CTS Thesis/Dissertation Defense Committee Membership
Approved by CTS Education Committee:

Students will select a Defense Committee to assist in producing a high-quality research project and to evaluate the Defense. The Committee will be assembled by the CTS Academic Advisor and student with guidance from the Research Mentor. Deviations from the membership guidelines described below in the number or type of members must be approved by the CTS Education Committee and if necessary, the Graduate College. The Graduate College Defense Committee Membership Form must be submitted to CTS Program Specialist and to the Graduate College.

MS in CTS Thesis Defense Committee
The MS in CTS Thesis Defense Committee will be composed of a minimum of 3 and maximum of 5 members as follows: (The Research Mentor and the Chair must be part of the Graduate College faculty)

- Research Mentor
- Chair (not part of CTS Key Faculty and from outside Research Mentor’s primary or secondary appointed departments)
- 1 Key CTS Faculty (may be non-CTS if Research Mentor is CTS Key Faculty)
- Optional: 1-2 members with content expertise in the proposed research domain (may or may not be CTS Faculty)

PhD in CTS Dissertation Defense Committee
The PhD in CTS Dissertation Committee will be composed of a minimum of 4 members of the Graduate College faculty, who will include:

- Research Mentor(s) - (one mentor must be from Key CTS Faculty*)
- Chair (not part of CTS Key Faculty and from outside Research Mentor’s primary or secondary appointed departments)
- A minimum of 1 faculty member with content expertise in the proposed research domain (may or may not be CTS Faculty)
- One additional member
- Additional members can be added for a total maximum of 6.

*Co-mentoring with Faculty from other programs is allowed and often desirable but A Key CTS Faculty must be selected for co-mentoring and be involved in all aspects of student research at the level of authorship. CTS students in MS program transferring to the PhD program must follow the PhD dissertation committee requirements.

Note: Please see the definition of General CTS Faculty and Key CTS Faculty for current Members.