Policies, Procedures and Documents:
Master’s Degree Awarded When Enrolled in a Doctoral Program

There are circumstances under which a student who leaves a CIIS PhD program (voluntarily or involuntarily) may be eligible to have a master’s degree conferred to his or her record. Such a student must have done the following:

1. Completed at least 36 units of coursework;
2. Maintained a minimum 3.0 average;
3. Completed any additional requirements (e.g., a culminating project) specified by the department awarding the degree; and
4. If he or she has earned a master’s degree already, that degree must have been in a different field of study than the CIIS doctoral program.

A student who leaves a PhD program and receives a master’s degree in lieu of the PhD may not return to pursue a PhD in the same field of study.