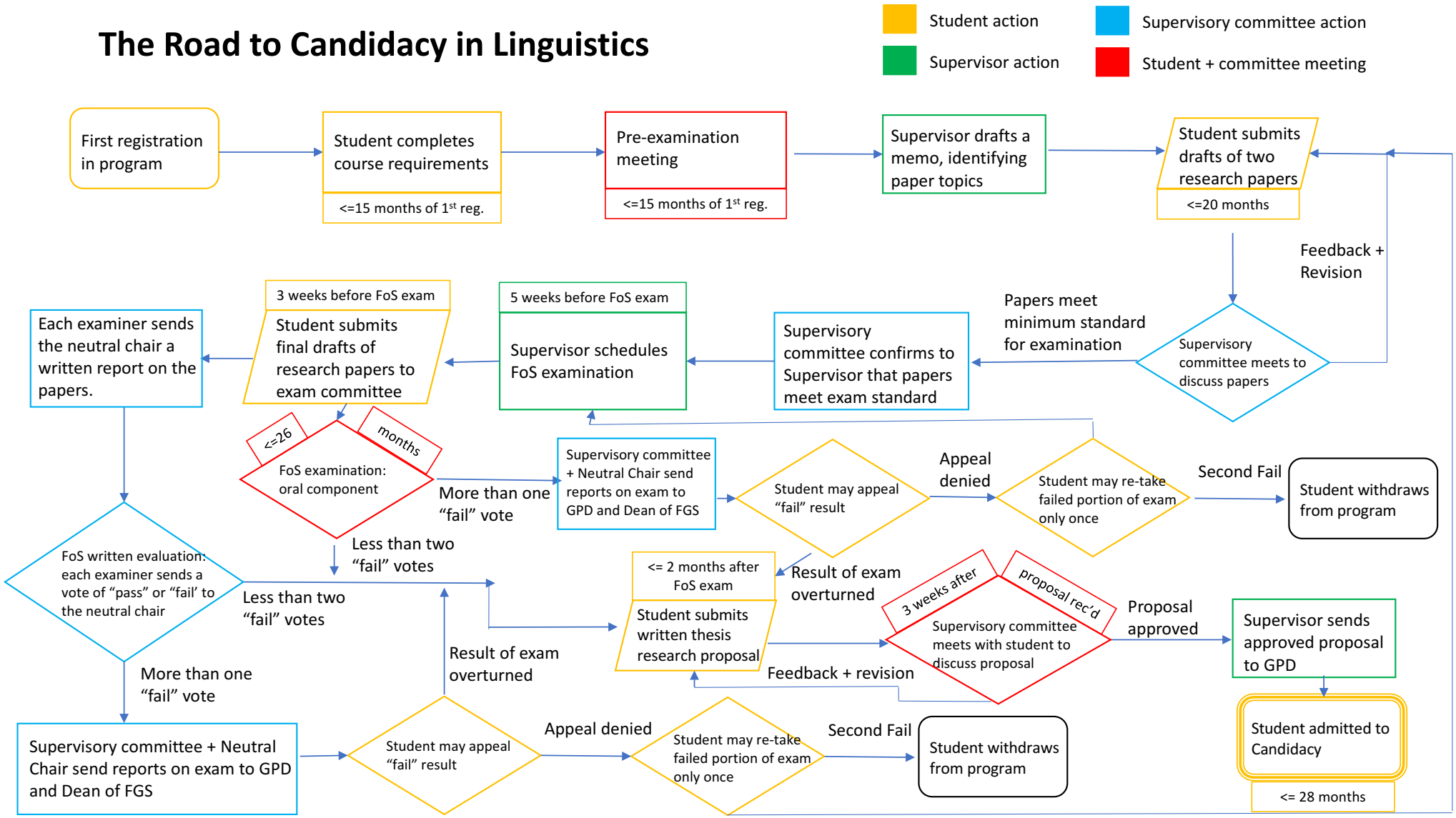The Road to Candidacy in Linguistics