

Health Quality PhD Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

GRAD MAP FOR PHD STUDENTS 

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. The PhDHQ program is offered using a collaborative, interprofessional approach to enable students to address the complexities within healthcare systems in coursework and research. Graduates of the program will be prepared to take senior leadership roles in health quality portfolios in practice and policy in Canadian and global settings and faculty positions in university programs. 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. Students will complete their written comprehensive exam remotely during the fall of their second year. In the winter and summer terms of year two (2) students will focus on preparing a PhD thesis proposal, and complete HQRS 905, Current Topics in Health Quality.



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



**GRADUATE STUDIES AND
POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS**

2023-2024

Health Quality PhD Map

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY



WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Health Quality 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
- Interprofessional Education foundations

WHERE CAN I GO?

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

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. The map just offers suggestions – you don't have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the [My Grad Map](#) tool.

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 [Individual Development Plan \(IDP\)](#) 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?

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. Queen's is an integral part of the Kingston community, with the campus nestled in the core of the city, only a 10-minute walk to downtown with its shopping, dining and waterfront. For more about Kingston's history and culture, see Queen's University's [Discover Kingston](#) page.

Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

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. Potential 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) prior to 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 specific recruitment will be targeted to ensure the applicant pool reflects the population of Canada. As the program will be offered in a hybrid format, access to the program is unlikely to be a barrier as students will be required to be on campus for one-week periods at select times over the four years.

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 native language, prospective students must meet the [English language proficiency requirements](#) in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The following minimum scores are required: (1) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30). Applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score, or (2) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score and a 7.0 for each test band), or (3) PTE Academics: 65, or (4) CAEL CE -70 (minimum overall score).

KEY DATES & DEADLINES

- **Application deadline:** February 1.

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

What about FUNDING?

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.



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