Criteria for Scheduling Summer Dissertation Oral Defense

Dissertation Oral Defenses are normally held in the Autumn Term and Spring Term. Only for reasons of very exceptional urgency, according to criteria established by the Ed.D. Committee (which administers the degree of Doctor of Education and the degree of Doctor of Education in College Teaching of an Academic Subject) and the Ph.D. Coordinating Committee (which administers the degree of Doctor of Philosophy), and upon recommendation by the candidate’s dissertation sponsor and department chair, a Dissertation Oral Defense may be scheduled during the Summer Term. Exceptional urgency is defined by the following:

1. The candidate is from another country and must return before the start of the Autumn Term;
2. The candidate is going on a professional assignment in another country before the start of the Autumn Term;
3. The candidate is going on extended military duty before the start of the Autumn Term; or,
4. The dissertation sponsor and/or committee members are going to be on leave or on an off-campus assignment during the preceding Spring or following Autumn Term.

The Ed.D. Committee and the Ph.D. Committee authorize the Office of the Registrar to review all petitions pertaining to the above conditions or others, which would precipitate exceptional urgency.

Instructions for Ed.D./Ed.D. CTAS Candidates

To obtain authorization for a Summer Dissertation Oral Defense, please follow the procedures below:

NOTE: The deadline for submission of the Ed.D./Ed.D. CTAS Intention to Defend the Dissertation for a 2018 Summer Defense is April 24th, 2018. APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DEADLINE.


2. In addition to completing the “Ed.D./Ed.D. CTAS Dissertation Oral Defense Request to Schedule” form, the student will provide an e-mail from each member of the Dissertation Oral Defense Committee stating their willingness to participate in the Summer Dissertation Oral Defense and approval of the Month, Day, and Time of the Oral Defense.

3. Ed.D./Ed.D. CTAS candidates must register for Program Code _8900 Dissertation Advisement for zero (0) points OR at least three (3) credits of Teachers College coursework to fulfill the continuous registration fee during the Summer Term they wish to defend.
Instructions for Ph.D. Candidates

To obtain authorization for a Summer Dissertation Oral Defense, please follow the procedures below:

1. The candidate submits “Notification of Intention to Defend the Dissertation at Final Oral Defense Examination for the Ph.D. Degree” at the beginning of the Summer semester. Once a date for defense has been confirmed with all members of the Final Oral Defense Committee, the “Application to Schedule the Ph.D. Final Oral Defense,” is submitted along with a recommendation from the dissertation sponsor approving a Summer final oral defense.

   - The “Notification of Intention to Defend the Dissertation at Final Oral Defense Examination for the Ph.D. Degree” and the “Application to Schedule the Ph.D. Final Oral Defense” forms are obtainable on the Doctoral Studies Website.

2. Ph.D. candidates must register for T18900 Dissertation Defense during the Summer Term they wish to defend.

Check the Teachers College Website http://www.tc.edu for the Summer Term dates.