MEDICAL SCIENTIST 
TRAINING PROGRAM MD/PHD

Degree Requirements
The following requirements are in addition to, or further elaborate upon, 
those requirements outlined in The Graduate School Policy Guide 
(https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/tgs/academic-policies-procedures).

MD/PhD

MD Coursework Requirements
Students must meet coursework and clerkship requirements of Feinberg. 
MSTP students may receive 12 weeks of credit towards the MD elective 
requirements from their PhD dissertation research.

PhD Coursework Requirements
The PhD degree requirements of the graduate program in which the student is enrolled (Driskill Graduate Program in Life Sciences, 
Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences Program, Northwestern University 
Interdepartmental Neuroscience PhD Program, Biomedical Engineering 
Program, Department of Chemistry, Department of Material Science and 
Engineering, or Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering), 
generally involving three or more years of research training and 
dissertation preparation, must be met. MSTP students are required to 
take at least three to nine graduate-level courses for a grade during their 
enrollment in The Graduate School depending on the program the student 
has joined.

Other MD/PhD Degree Requirements
- **Examinations:** graduate qualifying examinations for admission to candidacy
- **Research/Projects:** thesis research
- **PhD Dissertation:** original, independent research presented in a 
defensible thesis of high quality
- **Final Evaluations:** defense of dissertation
- **Publish:** a minimum of one first-authored peer-reviewed research article
- **Other:** regular participation in MSTP Colleges Curriculum and MSTP 
  Grand Rounds in all years; teaching assignment required by PhD programs