



School of Health and Social Care

Faculty of Science and Health

DClinPsych Students

Postgraduate Research milestones are used to ensure students are making sufficient progress during their studies, and to provide a supportive framework to guide students through the various stages of their research. The Milestones should also help to keep students on track to submit within the appropriate period. PGR supervisors should talk through the relevant milestones during supervisory meetings, and they should be referred to on a regular basis.

Supervisory Panels and Research Students' Progress Boards will use the milestones to reflect on the level of progress being made, ahead of making a recommendation. Whilst the milestones are specific for each department and type of course, it is recognised that every research journey is different, and that whilst the milestones provide an overarching framework of expectations, a degree of flexibility should be given, based on the trajectory and scope of research.

Students and supervisors are encouraged to supplement these milestones with individual research plans which take into account the specifics of an individual research project and the individual circumstances of the PGR student.

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Year 1

Ahead of the first Supervisory Panel

| Milestone | Requirement | Term to undertake work <i>(To be used as a guide only)</i> |
|-----------|---|---|
| M1.1 | Assess training needs and knowledge required to undertake research project and complete the thesis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training Needs Analysis to be completed • Attend Proficio courses and plan for further courses to attend, as appropriate | 1 |

Ahead of the second Supervisory Panel

| Milestone | Requirement | Term to undertake work <i>(To be used as a guide only)</i> |
|-----------|--|---|
| M1.2 | Research Project Proposal, including (dependent on subject area): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write central research problem/question to be answered • Methodological considerations. • Feasibility Report – identifying sources, access and ethical considerations • Create project plan, outlining objectives for | 3 |
| M1.3 | Demonstration of effective project management through the setting of research goals and prioritisation of activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a detailed, realistic plan of work / timetable for Year 2. • Produce supervisory panel report written in a clear and self-reflective style | 3 |
| M1.4 | Subject Specific milestones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To complete all taught modules and have passed at least 50% of modules on first attempt. | By end of academic year |

Has the student and supervisory team considered whether the research will be using human participants, and if so, has sought and received formal university ethics approval.

Has the student and supervisory team considered whether the research uses security-sensitive material, and if so, has sought and received formal university registration of this material.

The Supervisory Panel will make a recommendation to the Research Students' Progress Board, ahead of the next academic year. Further information regarding Supervisory Panels and Research Students' Progress Boards can be found here: <https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/postgraduate-research/pgr-progress>

Year 2

Ahead of the third Supervisory Panel (Confirmation Board)

| Milestone | Requirement | Term to undertake work <i>(To be used as a guide only)</i> |
|-----------|---|---|
| M2.1 | Review training needs and knowledge required to continue with research project and complete the thesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Proficio courses and plan for further courses to attend, as appropriate | 6 |

Ahead of the fourth Supervisory Panel

| Milestone | Requirement | Term to undertake work <i>(To be used as a guide only)</i> |
|-----------|--|---|
| M2.2 | Demonstrate work of the quality and quantity expected at the end of Year 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit 3000-word draft of one of the chapters produced to date • Report on research undertaken to date | 6 |



| | | |
|------|---|-------------------------|
| M2.3 | Review significance and impact of research and articulate output For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present research to students and staff at seminars/conference | 6 |
| M2.4 | Demonstration of effective project management through the setting of research goals and prioritisation of activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a detailed, realistic plan of work/timetable for Year 3 • Produce supervisory panel report written in a clear and self-reflective style | 6 |
| M2.5 | Subject-specific milestones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To complete all taught modules and have passed at least 50% of modules on first attempt | By end of academic year |

Has the student and supervisory team considered whether the research will be using human participants, and if so, has sought and received formal university ethics approval.

Has the student and supervisory team considered whether the research uses security-sensitive material, and if so, has sought and received formal university registration of this material.

The Supervisory Panel will make a recommendation to the Research Student Progress Board, ahead of the next academic year. Further information regarding Supervisory Panels and Research Student Progress Boards can be found here: <https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/postgraduate-research/pgr-progress>

Year 3

Ahead of the fifth Supervisory Panel

| Milestone | Requirement | Term to undertake work <i>(To be used as a guide only)</i> |
|-----------|--|---|
| M3.1 | Ability to reflect on skills and knowledge development and its application to the research project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training Needs Analysis reviewed | 8 |
| M3.2 | Demonstrate work of the quality and quantity expected at the end of Year 3 (or equivalent for part-time students) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research completed (experimental, empirical and theoretical work, where relevant) | 8 |
| M3.3 | Demonstrate clear evidence of progress towards submission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed final draft of thesis for supervisor(s)/ supervisory panel comment • Produce supervisory panel report written in a clear and self-reflective style | 8 |

Ahead of the sixth Supervisory Panel

| Milestone | Requirement | Term to undertake work <i>(To be used as a guide only)</i> |
|-----------|--|---|
| M3.4 | Subject-specific milestones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present thesis research at the staff-student HSC Conference • To complete all taught modules and have passed at least 50% of modules on first attempt. | By end of academic year |

Has the student and supervisory team considered whether the research will be using human participants, and if so, has sought and received formal university ethics approval.

Has the student and supervisory team considered whether the research uses security-sensitive material, and if so, has sought and received formal university registration of this material.

The Supervisory Panel will either confirm to the Research Student Progress Board that the student is ready to submit their thesis or recommend that a period of completion is required (see below).