

Greg Churchill-
Here is what I found on Cincinnati's time restrictions:

University of Cincinnati

Time Restrictions

The doctoral degree will be granted for no less than the equivalent of three years of full-time graduate study. The Graduate School does not currently track time to candidacy, but encourages programs to implement such candidacy exams early in their programs to allow the students optimal feedback on their aspirations and research. All requirements for the doctoral degree must be completed within nine consecutive academic years of the date of matriculation into the program, and students can be exited from the program if they have not completed their degree by this time. For details, please visit the [Time to Degree](#) section.

Time to Degree

Master's Degree

- The minimum requirement for the master's degree is the equivalent of one academic year of full-time graduate study, consisting of at least 30 graduate credits completed to the satisfaction of the student's program.
- All master's requirements must be completed no later than five academic years from the date of matriculation into the degree program for students beginning their program autumn 2007 or thereafter.
- All master's requirements must be completed no later than seven academic years from the date of matriculation for students beginning their programs prior to autumn, 2007. ([See Master's Degrees Policies and Procedures, Course of Study.](#))

Doctoral Degree

- The doctoral degree will be granted for no less than the equivalent of three years of full-time graduate study.
- All requirements for the doctoral degree must be completed within nine consecutive academic years of the date of matriculation into the program.
- A doctoral student must be enrolled for at least 10 graduate credits in his/her program in each of two semesters (including summer semester) during a span of three consecutive semesters. (This is a Board of Trustees residency requirement.) Full-time UC employees using their tuition remission benefit to complete a part-time doctoral program may request a waiver of this requirement from the Director of the Graduate School. (See [Doctoral Degrees Policies and Procedures, Course of Study.](#))

Here is what I found on Pittsburgh's time restrictions and credit transfers:

University of Pittsburgh

Statute of Limitations

The purpose of the statute of limitations is to ensure that a graduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh represents mastery of current knowledge in the field of study. Individual schools within the University may adopt policies that are more, but not less, stringent than those stated here.

All requirements for [MA and MS degrees](#) must be completed within a period of four consecutive calendar years from the student's initial registration for graduate study; all requirements for [professional master's degrees](#), in five years. [Dual degrees and joint degrees](#) that require course work in excess of 50 credit hours may be granted a longer statute of limitations by the University Council on Graduate Study.

From the student's initial [registration for graduate study](#), all requirements for the PhD degree must be completed within a period of ten years or eight years if the student has received credit for a master's degree appropriate to the field of study. Programs for professional doctoral degrees, for which the majority of candidates pursue part-time study while working full time within their chosen disciplines, may be granted a longer statute of limitations by the schools offering the degrees.

Under exceptional circumstances, a candidate for an advanced degree may apply for an extension of the statute of limitations. The request must be approved by the department or departmental committee (master's or doctoral) and submitted to the dean for final action. Requests for an extension of the statute of limitations must be accompanied by a departmental assessment of the work required of the student to complete the degree as well as documented evidence of the extenuating circumstances leading to the requested extension. Students who request an extension of the statute of limitations must demonstrate proper preparation for the completion of all current degree requirements.

Under special conditions, graduate students may be granted one leave of absence. A maximum leave of two years may be granted to doctoral students or one year to master's students. The length and rationale for the leave of absence must be stated in advance, recommended to the dean by the department, and approved by the dean. If approved, the time of the leave shall not count against the total time allowed for the degree being sought by the student. [Readmission](#) following an approved leave of absence is a formality.

Acceptance of Transfer Credits

The completion of requirements for advanced degrees must be satisfied through registration at the Pittsburgh campus of the University of Pittsburgh. Graduate

students already enrolled may, when approved in advance by their department and the dean, spend a term or more at another graduate institution to obtain training or experience not available at the University of Pittsburgh and transfer those credits toward the requirements for an advanced degree at the University of Pittsburgh. In such instances, neither the University nor any of its components is responsible for providing any financial assistance to the graduate student.

Official transcripts certifying graduate courses completed in a degree granting graduate program at another appropriately accredited institution prior to admission to the University of Pittsburgh should be submitted at the time of application and should be evaluated for acceptability as transfer credit early in the student's graduate career for acceptability as transfer credit subject to University policy, course equivalencies, and individual school requirements. In no case may the total number of credits transferred for completion of requirements for an advanced degree exceed the maximum number stated in the sections pertaining to advanced degree requirements. The Registrar, after notification by the dean, will enter the transfer (advanced standing) credits as block credits on the student's transcript. Grades (and grade points) are not recorded for credits accepted by transfer.

Transfer credits will not be accepted for courses in which a grade lower than B (GPA = 3.00) or its equivalent has been received. No credit will be granted toward an advanced degree for work completed in extension courses, correspondence courses, or in the off-campus center of another institution unless those credits are approved for equivalent graduate degrees at that institution and the institution has an accredited program.