

RESEARCH MILESTONES

This document provides a suggested mechanism for successful completion of the research process. Critical steps are presented in a sequential manner. As might be expected, faculty and mentor involvement is a central tenet of successful project completion. Consequently, personnel with essential responsibilities are indicated in parentheses. While active participation of the aforementioned personnel is expected, the primary responsibility for project completion rests with the resident.

Discussion of overall research objectives (Program Director or Designee)

Identification of research topic/arena (Resident)

Initial literature review (Resident)

Refinement of research topic/arena (Resident)

Identification of research mentor (Resident-Program Director)

Determination of feasibility (Resident-Mentor)

- Expertise
- Equipment/materials
- Patient population
- Financial resources
- Time

Additional refinement of research topic (Resident)

Formulation of specific research question (Resident-Mentor)

Initial draft of research proposal (Resident)

- Title
- Background
- Objective(s)
- Hypothesis
- Methods and Materials (to include study design, criteria for inclusion/exclusion, sample size, collection of data, and data analysis)
- Budget
- References

Review of research proposal (Resident-Mentor)

- *Review by Associate Dean for Dental Research may be requested if significant questions or concerns exist*
- *Questions regarding sample size and/or suitability of statistical tests may be referred to Associate Dean for Dental Research for discussion with USU statistician*

Constitution of research committee (Resident-Mentor)

Review of research proposal by research committee members (Research Committee)

Finalization of research proposal (Resident-Mentor with recommendations from Research Committee)

Completion and submission of prescribed USUHS documents (Resident)

- [3202D](#)
- Completed research proposal

Navigation of pre-investigational requirements (to include local research organizations/functions, institutional review boards, institutional animal care and use committees, offices of research and technology applications, logistics and acquisitions, etc.) (Resident)

Performance of research/data gathering (Resident)

Analysis of data (Resident)

Initial draft of manuscript (Resident)

Initial review of manuscript (Resident-Mentor)

Preliminary refinement of manuscript (Resident)

Preliminary approval of manuscript (Mentor)

Review of manuscript by research committee (Research Committee Members)

Definitive draft of manuscript (Resident-Mentor)

Research Defense/Presentation (Resident)

Approval/disapproval of completed research effort (Mentor and Research Committee)

Completion and submission of prescribed USUHS documents (Resident)

- Signed approval page (Mentor and Research Committee Members)
- Signed copyright document
- Electronic copy of completed research manuscript

Submission of manuscript for publication