

College of Business HDR Milestones – Presenting for Program Upgrade

If you are enrolled in a Masters by Research program, it is possible to upgrade to a PhD program via the HDR Milestone process.

You can undertake a milestone upgrade if:

- You have consumed 1 EFTSL or less
- Have successfully completed a timely Masters by Research Confirmation of Candidature

What do I need to do?

At the time of your scheduled Masters by Research second milestone review, present a PhD-level Confirmation of Candidature. This presentation must show that your research can be expanded to PhD level.

You must also provide a research plan / timeline showing how you will complete the PhD on time.

What is PhD-level research?

AQF level 10 criteria

Summary

Graduates at this level will have systematic and critical understanding of a complex field of learning and specialised research skills for the advancement of learning and/or for professional practice.

Knowledge

Graduates at this level will have systemic and critical understanding of a substantial and complex body of knowledge at the frontier of a discipline or area of professional practice.

Skills

Graduates at this level will have expert, specialised cognitive, technical and research skills in a discipline area to independently and systematically:

- engage in critical reflection, synthesis and evaluation
- develop, adapt and implement research methodologies to extend and redefine existing knowledge or professional practice
- disseminate and promote new insights to peers and the community
- generate original knowledge and understanding to make a substantial contribution to a discipline or area of professional practice

Application of knowledge and skills

Graduates at this level will apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, authoritative judgement, adaptability and responsibility as an expert and leading practitioner or scholar.

Successful upgrade

If your upgrade is successful, your consumed Masters candidature will be included in your PhD time. You will also be required to present a PhD Second Milestone Review. The milestone dates and maximum completion date will be recalculated.

Unsuccessful upgrade

If your upgrade is unsuccessful, you will be required to present the Masters Second Milestone Review within four weeks of the upgrade presentation. Your remaining milestone and maximum completion dates will not change.

It is normally not possible to make a second attempt at an upgrade, as there is not enough candidature time to complete a timely PhD.

Further information

At the [School of Graduate Research website](#).