

Biology Department Graduation Deadlines for Graduate Students 2025–2026

Students who miss the graduation deadlines for any given semester or term must register for at least 2 hours (of thesis or dissertation credit), or 1 hour if graduating in June, or pay the equivalent minimum registration fee, and will graduate the following semester.

Dec 2025	Apr 2026	June 2026	Aug 2026	
Oct 15	Jan 23	Mar 12* or May 4 [#]	Mar 12* or June 18 [#]	Last day to apply for graduation online. Go to GradProg (gradprogress.sim.byu.edu) > Apply for Graduation (under the left sidebar “hamburger” menu). *Walking in April graduation ceremonies #Not walking in April graduation ceremonies
Nov 17	Mar 23	May 20	July 13	Last day to submit thesis/dissertation draft to committee for review. [†] Also submit draft to graduate program manager for format review and originality check. [‡]
Nov 24	Mar 30	May 27	July 20	Last day to receive “Ready for Defense” approvals from committee on GradProg. Last day to schedule final defense.
Dec 1	Apr 6	June 3	July 27	Last day to hold final defense. [ⓧ]
Dec 8	Apr 13	June 10	Aug 3	Last day for any qualifications to be completed and to receive committee approvals on GradProg. Last day to upload ETD to GradProg.
Dec 17	Apr 21	June 17	Aug 10	Last day to receive all approvals for ETD. Last day to complete Survey of Earned Doctorates (<i>PhD students only</i>).
Dec 19	Apr 22	June 18	Aug 11	Last day for final approval from Graduate Studies.
None [§]	Apr 23	None [§]	None [§]	Graduation: University Commencement
None [§]	Apr 23-24	None [§]	None [§]	Graduation: College Convocations

[†] Thesis/dissertation drafts must be submitted to the committee **at least 1 week before** scheduling the defense and **at least 2 weeks before** holding the defense. For example, if you’d like to hold your defense on March 21st, then your thesis/dissertation draft must be submitted by March 7th.

[‡] The thesis/dissertation draft submitted to the graduate program manager should be in digital format and should include the correct formatting for the preliminary pages (title page, abstract, acknowledgments, table of contents, list of tables, and list of figures); refer to checklists, sample pages, and templates found on GradProg and under the ETD section under the Grad Student Resources tab on biology.byu.edu.

[ⓧ] Final defenses must be scheduled on GradProg **at least 1 week before** the defense. Example: If your defense is going to be held on Nov 21st, then it would need to be scheduled by Nov 14th. Contact the graduate program manager to schedule your defense. *Final defenses may not be held during the interim period between semesters or terms.*

[§] December, June, and August graduates are invited to participate in April graduation exercises.