# Rehabilitation and Health Leadership DSC RHL Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

# WHY GRADUATE STUDIES IN REHABILITATION AND HEALTH LEADERSHIP?

The DSc (RHL) is a 36 month executivestyle degree program that allows students to continue working while completing the degree through a blend of onsite sessions and online learning.

The DSc (RHL) equips currently practicing rehabilitation and health professionals with the knowledge and skills they need to confidently pursue career opportunities that require advanced competencies in leadership, program development, applied research and evaluation, advocacy, change management, and knowledge translation.

The program format and curriculum design are firmly rooted in the belief that collaboration, creativity, and the discovery of new knowledge can inspire changes that benefit people affected by or at risk of disability.

The program is open to all professionals, whose current work or future career goals focus on advancing programs, services, and systems that will positively influence the everyday lives of people affected by or at risk of disability.

The cohort-based program has been designed with the working professional in mind. The blended program format includes short, intensive on-campus components (3-7 days) once or twice per year (depending on year of study), coupled with online learning.

# Why QUEEN'S?

As the first professional doctorate program at Queen's University, the DSc (RHL) will train *leader scholars* who are able to apply theory and use rigorous methodologies to inform decision-making in rehabilitation and health settings across the country and around the globe.



Students progress through the program on a full-time basis in order to complete requirements in 36 months. Students entering with a Master's degree will complete a total of 5 required (core) courses (15 credits), two electives (6 credits), a comprehensive exam, and an applied dissertation. Students entering with a Bachelor's degree will complete one additional core course (Critical Literature Review).

## Core COURSES

- Applying Theory to Enable Change
- Applied Research and Evaluation
- Communication, Advocacy, and Action
- Leadership Development
- Preparing Competitive Funding Proposals

# Applied DISSERTATION

Students identify a real-world problem in a rehabilitation or health setting, and design, implement and evaluate a process, program or system to address this problem.

# Program DELIVERY

Learning outcomes will be achieved through several interwoven strategies:

- An initial 5 day, on-site intensive to orient students to the program in general, launch work on core courses, and meet peers, faculty members, academic advisors, etc.;
- On-line course work that integrates synchronous and asynchronous components including regular, technology-supported, group-based discussions that are independent of course work to support the development of a community-oflearning and professional network.

For more details on the program visit the Program website - <a href="https://rehab.queensu.ca/academic-programs/dsc">https://rehab.queensu.ca/academic-programs/dsc</a>



# LEEN'S UNIVERSITY Orkplace

# Rehabilitation and Health Leadership DSC Map

DOCTOR OF SCIENCE (DSc)

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS	<ul> <li>Meet early with your advisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/occupational goals, timelines, and any accommodation plans.</li> <li>Consider how your coursework can contribute to your research proposal and comprehensive examination.</li> <li>Look to Student Academic Success Services for a variety of support.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Complete your comprehensive examination.</li> <li>Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (SGSPA) professional development workshops, the RHL Program Director and Program Assistant, and SGSPA website.</li> <li>Set up regular meeting with your advisor to discuss progress and obstacle to timely completion.</li> <li>Seek experiential/professional learning opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continue to meet regularly with your advisor, review research progress, and write your dissertation.</li> <li>Plan date of dissertation submission for examination.</li> <li>Present your research to graduate students and faculty and work with advisor to prepare for dissertation presentation.</li> <li>Review submission and examination guidelines.</li> <li>Secure necessary oral defence accommodations.</li> <li>Discuss career pathways, reference letters, and publications.</li> </ul>
MAXIMIZE SCHOLARLY IMPACT	<ul> <li>Think about audiences for your research.</li> <li>Complete CORE online module on research ethics if doing research with living people or sensitive topics.</li> <li>Attend conferences in your field.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Present your work at graduate conferences such as the Rehabilitation Research Colloquium.</li> <li>Expand your research audience through social media like LinkedIn, a blog or podcast.</li> <li>Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) or GRADflix competitions.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Continue to attend conferences and connect with scholars in your field and with community partners and with public outreach through social media and the Queen's Media Centre</li> <li>Consider being interviewed on the SGSPA radio show Grad Chat to talk about your research.</li> </ul>
BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE	Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experience, and competencies	<ul> <li>Find opportunities for extra training through CTL, SGSPA professional development, Mitacs, or other sources to boost your skills.</li> <li>Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre.</li> </ul>	Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help for a Career Services workshop.
ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY	Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.	Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interests, through Queens Connects on LinkedIn, the Queen's Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.	Join professional associations like the Canadian Health Leadership.
PROPEL YOUR CAREER	<ul> <li>Finding career fit starts with knowing yourself. Take a Career Services career planning workshop or meet with a career educator and coach for help.</li> <li>Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse the non-academic labour market websites.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Explore different careers of interest by using QueensConnects on LinkedIn to connect with alumni. For information check out Career Cruising.</li> <li>Investigate requirements for professional positions or other opportunities related to careers of interest.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Research academic careers of interest. Craft your CV and job application materials.</li> <li>Start focusing on non-academic areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your industry resume and begin your job search plan.</li> </ul>

