

**Western Illinois University
School of Graduate Studies
Dissertation Process**

1. Establish the dissertation committee per departmental requirements
 - a. Required form: [Dissertation Committee Approval Form](#)
2. Changes in the dissertation committee must be approved
 - a. Required form: [Dissertation Committee Addition/Deletion/Change Form](#)
3. Use of human subjects. Approval through the Office of Sponsored Projects is required.
4. Obtain approval for dissertation proposal
 - a. Required form: [Dissertation Proposal](#)
5. Dissertation completed
6. Intent to Defend the Dissertation
 - a. Required form: [Intent and Authorization to Defend the Dissertation Research](#)
7. Dissertation Defense
8. Original Dissertation to Graduate School for format check through www.etsadmin.com/wmill
9. Format changes completed if necessary
10. Copy of dissertation approval and abstract retained by Graduate School
 - a. Required form: [Dissertation Approval](#)
11. Original Dissertation forwarded to Library through www.etsadmin.com/wmill
12. ProQuest and Copyright