Why GRADUATE STUDIES in AGING AND HEALTH?

Graduate studies in Aging and Health are offered through innovative programs that provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of aging, with a focus on health and healthy living. Students will develop multi-disciplinary knowledge of individual aging processes, the effect of aging on social systems, and the policies needed to support healthy aging. The program is meant to enhance students’ ability to contribute to the development, delivery and implementation of evidence-based care, services, and policies for older adults across a range of settings.

Why QUEEN’S?

The program is full-time and is completed from a distance, through a blended format of on-line and in-person learning. Intensive on-site sessions introduce students to core MSc courses and e-learning technology, as well as provide an opportunity for in-person interaction with faculty and fellow class members. Elective courses are completed at a distance, online. The blended format of on-site intensives and on-line components couples networking and experiential opportunities with the flexibility of distance learning.

Queen’s University programs in Aging and Health position graduates for success in a variety of settings that serve the growing population of older adults including government, universities and colleges, for-profit and non-profit organizations, business and industry, and various healthcare settings.

Program STRUCTURE

**MSc:** Students entering the MSc program will progress on a full-time basis to complete requirements in 12 months. Students will complete a total of three required (core) courses (9 credits), four electives (12 credits), and a project.

**GDip:** Students entering the GDip program will progress on a full-time basis to complete requirements in 8 months. Students will complete a total of five courses (15 credits), any 800 level elective course, including most MSc core courses.

Core MSc COURSES

- Evaluating Aging-Related Programs and Services
- Ethics and Aging
- Issues in Aging and Health

Students in the MSc program will complete a project that develops skills for critical appraisal and integration of evidence to address a defined question related to aging and health. Students in the GDip program can complete the Core MSc Courses as one of their five term courses. Students in the GDip program do not complete a project.

Visit the Aging and Health website to learn more about the program and its opportunities.

“I wanted to equip myself with transitional knowledge that allows me to successfully advocate for the lives of older adults, without having to move to campus and quit my job.... This program is designed for the lifelong learner, delivering rich education on a profoundly relevant topic, in a flexible format.”

– Stephanie Gurr, MSc’19

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies
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.

2023-2024

Aging and Health MSc/GDip Map

MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSc) or GRADUATE DIPLOMA (GDip)

GETTING STARTED

- Start with key priorities like doing your coursework and preparing for your project.
- Determine your elective courses.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and SGSPA professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair, and the SGSPA website.

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

- Complete your coursework.
- Begin to do research for your major project.

MAXIMIZE SCHOLARLY IMPACT

- Start to think about the audiences for your project.
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for funding from sources such as CIHR, SSHRC, NSERC, DGS, the Heart & Stroke Foundation, and other foundations related to your area of research.

WRAPPING UP

- Complete your course work and project.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, CFRC, and the SGSPA Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees. Talk to the program director or assistant for tips on getting involved.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering or working with local community organizations that are focused on supporting healthy aging and aging in place.

PROPEL YOUR CAREER

- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services workshop or meeting with a career educator and coach. Check out the Career Resource Area for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites. Stay on the lookout for special events like School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs Career Week to explore your career pathways.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A professional degree in Aging and Health can equip you with:

- Knowledge and technical skills
- Effective communication skills in multiple forms for diverse audiences
- Critical approaches to research and practice with older adults
- Time management skills to meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- Project management skills to develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and healthcare conclusions
- Creativity and innovation
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership skills to take initiative and lead discussions and influence people.

WHERE CAN I GO?

Queen’s University programs in Aging and Health position graduates for success in a variety of settings that serve the growing population of older adults including government, for-profit and non-profit organizations. Potential career opportunities include:

- Coordination and management roles in for-profit organizations that deliver services or create products for older adults
- Policy development and analysis related to aging and society
- Program development, implementation, and oversight in community-based or public healthcare organizations
- Program evaluation for aging and health-related services
- In addition, graduates of this program have taken the knowledge and skills gained in this program back to their own places of employment to contribute to the development of age-sensitive services and practices. 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.

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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

- Honours Bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- **Grade requirements:** Minimum B+ average or above from any 4-year undergraduate program or equivalent.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 2 copies of previous transcripts.
- 2 references, with one academic reference if you have graduated from university less than 5 years prior to application.
- Resume: Maximum 2000 characters, submitted via the online application system.
- 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

- For the AGHE GDip program, applications are reviewed and offers are made on an on-going basis. Applicants have the option to complete the program in any two consecutive terms.
- For the MSc program, the application deadline is towards the end of April.

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

What about FEES?

For information about fees and tuition, please check the Registrar and Financial Aid Services website for the most up-to-date information.

Apply for external funding and see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on awards and scholarships.

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