CHAPTER-SECTION	OLD POLICY	POLICY CHANGE OR NEW POLICY	COMMENTS/RATIONALE
Chapter 3. Establishing Graduate Programs; Section A.8. Graduate Certificate Programs	Requirements for the Graduate Certificate vary by department or program but must meet the minimum standards noted below. They typically consist of 9 to 12 credits of graduate coursework.	… They must include a minimum of 9 credits of graded coursework, and typically range from 9 to 12 graded credits.	This was a clarification requested by the Graduate Studies Committee during 2020, in the course of reviewing proposals for new graduate certificates.
as above	Bullet statement = Courses graded S/F cannot be used toward major or supporting work for any degree program.	Courses graded S/F cannot be used toward major or supporting work for a graduate certificate.	This was a clarification requested by the Graduate Studies Committee during 2020, in the course of reviewing proposals for new graduate certificates.
Chapter 4. Applications & Admissions; Section K. Graduate Study for Facuty/Staff	last bullet under a. Review of applications… • abstention from pursuit of degree in one's own unit and those that are directly administratively related to the faculty member's unit.	Added sentence. As a corollary, current graduate students should not be hired into faculty-title positions in the unit in which they are pursuing a graduate degree.	This is not a change in policy, simply the addition of a policy statement that is distributed by the Graduate School in the assistantship processing memo for each semester. It has long been university policy that graduate students should not be appointed to positions with faculty titles.
Chapter 7. Master's Degree requirements; Section B. The Master's Advisory Committee	It is imperative to avoid situations that may constitute, or may be construed as, a conflict of interest when forming a graduate student's advisory committee. Examples include: 1) a new faculty member, who was a WSU graduate student, serving on the advisory committee of a former graduate peer; and 2) a faculty member, who is the employer/supervisor of a staff member pursuing a degree, also serving on that staff member's advisory committee.	It is prudent to acknowledge, and when possible avoid, situations that may constitute or may be construed as a conflict of interest when forming a graduate student's advisory committee. Examples of potential perceived or real conflicts of interest include: 1) a new faculty member, who was a WSU graduate student, serving on the advisory committee of a former graduate peer; 2) a faculty member, who is the employer/supervisor of a staff member pursuing a degree, also serving on that staff member's advisory committee; and 3) faculty members whose impartiality may be impacted because of close professional or personal relationships that are separate from their WSU faculty roles.	This paragraph has been in the P&P for many years, to serve as a reminder of the importance of considering possible conflicts of interest when selecting faculty to serve on a student's advisory committee. The intent of this paragraph is to provide guidance, with the philosophy that acknowledging the potential for a COI is the major step in managing the situation if issues do arise. The paragraph was not intended to constitute strictly enforced policies--in particular because the Graduate School cannot consistently identify when conflicts of interest may exist. In the 2020-21 P&P manual, examples 1 and 2 were added, with GSC and Faculty Senate Approval. In this edition, an additional example is included, and the language was revised to clarify guiding intent of the paragraph.
Chapter 8. Doctoral Degree Requirements; Section B. The Doctoral Advisory Committee	Same text	Same requested revision	as above
Chapter 7. Master's Degree requirements; Section E. Final Master's Examination, subsection 3. Scheduling Requirements	Bullet #4: For students participating in on-site (campus or extension center) programs, at least one advisory committee member must be physically present in the room with the student during an oral final exam.	Addition of the following sentence to this bullet: Exceptions to the requirement for a committee member or an approved proctor to be present with the student during the examination may be granted system-wide or on a case-by-case basis due to the impacts of COVID-19.	From Spring 2020 through Summer 2021, the requirement for a faculty presence with the student during the examination has been waived for all exams because of COVID-19, allowing Zoom only partipipation in exams. At this time, further information is necessary on possible negative impacts on WSU exam processes as well as environmental scanning of best practices at peer graduate programs to determine if this waiver should become the new policy or revision to the stated policy is appropriate. This issue will be revisited in the 2021-2022 Policy and Procedues up-date.
Chapter 8. Doctoral Degree Requirements; Section D. Preliminary Exam Policies, sub-section 3. Scheduling Requirements	If an oral examination is conducted using videoconference technology (AMS or Zoom), at least one advisory committee member must be physically present in the room with the student during the preliminary exam.	Addition of the following sentence to this bullet: Exceptions to the requirement for a committee member or an approved proctor to be present with the student during the examination may be granted system-wide or on a case-by-case basis due to the impacts of COVID-19.	as above
Chapter 8. Doctoral Degree Requirements; Section D. Doctoral Final Exam Policies, sub-section 3. Scheduling Requirements	Same text	Same requested revision	as above

The proposed changes have been reviewed and approved by the assistant Attorney General.