

Committee makeup

Your Dissertation Committee must include at least one member of the PIER Steering Committee, plus another faculty member (typically, but not necessarily, on CMU's faculty) who is a major contributor to Education Sciences research, and who adds disciplinary breadth and expertise to the committee. Your advisor can count toward one of these roles if she or he is an appropriate fit.

You may propose alternatives to this dissertation committee composition, but you must make a case that the proposed alternative would contribute to the overall goal of producing a strong dissertation with a solid interdisciplinary education research thrust. Final approval of any such requested modifications will be determined by the PIER Steering Committee.

Scheduling your dissertation proposal and your defense

In addition to these requirements for committee membership, PIER requires that the dates for your dissertation proposal and your dissertation defense must be scheduled so that both PIER's Director and co-Director (currently David Klahr and Sharon Carver) indicate that they are able to attend.