

From: bme-fac-request@virginia.edu on behalf of [Peirce-Cottler, Shayn \(smp6p\)](#)
To: bme-fac@virginia.edu; bme-students@virginia.edu
Subject: Information about BME PhD Qualifying Exam
Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 4:52:14 PM
Attachments: [FINAL PhD Qualifying Exam Form - April 2020.pdf](#)
[Information for PhD Advisors re qualifying exam.pdf](#)
[Timeline for BME Qualifying Exam.pdf](#)

Hi,

I'm writing with some information about the BME PhD Qualifying Exam. All BME PhD students who are currently in their 2nd year of our PhD training program should have been planning to take their BME PhD Qualifying Exam this spring/summer. However, because of COVID19, you will have the option to take your exam remotely *or* postpone your exam until it is possible to meet in person. **You should make this decision in consultation with your advisor, and then let me and Kim know your preference.**

If you chose to take your exam remotely, we have adjusted the rules for sharing information during your exam with your committee, and these are described in the attached (new) "PhD Qualifying Exam Form". For example, in lieu of a "whiteboard", which you'd normally use to write up your answers during your oral exam, you will be able to share Powerpoint slides, hand-written derivations, hand-written or typed outlines, bullets, schematics, notes, etc. (i.e., we will just make it work on Zoom, like we're making everything else work on Zoom right now! :)

Also, we are asking all PhD Exam Committee Chairs to please use the attached form to compile the student's questions.

I'm also attaching some helpful information for faculty who will be participating on exam committees and a general timeline for the exam preparations.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

-Shayn

Shayn Peirce-Cottler, Ph.D.
Professor of Biomedical Engineering
Graduate Program Director
Pinn Scholar, School of Medicine
The University of Virginia
PO Box 800759, Health System
Charlottesville, VA 22908

email: shayn@virginia.edu

phone: (434) 243-5795

website: www.peircecottlerlab.com