

Topics discussed with our department chair in 2021 Spring Townhall virtual meeting:

1. COVID vaccine & testing for grad students.

There is no mandatory requirement for our graduate students to take the relevant vaccine. However, it is highly encouraged to do so. There are plenty of places where students can get vaccinated such as Luminis Health, CVS etc. Dr. Zhao will send some relevant information towards vaccination in the near future.

2. Communications among advisor, dissertation committee and students.

a). Students should discuss with their Ph.D. advisor to decide the professors who are the most suitable ones to be on the dissertation committee. In order to pick up a suitable time between dissertation committees, students can use doodle etc. and other online methods.

b). There is no template for writing a Ph.D. proposal and Ph.D. thesis since the content and styles are case by case. However, there are some forms from MSE department that students need to fill them out: <https://mse.umd.edu/graduate/current-students/forms>; also some requirements about the length etc. that need to follow: <https://mse.umd.edu/graduate/phd-proposal-defense>

c). There is no specific time requirement between Ph.D. proposal defense and Ph.D. thesis defense. Students should talk with their Ph.D. advisor to decide the proper timeline.

3. Internship and Jobs

a). To get an internship, students are highly encouraged to talk with their Ph.D. advisor and ask if students can be referred by their advisor, which would be easier to get an internship. This can be further related to get a full-time job position as some company will want to get you in after finishing the internship depending upon your performance.