

Mentor Acknowledgement for the Qualifying Examination

Student Name: _____

Mentor Name: _____

Co-Mentor Name: _____
(If applicable)

The Responsibilities of the Mentor

The mentor is very important in a graduate student's training. In preparation for the Qualifying Exam, the mentor must:

- work with the student to help the student develop an understanding of the field and relevant literature,
- work with the student to articulate mutually agreeable (scientific) specific aims and provide guidance and recommendations on the development of the experimental approach,
- read the student's written proposal,
- provide feedback during the development of the written proposal,
- not write any part of the proposal,
- not comment on or provide feedback on the independent aim if one is required by the department

Mentors must remember that the student is responsible for the crafting of a document that speaks in her or his voice. Mentors must understand that *it is not their ideas that are being examined*, but the student's understanding of these scientific ideas and the student's potential to conduct the proposed studies. Students and mentors should discuss reasonable time away from the bench to write the proposal and prepare for the exam. If there is a difference in agreement about "reasonable time," student and/or mentor should contact the Sr. Academic Advisor, Dr. Joan Berman, or the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs. Preliminary data are not required for either the written proposal or the oral exam.

I agree to abide by these guidelines as a mentor of a student taking the Qualifying Exam this year.

I acknowledge the proposed committee members and tentative Specific Aims as listed on my student's Qualifying Exam Form 1.

Mentor Signature

Date

Co-Mentor Signature

Date

Please submit completed form to the Graduate Office (Belfer 202 or by email to qualexam@einsteinmed.edu).