



Northeastern University Industry PhD Pathway

Earn Your PhD While Advancing your Research Career

Information Session

What we will cover



The Industry PhD Pathway: What it is & How it works



Industry PhD Pre- Application Process

Identifying your advising
team

Academic partnership
agreements



How to Stay Connected



Final Application

Industry PhD materials
Complete application

Northeastern's Industry PhD Pathway

✓ What the Industry PhD Pathway Offers:

- **Full-time research experience** across all existing Northeastern PhD programs
(phd.northeastern.edu/program)
- **Dual mentorship model** combining:
 - PhD dissertation co-advising by Northeastern faculty
 - Research guidance through your employer
- **Academic Partnerships** with organizations that
 - Allow multiple PhD students per employer
 - Support distinct research plans for each student
 - Recognize PhD education as FT work performed at partner sites
- **Publication with IP Protection** – publish your research while safeguarding trade secrets

✗ What the Industry PhD Pathway is NOT:

- A separate degree program – you earn the **same PhD** as on-campus students
- A Part-Time or “Online” degree program
- Designed for PhD students whose work does not involve research

PhD graduates must meet the graduate catalog requirements for their enrolled PhD program

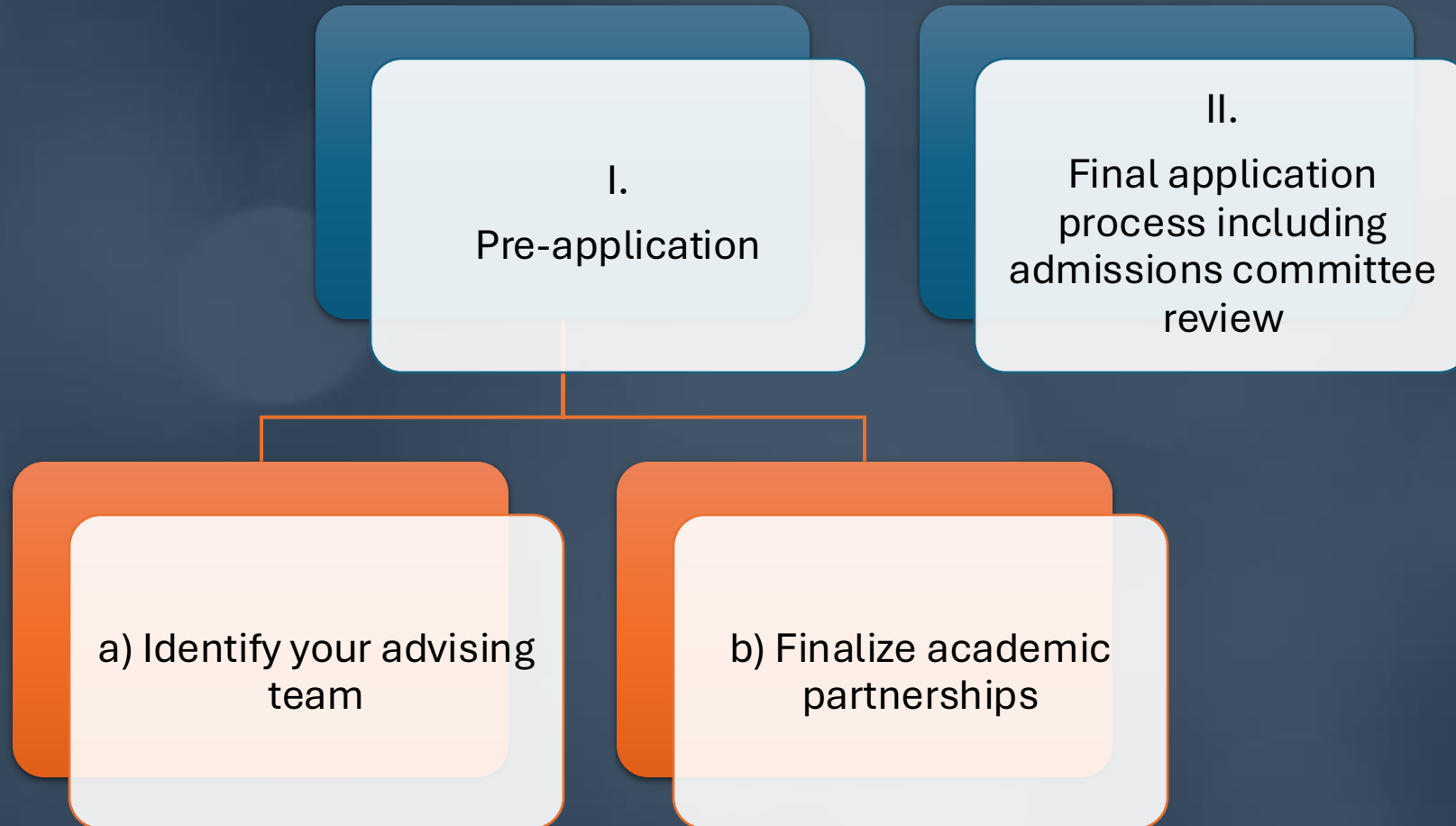
About Academic Partnerships

Partners sign a Master Service Agreement (MSA)

