

**Hildebrand Department of Petroleum and Geosystems Engineering
The University of Texas at Austin**

Fast Track to PhD – Option for MS Students

Entry to the Fast Track PhD option entails the following:

A student has until the end of the first semester in the program to sign up for the Fast Track option.

Upon completing the coursework requirements for the MS degree, the student will submit his/her MS report, which can form the basis for a PhD proposal.

The student must have a 3.5 GPA to enter the PhD program, i.e., at the time of submission of the MS Report.

A Fast Track to PhD student is admitted as a MS student and is considered a MS student by the program until they have earned a MS degree and entered the PhD program.

Fast-Track-to-PhD students do not have to complete an application for approval to continue on to the PhD program. They will automatically enter the PhD program the semester after their MS degree is received, as long as they meet the requirements of admission to the PhD program, including a GPA of at least 3.5

Past the first semester, if a student opts out of the Fast Track option to revert to a terminal MS degree:

- The student will sign a form that they have elected to revert to a terminal MS degree. That form will have to be signed by the supervising professor for the student. If the student's supervising professor is not available, the graduate advisor can sign the form.
- The student will have to apply and be admitted to the PhD program should he/she change their mind later.
- The student can opt for any of the three options (thesis, report, no thesis/no report) to complete his/her MS degree program.

I have read and understand the above policies regarding the MS Fast-Track-to-PhD Option.

Student Signature	Student's printed name and UT EID
Faculty Supervisor	Date
Graduate Advisor	Date