



Letter of Intent 2

HST PhD Candidates

The purpose of this form is to provide the HST-IMES Committee on Academic Programs (HICAP) with sufficient information to determine if the membership of your proposed committee is appropriate to mentor and evaluate your thesis research. Please return the completed form to Traci Anderson in E25-518 or by email to hst-grades@mit.edu.

Full criteria for thesis committee composition is posted online in the [HST PhD Thesis Guide](#).

Name:

Signature | Date:

My signature above indicates that I understand the thesis committee policies, including roles, eligibility and responsibilities of the thesis committee members as posted online in the [HST PhD Thesis Guide](#).

Section I: Thesis Committee

Friendly advice: Although there is no maximum committee size, three or four is considered optimal. Committees of five members are possible, but more than five is unwieldy

Research Advisor

Academic Title | Institution

Describe the specific areas of
expertise relevant to your project.

Signature | Date

Research Co-Advisor *(optional)*

Academic Title | Institution

Describe the specific areas of
expertise relevant to your project.

Signature | Date

Chair *(may not also be a supervisor)*

Academic Title | Institution

Describe the specific areas of
expertise relevant to your project.

Signature | Date



Section I, continued

Reader

Academic Title | Institution

Describe the specific areas of expertise relevant to your project.

Signature | Date

Reader

Academic Title | Institution

Describe the specific areas of expertise relevant to your project.

Signature | Date

Reader

Academic Title | Institution

Describe the specific areas of expertise relevant to your project.

Signature | Date

Outside Perspective. *A thesis committee should include at least one person who is not closely affiliated with the student's primary lab. Frequent collaborators are acceptable in this capacity if their work exhibits intellectual independence from the research advisor. Identify the committee member(s) who can offer an outside perspective:* _____

Clinical Perspective. *If the research has a near-term clinical application, identify the committee member(s) who can add a translational or clinical perspective:* _____



Section II: Research Description

Project Title

Instructions: In the two sections below, explain the significance of your proposed research (why this work is important) and describe your aims/key goals (as best you can at this stage of your project). Maximum combined word count is **400**.

Significance of Proposed Research

Specific Aims

Methods

While you are not required to include a formal write up of your research methods at this time, please provide some indication of the methods to be used in this research:

Human Subject Data
Clinical Records Data

Animal Model (specify the type)
Other