If your employer has an executed MSA in place, your application is streamlined and you, with your advising team, prepare the schedule

If your employer does not have an executed MSA a member of the PhD Network will work with your manager and other contacts to execute the agreement

A 2 step Industry Application Process



Identifying your Advising Team

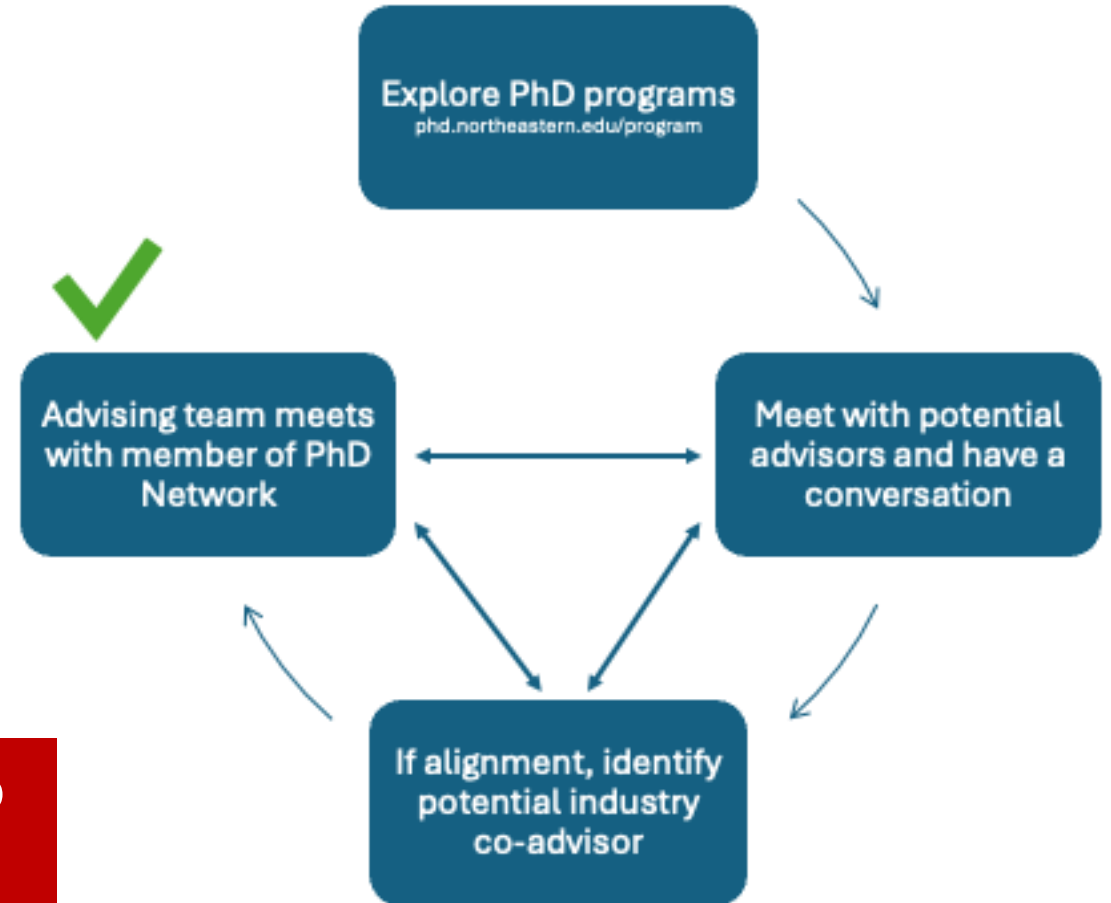
Have Ready:

- Up to date resume
- Research statement catered to faculty member you are meeting
- Some programs want to see endorsement from your employer before you meet with faculty

