

Urban Planning MPL Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in URBAN PLANNING?

The School of Urban & Regional Planning (SURP) in the Queen's Department of Geography and Planning emphasizes excellence in teaching, with high faculty-student engagement and courses that capitalize on the considerable planning experience of our energetic faculty. This is a professional education program that also has a significant research component. It is officially recognized by the Canadian Institute of Planners as a key stage toward earning the Registered Professional Planners designation.

GRAD MAP FOR MPL STUDENTS 



work in the public sector, with policy agencies at the federal and provincial levels, or as planners at local and regional governments.

Program STRUCTURE

There are three methods of completion for the Master's of Urban and Regional Planning:

- Method I: course work and thesis.
- Method II: course work and research report.
- Method III: course work only. Most students also complete a paid summer internship.

"My experiences at Queen's University opened many doors for me, and prepared me for entering the industry with a solid background of planning theory and practical applications."

- Michelle Taggart, MPL

Why QUEEN'S?

Your instructors will be a team of exceptional professors. The core faculty combine years of professional experience with strong research skills and a passion for promoting learning. Their books are used as core texts in planning courses across Canada and several have been honoured with university teaching and professional service awards.

Over the past five years, more than 90% of our students have obtained paid professional internships during the summer term in the middle of the MPL program. And over 90% of our graduates have obtained planning-related employment within six months of graduation. About half of SURP graduates

Areas of SPECIALIZATION

- Environmental Services
- Health & Social Planning
- Land Use & Real Estate

Supervisors are matched late in the first year, based upon the final topic of the student's report or thesis proposal and the availability and research skills of the particular faculty members. Most students preparing a thesis or Master's research report find a research supervisor from among the regular or adjunct faculty of the School.



**GRADUATE STUDIES AND
POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS**

Urban Planning MPL Map

MASTER OF PLANNING (MPL)



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

- 4 year Bachelor or Honours degree.
- **Grade requirements:** minimum of B+ average, with preference for those with an A-average or better in the final two years of undergraduate study.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Statement of interest.
- Two letters of reference.
- Numeracy skills and the ability to solve basic math problems using algebra and geometry.
- 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 (5) Canadian Academic English Language (Computer Edition) (CAEL CE): 70 (minimum overall score).

DEADLINES

- Application Deadline for ALL applicants, including Canadian citizens, permanent residents, landed immigrants, and international applicants:
 - March 1 for admission consideration with grants and financial awards.
 - After March 1, applications MAY be considered on a rolling basis if there are spots still available.
- Notification of Acceptance:
 - For complete applications received by March 1: April 1
 - For applications received after March 1: 6 weeks or longer
- Formal Acceptance by Applicant on SGSPA portal:
 - May 1 OR four weeks from receiving a notice of acceptance from SURP Admissions Coordinator, whichever is earlier, unless otherwise mentioned in the notice.
- Payment of Acceptance Deposit
 - In order to secure an offer of admission to our program, a student must pay a \$500 acceptance deposit in the first week of June. The Graduate Assistant will inform accepted students of the exact due date for the acceptance deposit and how to make the payment.

What about FUNDING?

There is no guaranteed funding for MPL students. That said, many students typically receive Queen's Graduate Awards, based on class standing. Additionally, students may apply for Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant positions in the Department of Geography and Planning. Most students also undertake a paid professional internship in the summer between first and second year.

For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on [awards and scholarships](#).



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