Why GRADUATE STUDIES in EDUCATION?
Graduate students and their work are an integral part of our research, teaching and service community as we work together to explore ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social and technological phenomena within education. Through a PhD degree in Education at Queen's University, our students develop leadership skills, including critical reflection, research and writing, that prepare them for a variety of careers.

Why QUEEN'S?
One of the many advantages of the Faculty of Education at Queen's is our community spirit. Teacher candidates, graduate students, faculty, and staff work collaboratively in a supportive and inclusive environment that frequently brings us together through our shared passion for education, community events and activities.

Program STRUCTURE
PhD (4 years): Four terms of course work, comprehensive examination, thesis, and defence.

Our scholarly community values collaboration, growth, and personal development. Our students have many opportunities to research meaningful topics and present findings to an audience of peers.

RESEARCH Areas
- Curriculum Theorizing
- Educational Studies
- Learning and Cognition
- Literacy Education
- Measurement, Assessment, Policy, Leadership and Evaluation
- Special Education
- Aboriginal and World Indigenous Educational Studies

We highly recommend you identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying. Faculty members in the Faculty of Education are approachable, accessible and collaborative. They can be invaluable in supporting your application for admission. Visit the Faculty of Education website to read faculty profiles and watch videos spotlighting faculty research to learn more about faculty members’ research areas.
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS
- Key priorities include forming your committee, coursework, and field exams.
- 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.

YEAR I
- Priorities include completion of coursework, formation of supervisory committee and completion of mandatory comprehensive examination.
- 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 professional development workshops, the Education Associate Dean, and the SGS Habitat.
- Seek professional development opportunities.

YEAR II
- Priorities include completion of coursework, review research progress, and write your dissertation.
- Check out the SGSS Dissertation Boot Camp or Dissertation on the Lake.
- Use conference presentations to discuss, and explore ways to disseminate research findings. Learn from the Expanding Horizons Publishing workshop.
- Begin discussion of potential thesis defence examiners.

YEAR III
- Priorities include completion of coursework, formation of supervisory committee and completion of mandatory comprehensive examination.
- 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 professional development workshops, the Education Associate Dean, and the SGS Habitat.
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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 defence.
- Review submission guidelines.
- Secure necessary oral defence accommodations.
- Discuss career pathways, research proposals, and publication opportunities with your supervisor.

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT
- Think about audiences for your research.
- Complete ROMEO online module on research ethics if doing research with living people or sensitive topics.
- Apply to SSHRC, OGSS, and other funding.
- Attend conferences in your field.

YEAR I
- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as ScholarShare of the Rosa Bruno-Jofre Symposium in Education.
- Expand your research audience through social media.
- Apply for the Graduate Dean's Travel Grant for Doctoral Field Research.

YEAR II
- Present at professional and topic conferences.
- Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.
- Contact the Queen's Media Centre for guidance on speaking to news outlets about your work.

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BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees. Talk to the Education Graduate Student Society (EGSS) about getting involved.
- Consider positions in student services; the SGSS or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, CFRC, and the SGS Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory.
- Use a Teaching Assistant or Research assistant position to develop your skills and experience.

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YEAR II
- Begin to teach as a departmental Teaching Fellow.
- Find opportunities for extra training through CTL, Expanding Horizons, or other sources to boost your skills.
- Investigate internships from Mikans and other sources.
- Practice articulation of the skills you have developed in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Services workshop.

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ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY
- Consider volunteering with different community organisations. Get involved with the Community Outreach Centre for ways to get involved.
- Connect to broader communities of Education researchers through professional associations such as the Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSSE) in the American Education Research Association.

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YEAR II
- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organization of conferences, and research groups like Material Matters.
- If pursuing research abroad or outside Kingston, investigate options such as Ministries of Education, School Boards, Educational non-profit organizations.

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LAUNCH YOUR CAREER
- Finding a career fit starts with knowing yourself. Take a Career Services career planning workshop or meet with a career counsellor for help. Check out books like So What Are You Going to Do With That? for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites.
- Stay on the lookout for special events like Graduate Student Career Week to explore your career pathways.

YEAR I
- Build your teaching portfolio by using student evaluations and seeking mentorship.
- Explore different careers of interest by reading alumni profiles on the SGSS website and using Queen's Connects on LinkedIn to connect with those alumni or find alumni in various careers through Ask an Alum. For more information, visit Career Cruising.
- Investigate requirements for professional positions or other opportunities related to careers of interest.

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WHERE CAN I GO?
A PhD in Education can take your career in many directions. In Canada, less than 40% of all PhDs work in post-secondary education – the majority will work in industry, government, or non-profits.

- University faculty/researchers
- Post-doctoral fellows
- Researchers at research agencies and school boards
- Leaders in health sciences and government
- Provincial and Territorial Departments of Education
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Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!

* This map is intended to provide suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone’s abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. Build your own Grad Map using our online My Grad Map tool.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?
A graduate degree in Education 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, criticize, appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- Creativity and innovation
- Perserverance
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
- Awareness, an understanding of sound ethical practice, social responsibility, responsible research and publication, and cultural sensitivity
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussion

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Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
• Master’s degree in Education or a related discipline with first-class standing from a recognized university.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
• Professional experience in education or a related field is an asset.
• Two-page research proposal.
• 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, (2) 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 Academics: 65.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
• Application due: January 15
• Notification of acceptance: Late February

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

What about FUNDING?

Minimum funding guarantee for PhD students is $18,000. Funding packages are awarded to students who apply for it as part of their application for admission based on academic merit and they may consist of any or a combination of the following: scholarships, fellowships, external awards, internal awards, research assistantships, teaching assistantships or graduate teaching fellowships. The Faculty also offers funding for participation in international conferences.

Apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a $10,000 award to winners of federal government tri-council awards for PhD studies. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships and the Faculty of Education’s funding information.