The departmental rules concerning cumulative examinations are as follows:

a) Starting with the first month of the first semester that a student enters the department's Ph.D. program, a student must pass at least one cumulative exam by the last month of his/her second long semester in the Ph.D. program, and he/she must pass four cumulative examinations by the last month of his/her fourth long semester in the Ph.D. program.

b) A student is allowed to attempt no more than a total of 12 cumulative examinations. Each examination paper (bluebook) handed in by a student at the end of an examination period is counted toward this total.

c) If a student has not passed the required number of cumulative examinations within the time and/or number constraints indicated above, then the student will have failed the qualifying examination, and will be disqualified from pursuing the Ph.D. degree in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

d) Students are permitted to attempt and leave with a copy of the exam(s) without submitting the exam for grading at the end of the testing period. Exams that are not submitted to the proctor will not count as an attempt, however exams cannot be taken from the exam room and turned in to the grader after the testing period. A student that does not submit an exam to the proctor will still miss one of his/her cume opportunities.

Note that students are allowed to hand in more than one completed cumulative examination paper on a single Saturday, i.e. more than one exam may be attempted per exam date. However, all exams that are handed in count toward the 12-examination limit; thus in such cases the student may meet his or her 12-examination limit before the end of his or her fourth long semester.