

Health Quality PhD Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Why Graduate Studies in Health Quality?

Completion of the PhD in Health Quality (PhDHQ) prepares experts to improve the delivery of healthcare across multiple sectors by focusing on innovative and evidence-informed approaches.

Delivered within a collaborative, interprofessional framework, the program equips students to navigate the complexities of healthcare systems through both coursework and research.

Graduates will be prepared for senior leadership roles in health quality portfolios across practice, policy, and academia within Canadian and global settings. While the degree is research-intensive, it is grounded in pragmatism and will help prepare independent researchers to do quality-focused research and develop leadership capabilities.

The PhDHQ program is a four (4) year, interdisciplinary program that is delivered using a combination of interactive synchronous and asynchronous study methods.

There are five (5) core courses taken in year one, including an internship in the Spring/Summer Term.

The internship is tailored to the learners' interests and focused on broadening perspectives of health quality.

In Year Two, students complete their written comprehensive exam in the fall, before turning their focus to developing a PhD thesis proposal and completing HQRS 905: Current Topics in Health Quality during the winter and summer terms.



Who Should Apply?

A PhD degree in Health Quality can take your career in many directions. Our students come from varied backgrounds including but not limited to:

- Administration
- Business
- Engineering
- Healthcare
- Healthcare information technologists
- Law
- Policy advisors

Required Courses

- HQRS 900: Philosophy of Health Quality Science
- HQRS 901: Research and Theory of Change Management and Leadership
- HQRS 902: Qualitative Methods for Research in Health Quality
- HQRS 903: Quantitative Research Methods for Health Quality
- HQRS 904: Internship in Health Quality
- HQRS 905: Current Topics in Health Quality
- HQRS 999: Thesis

