Confirmation of Candidature in the School of Women’s and Infants’ Health, University of Western Australia

**Confirmation of Candidature:** Formal confirmation of candidature of PhD students enrolled through the School of Women’s and Infants’ Health will be dependent on the candidate completing the following tasks within the provisional year (full-time equivalent). These tasks and timeframe will be agreed upon by the candidate, supervisor(s) and School and are to be listed in the students Research Proposal.

**Completion and approval of research proposal**
To be completed in the first six months of candidature in consultation with supervisor(s)

**Completion of program in animal welfare, ethics and science (PAWES) course.**
For students applying to use animals for scientific purposes.

**Completion of Laboratory Safety Course.**
For students who are required to work in research laboratories.

**Completion of Unsealed Radioisotope Handling Course**
For students required to work with unsealed radioisotopes.

**Ethics approval**
Students in consultation with their supervisor(s) to apply to the university’s ethics committee for approval of their research proposal.

**Presenting the work orally to the school**
Once the student has received approval of their research proposal they will present a 30 minute presentation (20 min talk, 10 min discussion) of their research proposal to the School.

**Completion of relevant approved course work**
The School expects new students to complete a semester of biostatistics (Biostatistics I) offered by the School of Mathematics and the workshops on Research skills for commencing research students run by the Graduate Research School.
Graduate students are expected to nominate 1 to 2 academic members of staff from the School of Women’s and Infants' Health who in conjunction with the students supervisor(s) will form an advisory committee for the graduate student. This advisory committee will recommend whether the students candidature should be confirmed after the completion of provisional year.

The advisory committee will continue to meet at least once a year with the student where the student will present a progress report of their research work from the preceding 12 months. Students should come prepared to these meetings with appropriate graphs, diagrams and will be expected to interpret and discuss their data with the advisory committee. Students should also present a section on future studies they will be attempting to complete in the subsequent 12 months of their candidature. This will be used as a guide for the next advisory meeting with the student to gauge the student’s progress.