

Computational Biology Graduate Group  
**Higher Degree Committee Form**

Students who are preparing to take the Qualifying Examination (QE) must submit this application at least three weeks prior to the proposed date for the examination. Students must be registered for the semester in which the examination is held. Students should advance to candidacy, by selecting their dissertation committee, within a few months of completing the QE. Submit the completed application to the CCB staff advisor.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SID #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last, First Middle)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Type: Qualifying Exam      Thesis Committee      Proposed exam date (if QE):

Proposed committee members for the qualifying examination or dissertation/thesis committee. Please list all of their department and program affiliations

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Programs: \_\_\_\_\_

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Programs: \_\_\_\_\_

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Programs: \_\_\_\_\_

ASR: \_\_\_\_\_ Programs: \_\_\_\_\_

For the QE only (suggested topics are your proposal's specific aims):

Subject Area 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Area 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Area 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed chair for dissertation committee (i.e. your PI/thesis advisor): \_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR, DEPARTMENT(s)/PROGRAM(s)

Proposed Co-chair (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
CO-CHAIR, DEPARTMENT(s)/PROGRAM(s)

Explanation of faculty with substantially different academic/research focus on QE or Dissertation committee. Please provide 1-2 sentences on your research topic and then identify this faculty and explain how their research differs:

### Qualifying Exam Committee:

\*CCB/Grad Div requires four members

\*At least two members of the committee must be members of CCB (one of whom - tenure track - will be the Chair).

\*The student's PhD advisor(s) cannot serve on the committee (nor anyone who might be a future Dissertation Committee co-Chair)

\*One member must not share any departmental affiliations (other than CCB) with the student's thesis advisor(s).

\*One member must have a different research focus than the student and the advisor of the student. The candidate must write a short explanation about how this requirement has been met, to be approved by the Head Graduate Advisor.

\*A single member can count toward all of these requirements, or the requirements may be met by multiple members at the discretion of the student.

\*Students must present a written dissertation proposal to the QE committee no fewer than four weeks prior to the oral QE. The write-up should follow the format of an NIH-style grant proposal (i.e., it should include an abstract, background and significance, specific aims to be addressed (~3), and a research plan for addressing the aims) and must thoroughly discuss plans for research to be conducted in the dissertation lab.

\*During the examination, the student is expected to only make use of a chalkboard/whiteboard. The student may bring into the examination room copies of the proposal for the committee and a brief outline (1-3 pages maximum) upon which they may rely during their presentation.

### Thesis Committee:

\*CCB requires three members, all Academic Senate. If a student would like a non-Senate committee member, they may be added as a 4th member, following the usual exception documentation requirements, per Grad Div.

\*At least two members of the committee must be members of CCB.

\*One member must not share any departmental affiliations (other than CCB) with the student's thesis advisor(s).

\*One member must have a substantially different academic/research focus than the student and the advisor of the student. The candidate must write a short explanation about how this requirement has been met to be approved by the Head Graduate Advisor.

\*A single member can count toward all of these requirements, or the requirements may be met by multiple members at the discretion of the student.

### Definitions:

**ASR** = Academic Senate Representative (any tenure track faculty, aside from one's Chair, can fill this role).

**Tenure track/Academic Senate** = faculty eligible for tenure and are therefore part of the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate. Titles include: Assistant, Associate and (full) Professor, Professor Emeritus, Professor in Residence, Professor of the Graduate School.

**Non-Senate members include these titles:** Adjunct Professor, Acting Assistant Professor, Clinical Professor, Staff Scientist, Visiting Professor, Professor from outside UC Berkeley