Why GRADUATE STUDIES in NURSING?
Consider a graduate degree in Nursing for all it has to offer: well-developed skills in critical thinking, writing, research and, perhaps more importantly, skills to facilitate change in today's health care system. Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing knowledge creation process that provides the health care system with the necessary tools to understand phenomena using various ways of knowing. Today's job market seeks people with advanced practice skills who can critically analyze information and evidence, synthesize scholarly and public reports, create new knowledge, and lead change and transformation. Study Nursing and you will acquire such skills.

Why QUEEN’S?
The School of Nursing at Queen's offers an online PhD program. Students attend three on-campus residencies in Year 1 (September, January, and May), and complete their coursework online. This innovative program prepares graduates with analytical and research skills required to expand knowledge of clinical, theoretical, and health systems issues. Our students are taught primarily in small graduate seminars, in which they engage in a lively, critical examination of philosophy and research, and delve into their own research. Nurtured by close mentoring relationships with faculty supervisors, students engage early and continuously in research and successfully complete the program in 4 years. Situated in an academic environment that embodies scholarship, graduates are well-prepared for careers as leaders in research and scholarship, clinical practice, and health care administration.

Program STRUCTURE
PhD (4 years, full-time): coursework, comprehensive exam, thesis proposal, research, and final thesis examination.

RESEARCH Areas
Practice environments
• Communication strategies and systems
• Leadership
• Models of care
• Workplace culture, structure and health

Populations with complex conditions
• Mental health and/or addictions
• Multimorbidity
• Optimizing function and well-being
• Outcomes monitoring

Health care quality
• Advancing safety
• Educational and technological innovations
• Health system service and delivery
• Risk assessment and reduction

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.

“I loved the collegial atmosphere provided by the caring and supportive faculty. It was at Queen's that I developed my thirst for knowledge through evidence based research.”
– Judeline Innocent, RN, PhD
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.

**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**
A graduate degree in Nursing can equip you with valuable and versatile skills:
- Knowledge and technical skills: equip you with valuable and versatile skills.
- Professionalism: in all aspects of work, research, and interactions.
- Awareness of social, ethical, and cultural sensitivities.
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussion.
- Creativity and innovation.

**WHERE CAN I GO?**
A PhD in Nursing can take your career in many directions. In Canada, less than 40% of all PhDs will work in post-secondary education – the majority will work in industry, government, or nonprofit organizations. Graduates from the Nursing PhD program have found careers as:
- Advanced Practice Nurses
- Deans or Directors
- Healthcare Administrators
- Professors
- Research Scientists

**WHAT WILL I DO?**
- Attend three 7-10 day on-campus residencies (September, January, and May).
- Complete 5 courses (4 online; 1 on-campus during May residency).
- Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation plans.
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- Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation plans.
How do I use this map?

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 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 personalized 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 Queens' more than 130 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, world-class 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
- Master’s degree in Nursing or equivalent. Applicants without an undergraduate university degree in nursing will be considered on an individual basis, and are strongly encouraged to contact the School of Nursing to discuss this opportunity prior to applying.
- **Grade requirements**: Minimum overall average equivalent to B+.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Two academic letters of reference (e.g. course professors).
- Registration (or eligibility to register) as a Registered Nurse with the College of Nurses of Ontario.
- Statement of academic, research and professional plans.
- Copy of Curriculum Vitae (Resume)
- Questions for Doctoral Nursing Program
- 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 1st, or until all seats are filled.
- **Notification of acceptance**: mid-March to early April.

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

What about FUNDING?

In keeping with the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs policy, eligible full-time Ph.D. students qualify for research assistantships (RA), teaching assistantships (TA), teaching fellowships (TF), Queen's Graduate Awards (QGA), and internal awards.

We encourage all students to apply for external funding from CIHR, OGS, SSHRC, and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a $5,000 award to incoming PhD students who have won federal government tri-council awards. For more information on many external awards, see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs’ information on awards and scholarships or see what awards are offered through the School of Nursing. 