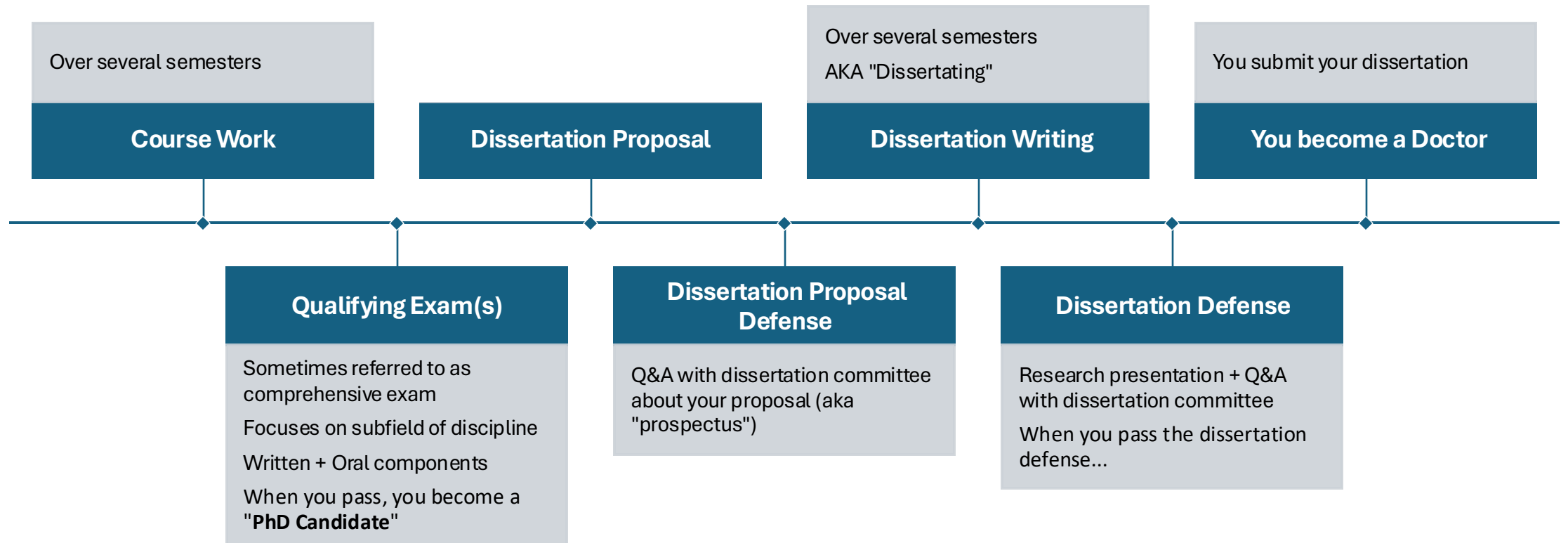
Respect Faculty Time with Communications:

- Write Bottom Line Up Front emails
- Schedule 30 min meetings no more

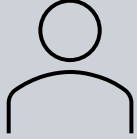
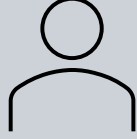
Successful matches occur when you do research about these faculty first



PhD Student Journey Terminology



Industry PhD Dissertation Committees

Pre-Application Phase	 NU Faculty Co-Advisor	 Industry Co-Advisor
Additional Dissertation Committee Members After Accepted to NU	 NU Faculty	 Faculty Member from NU or other university

*Industry PhD committees require a minimum of 4 members, though larger groups are permitted.
Members must be full-time tenured / tenure-track and hold a PhD.*

Staying Connected through the Pre-App Dashboard



**Industry PhD Program**
Applicant Portal

Info test Attended Information Session - test
IndPhD-0999

IndPhD-0999

INFORMATION SESSION ATTENDED

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VP - Northeastern

TARGET SEMESTER
Fall 2026

PHD PROGRAM(S)
Biophysics

✓

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Information Session Prepping for Faculty Matching Faculty Matching Finalizing Advising Team Prepping your Schedule Final Application in Progress Admission Decision

About this Portal
Welcome and how to use this space.

Information Session
Choose a session to get oriented.

Preparing to Meet with Faculty
Share your programs of interest, faculty names, and documents.

After you attend the Information Session, we need four pieces of information from you before we introduce you to faculty. And if you can do it before the Information Session, even better - you can get a head start right here.

Please enter your name
Info test Attended Information Session - test

Your Email Address *

IndPhD-0999

INFORMATION SESSION ATTENDED

 **Information Session**
✓ ATTENDED
You have attended an information session.
Your next steps are in the accordions above.



Final Application Materials

- Everything required for the PhD program identified
- Schedule signed by your advising team and others
- First time admissions committee reviews your academic credentials
- Admissions letter will refer to the terms of the MSA with your employer

Questions?

