What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Master’s degree in Civil Engineering. Applicants with a Master’s degree in a cognate science may be admitted.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The School of Graduate Studies requires the following minimum scores: TOEFL (paper-based): 550, (i) TOEFL iBT: Writing 24/30, Speaking 22/30, Reading 22/30, Listening 20/30, for a total of 88/120 (applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score), or (3) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score), or (4) PTE Academic: 65.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Application deadline: March 1 to qualify for internal funding.
- Notification of acceptance: 2-3 months after the full application has been received.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

What about FUNDING?
The level of financial support consequently varies among graduate students in the Department, with a guaranteed minimum level of $18,000. As part of the minimum funding package, you may serve as a Teaching or Research Assistant.

We encourage all students to apply for external funding from OGS, NSERC and other sources. Queen’s provides an automatic one-time top-up of $10,000 to all incoming federal tri-council PhD award winners who are entering Year 1 of a graduate degree program.

For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on scholarships or see what awards are offered through the Civil Engineering Department.

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in CIVIL ENGINEERING?

As a PhD student in the field of Civil Engineering, you can play a vital role in future developments in such areas as rock mechanics, design of foundations, water quality, sediment transportation, pipeline flow, construction and rehabilitation of structures, and many other areas. Civil Engineering has a wide range of applications that contribute to modern life and its infrastructure.

Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social and technological phenomena. Check out whygradstudies.ca for more reasons to choose graduate studies in engineering.

Why QUEEN’S?

As a PhD student in Civil Engineering at Queen’s, you are part of one of the most research intensive universities in Canada. Our research program is internationally renowned with a wide range of research activities in all of the major specialization areas of Civil Engineering.

The Queen’s graduate programs in Civil Engineering are home to some of the finest minds in the fields: civil and environmental engineering. Students have the chance to study engineering in an environment where multidisciplinary research and activities are encouraged and facilitated. Research activity in the Department is generally classified under two fields: Civil Engineering Environment and Civil Engineering Infrastructure.

The Civil Engineering Department’s objective is to provide a broadly-based education in civil engineering which is intrinsically supported by world-class research in the areas of Structural, Geotechnical, Hydrotechnical, and Environmental Engineering.

Program STRUCTURE

PhD (4 years): 4 graduate term length courses, research, comprehensive oral examination and a thesis.

RESEARCH Areas

- Geotechnical Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Hydrotechnical Engineering
- Structural Engineering

Visit the Civil Engineering website to read about research areas and learn more about faculty members’ research specialization. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work and related experience.
**Civil Engineering PhD MAP**

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**

**Year I**
- Key priorities include forming your committee, coursework, discussing direction of your thesis research, and beginning your research.
- Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation plans.
- Look to Student Academic Success Services for a variety of supports.
- Complete safety training.

**Year II**
- Priorities include completing your comprehensive examination and pursuing substantive research.
- Set up regular meetings with your supervisor to discuss progress and obstacles to timely completion.
- Find your way through the academic process with the help of Expanding Horizons and the SGS Habitat.
- Seek experiential/professional development opportunities.

**Year III**
- Continue to meet regularly with your supervisors, review research progress, and write your dissertation. Check out the SGS Dissertation Boot Camp or Dissertation on the Lake.
- Use conference presentations to create, discuss, and explore ways to disseminate research findings. Learn from the Expanding Horizons Publishing workshop.
- Begin discussion of potential thesis defense examinations.

**Year IV & Transitioning**
- Plan date of thesis submission for examination.
- Present your research to graduate students and faculty or at conferences and work with supervisor to prepare for defense.
- Review submission and examination guidelines.
- Secure necessary oral defense accommodations.
- Discuss career pathways, references letters, and publication options with your supervisor.

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**What Will I Learn?**
- A graduate degree in Civil Engineering can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:
  - Knowledge and technical skills
  - Effective communication skills in multiple forms for diverse audiences
  - Information management: prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information
  - Time management: Meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
  - Project management: develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
  - Creativity and innovation
  - Perseverance
  - Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
  - Awareness: an understanding of sound ethical practices, social responsibility, responsible research and cultural sensitivity
  - Professionalism: in all aspects of work, research and interactions
  - Leadership: initiative and vision, leading people and discussion

**Where Can I Go?**
- A PhD in Civil Engineering can take your career in many directions. In Canada, less than 40% of all PhDs will work in post-secondary education – the majority will work in industry, government, or non-profits.
- Academia and Research
- Consulting
- Public sector
- Manufacturing
- Policy and Governance
- Civil Engineering in the public domain
- Law
- Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.