf>

### **Probation**

All students are admitted to higher degrees in the Faculty of Medicine on probationary acceptance. The duration of probation is two semesters for PhD and Masters students, irrespective of nature of candidacy (full or part time).

There are three possible outcomes to the probationary period: probation met; extension to probation; probation not met.

Criteria for first year students to meet probation in the Discipline of Paediatrics & Child Health are:

- **End of Probation Review:** Students are required to make a 10-15 minute PowerPoint presentation to the Postgraduate Co-ordinator (or Deputy Postgraduate Co-ordinator). Presentations are to cover the research which has been completed and where students are heading.  
For students commencing semester 1, Reviews will be scheduled for late January / February. For semester 2 commencing students, Reviews will be scheduled for June or July.  
Supervisors are invited to attend the End of Probation Review and respond to the presentation.  
The End of Probation Review is a supportive process to make sure candidature is on track.  
The End of Probation Review may be waived for students with exceptional progress at their first annual progress review interview (October of their first year) at the discretion of the Postgraduate Co-ordinator, subject to recommendation by the Annual Progress Review Panel.
- **Attend and present at the compulsory Postgraduate Research Student Conference** held in August each year.
- **A 'satisfactory written English expression' statement** must be signed by the candidate's supervisor.
- **Submission of a Literature Review and Research Plan** emended with the supervisor's comments prior to the end of the second semester of candidature is necessary to fulfil the criteria 'satisfactory written English expression' (see also Literature Review).
- **Satisfactory progress**, as determined at the annual progress review interview.
- **Fulfilment of any other conditions** that were stipulated at the admission interview by the Discipline of Paediatrics and Child Health.

## Literature Review

The Literature Review must incorporate background information and information pertinent to their research hypothesis. The Literature Review will be of *not more than 20 pages* (double spaced 12 point font) in length.

The Literature Review must be checked by the supervisor and when submitted at the annual progress review, show the supervisor's emendations. Supervisors should be given sufficient time to do this, i.e. approximately one month before the deadlines.

The Literature Review does not have to be the final product - students will need to revise and update their Literature Review throughout their candidacy. The submitted Literature Review should constitute an adequate first draft as judged by the supervisor.

**Literature Review Deadlines:** Students commencing Semester 1 are to submit their Literature Review (with supervisor's emendations) to the Annual Progress Review Panel interview in October. Students commencing Semester 2 are to submit their Literature review (with supervisor's emendations) to the Postgraduate Co-ordinator by 31 March.