# Knowledge & Workplace Skills

DSc (RHL) Graduates will be able to:

- Critically appraise, synthesize, and integrate knowledge from multiple sources and consider the impact of its application on various stakeholders (e.g., patients/clients, practitioners, families, public and private systems that fund or deliver services), in order to improve rehabilitation and health practice and service delivery;
- Design, implement and evaluate novel services, programs and processes in diverse areas of rehabilitation and health;
- Advocate for and lead services and programs to enhance the lives of people affected by or at risk of disability.

### Career Possibilities

A Professional Doctorate degree in Rehabilitation and Health Leadership can take your career in many directions. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Leadership positions in organizations that provide direct healthcare services to those with or at risk of disability.
- Leadership roles in advocacy and non-profit organizations.
- Policy advisory roles in government and nongovernmental organizations.

Taking time to explore career options while building your experience and networks can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

### How to use this map

# Graduate Studies FAQs

# Where can I get help?

Queen's provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Check out the SGSPA website for available resources.

# What is the community like?

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, and prize-winning professional development opportunities, Queen's offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies.



# **Application FAQs**

# What do I need to know to APPLY?

# Requirements

### **Academic Requirements**

- A B+ average in a Master's degree with a minimum of one-year work experience in a setting that develops, implements or manages programs, services, policies or processes for people affected by or at risk of a disability and evidence of progressive involvement in leadership activities or roles as evidenced in a curriculum vitae and through letters of reference OR
- A B+ average in a Bachelor's degree (four-year undergraduate program or equivalent) with a minimum of 5 years work experience in a setting that develops, implements or manages programs, services, policies, or processes for people affected by or at risk of a disability and evidence of progressive involvement in leadership activities or roles as evidenced in a curriculum vitae and through letters of reference.

### **Additional Requirements**

- One Professional Reference: A reference that addresses your work and/ or volunteer experience and potential for leadership in rehabilitation and health.
- · Two Academic References.
- Current Curriculum Vitae (CV) or Resume: 4 pages maximum, submitted directly to the Graduate Assistant
- Statement of Interest: Maximum 4000 characters, submitted via the online application portal.

# **Key Dates & Deadlines**

- Complete applications are reviewed and offers are made on an on-going basis by the program.
- Applicants are encouraged to apply early, before the final application deadline of January 15.

# **Funding**

- For information about fees and tuition, please check the Registrar and Financial Aid Services website for the most up-to-date information.
- The DSc (RHL) is a professional program designed to allow students to continue working throughout their studies. While funding packages are not provided to students, all applicants are encouraged to seek external funding (including employer support), and are eligible to apply for Teaching Assistantships and Research Assistantship positions.



Rehabilitation and Health Leadership Program

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