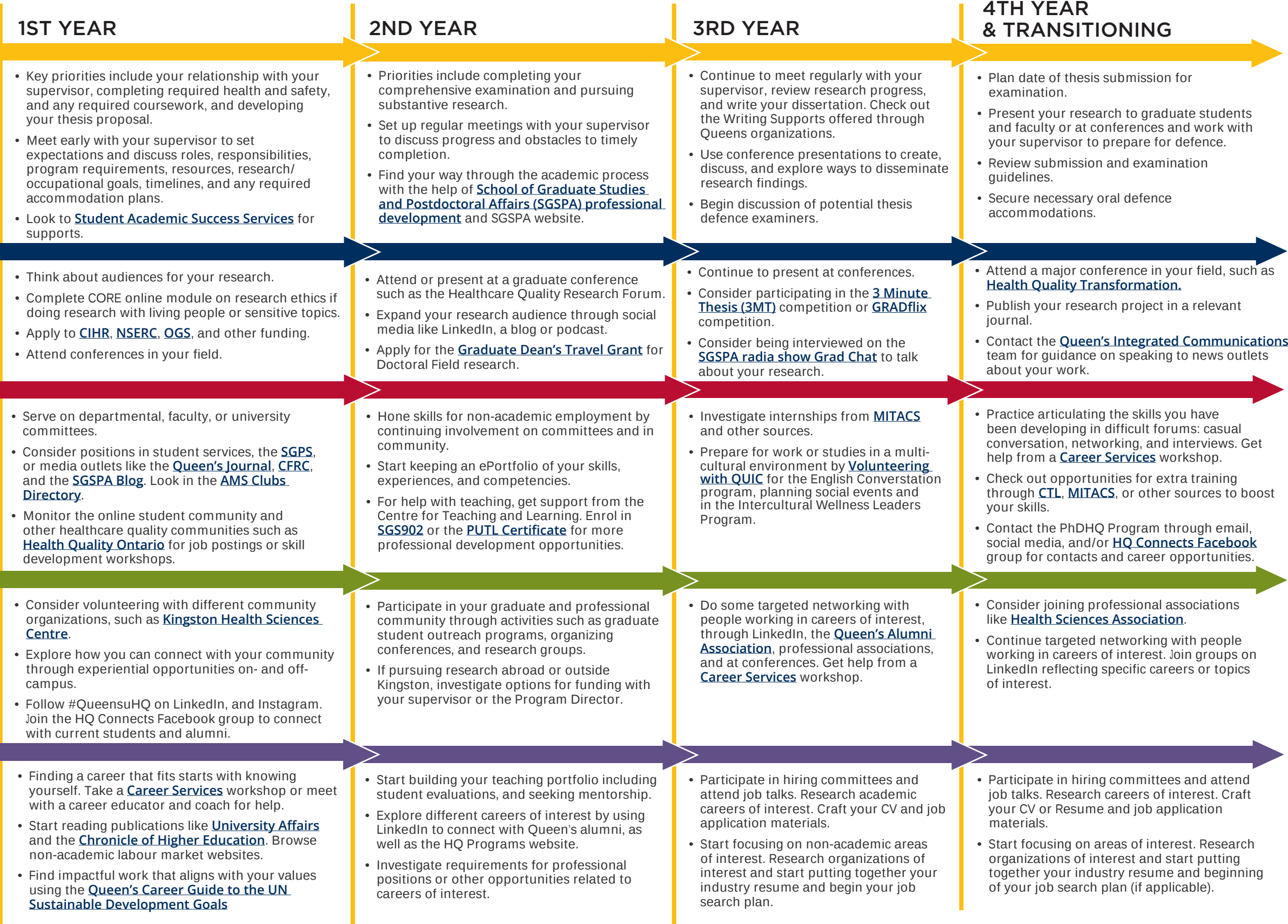


Health Quality PhD Map

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD)

How to use this map

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. To make your own custom map, use the My Grad Map tool: careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps.



Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A graduate degree in Health Quality can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- Knowledge and technical skills
- Communication: Ability to effectively convey complex information to a diverse audience
- 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
- Interprofessional Education foundations

Career Possibilities

The PhDHQ program will prepare graduates to pursue careers and/or leadership positions such as:

- Clinical scientists
- Clinicians with the mandate to lead quality improvement in health organizations
- Faculty positions

Graduate Studies FAQs

How do I make the most of my time at Queen's?

Use the Grad Map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. Everyone's journey is different - the ideas on the maps are just suggestions to help you explore possibilities. For more support with your professional development, take advantage of the SGSPA professional development framework and the new Professional Development Plan (PDP) process to set customized goals to help you get career ready when you graduate.

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?

Queen's offers graduate students from every discipline a close-knit intellectual community where they can learn, discover, and build lasting connections. With more than 130 graduate programs across 50+ departments and research centres, students benefit from world-class scholars, prize-winning professional development, generous funding packages, and life in the historic waterfront city of Kingston. The campus sits at the heart of Kingston, just a 10-minute walk from downtown's shops, restaurants, and waterfront, and is deeply integrated with the local community. For more on Kingston's history and culture, see Queen's University's Discover Kingston page.

Application FAQs

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Applicants who have a project-based or thesis-based research master's degree in health, health-related law, business, architecture, or engineering will be eligible to apply for admission. Applicants who have course-based master's degrees or degrees in other disciplines are encouraged to discuss the suitability of the degree with the Associate Director (Health Quality Programs) before applying. The overall grade point average required is **B+ at the master's level** as per the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' regulation. Applicants from under-represented groups will be encouraged to apply and targeted recruitment strategies will be deployed to ensure the applicant pool reflects the population of Canada. The blended delivery format is designed to maximize accessibility, with on-campus requirements limited to designated one-week residency periods at select points throughout the four-year program.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A statement of interest in the program is required to match the applicant's academic and work experience with the objectives of the program.
- Current curriculum vitae.
- If English is not a first language, nor was the language of instruction in undergraduate studies, prospective students must meet English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening as part of the application process, and before final acceptance is granted, as per School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' regulations.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES

- **Application deadline:** February 1.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process. Financial support to students admitted to the PhDHQ program may be offered based on demonstration of financial need. Funding packages for graduate students can be used to pay tuition fees, travel, living expenses, books, and costs associated with the internship.

Students must have requested financial support upon their initial application for admission to a Queen's doctoral program in order to be eligible. It is assumed that the information provided in terms of a Yes or No in response to the query 'Do you require financial support from Queen's University' applies throughout the student's academic program.

For more information regarding funding packages, please visit the Healthcare Quality PhD program website. All questions pertaining to tuition and fees should be directed to the Queen's University Registrar's Office at fees@queensu.ca or by phone at (613) 533-2040.