



Step 1: Board Study Month

We strongly encourage completion of Step 1 by the SOM deadline, there are rare circumstances in which extensions can be considered. Approval is needed for any change in the exam date beyond the above deadline. A 1-month extension needs to be approved by Dean Gonzaga, Dr. Merriam, Dr. Steinman and then the MSTP Promotions Committee, and is not automatic. A formal request with rationale must be submitted to Kathy Hansell-Prigg (kjh2@pitt.edu) no later than January 15. Those seeking an extension must be working with learning specialist.

We would like to **clarify** that if the month is approved and taken as an **independent study month** it is an unpaid LOA from the MSTP. **However**, if a student fulfills the conditions for, and is officially registered for the SOM class **MSELECT 5300 (Board Study Month)**, the MSTP Promotions Committee will consider approving this as an elective month (with ongoing MSTP enrollment) rather than as an unpaid LOA. Any additional month required beyond this 1-month course would require advanced approval by the MSTP Promotions Committee and would be an unpaid LOA.

MSELECT 5300 requires on site work with the learning specialist with an agreed study plan and assessments. Weekly check in with Kathy Hansell-Prigg is necessary to remain in this course.

Updated: 1/14/2025; 1/06/2026

Approved by the MSTP Executive Committee: January 2025