

Biostatistics

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies



Why GRADUATE STUDIES in BIOSTATISTICS?

Graduate students and their work are an important part of the ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding health problems that occur at a local, regional, national, and even global level. Students gain skills to communicate scientifically, describe trends and patterns of disease incidence and prevalence, critically review scientific literature related to community health and epidemiology, collect and analyse data, and more.

A graduate degree in Biostatistics will equip students with a sound knowledge in observational and experimental study designs, statistical theory, statistical models for health data analysis, and statistical computing. A four-month practicum will provide students opportunities to apply basic knowledge and develop consulting expertise within a health research group in an academic or industry setting. The Department of Public Health Sciences and Department of Mathematics and Statistics jointly offer the collaborative MSc program in biostatistics specialization. The two departments offer strong graduate programs that include a broad range of courses in statistics, biostatistics, epidemiology, and health services research. By combining these resources, students in the collaborative program will have unique opportunities to develop the analytical skills and practical experience needed to interact with practitioners and to work on current research projects in a variety of health areas. Graduates of this program will be capable of working as biostatistical data analysts within multi-disciplinary health research teams.



“Combined with the intimate and supportive environment cultivated by the faculty, the Queen’s Epidemiology program is an outstanding choice for your graduate career!”

– Atif Kukaswadia, PhD

Why QUEEN’S?

Our established strengths are in the areas of cancer, injury, obesity, disability, and mental health epidemiology as well as research in various health services contexts including public health, primary care, cancer care and critical care. We also have some emerging strengths in the areas of Northern health, Aboriginal health, and global health studies.

At Queen’s, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen’s more than 130 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen’s offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies.

Program STRUCTURE

MSc Epidemiology with a Specialization in Biostatistics (12 months): Course work (8 core courses, 2 electives) and a supervised practicum (EPID 888). Part-time studies are available on a case-by-case basis.

Research AREAS

- Epidemiology and Population Health
- Health Services and Policy Research
- Clinical Epidemiology

Visit the [Department of Public Health website](#) to learn about faculty members’ [research areas](#). 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.



Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- 4-year Bachelor’s degree with Honours.
- All students must also have sound math skills. See the Department’s website for a [self-assessment](#) of essential mathematics background.
- **Grade requirements:** An overall minimum average of 75% in undergraduate studies.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Two copies of an official transcript (for external students).
- Two letters of recommendation.
- 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 31st.
- Application review begins in mid-February.

Before you start your application, please review the [Graduate studies application process](#).

What about FUNDING?

The MSc in Biostatistics does not guarantee a minimum funding amount. The Department provides individual funding packages for full-time students (years 1 and 2) in the program, based upon the student’s academic standing and on the sources of money available each year. These packages are funded through a combination of external awards, internal awards, internal departmental awards, faculty support, teaching assistantships, graduate research assistant fellowships, and research assistantships.

Apply for external funding from CIHR, NSERC, OGS, the Heart & Stroke Foundation, CBCF, the Department of Defence, the Canadian Cancer Society and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a one time \$5,000 top-up to students who are granted a federal tri-council award in their first year of study. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships and the department’s graduate awards page.



EPIDEMIOLOGY

Sue Preston, Graduate Assistant
(613) 533-2600
epid@queensu.ca
queensu.ca/phs