



Office of Graduate Education

Thesis Research in Absentia form

About Petitions

The Office of Graduate Education (OGE) acts with power on behalf of the Vice Chancellor and the Committee on Graduate Programs (CGP) with regard to all requests.

Once approved, a copy of the petition will be emailed to you, to your departmental Graduate Administrator, and to the Registrar's office where it will be implemented. A processing fee of \$50.00 will be charged to your student account for each petition approved. The exception is a \$100.00 fee charged for an approved petition to register after the 5th week of term.

Details for Thesis Research in Absentia requests:

Thesis research is ordinarily done in residence at the Institute. However, on some occasions and in some fields, work such as the gathering of data away from the Institute may be essential or desirable.

While nonresident thesis research status applies only to doctoral candidates, thesis research in absentia may be pursued by either master or doctoral candidates.

Students interested in conducting research in absentia should consult with the thesis supervisor and the departmental graduate officer to establish that there are compelling educational reasons. In addition, if your research will be performed outside the US, this may introduce important considerations for an RA or TA appointment.

If a student's project is supported with sponsored funds and the field work was not initially envisioned as part of the project, the sponsor may need to provide approval. The student's PI/faculty supervisor should work with their Department/Lab/Center (DLC) administrator and the Research Administration Services (RAS) contract administrator to determine if approval is needed.

For more information about Thesis Research in Absentia, please see
<https://oge.mit.edu/gpp/degrees/thesis/thesis-research-in-absentia/>.

1. Student Information

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Department, Course # or Program _____ MIT ID _____

MIT Email Address _____

Primary location while in Thesis Research in Absentia status _____

(For doctoral students) I passed my doctoral qualifying examination on _____

My thesis proposal was approved by my thesis committee and the appropriate departmental committee on _____

Working title for thesis _____

I am requesting Thesis Research in Absentia status for the term(s) _____

I will be funded from the following sources (e.g., RA, fellowship) _____

I intend to return to Resident status in the term _____

Reasons for requesting Thesis Research in Absentia status:

Expected degree date _____

2. Required Signatures

Student's Signature: _____

Thesis Supervisor: _____

Graduate Administrator or Officer: _____

Please submit this form via email to oge-petitions@mit.edu

3. Institutional Approval

Assistant Dean for Graduate Education, Office of Graduate Education

Date _____