

Graduate Diploma in Education (GDE)

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies



Why a **GRADUATE DIPLOMA** in **EDUCATION**?

Our fully online, part-time Graduate Diploma in Education (GDE) program is designed for educators and other professionals who want to take their career to the next level by exploring educational theory in relation to their practice.

The GDE program provides students with the unique opportunity to focus their graduate learning in a chosen concentration of study and apply that learning to solve problems of practice and effect change in their professional context.

Consisting of only 5 online courses, the GDE program is an excellent way to begin your online graduate studies experience and earn a graduate diploma. Should you decide to continue on after you finish the Graduate Diploma, take an additional 5 courses to earn a Professional Master of Education degree as well.

Program **STRUCTURE**

The GDE program offers a flexible and personalized approach to post-graduate studies in education. All GDE courses run asynchronously online, which means professionals can participate from anywhere in the world without disrupting their busy schedules. Students enrolled in the GDE program must complete a total of 5 graduate courses, 3 required and 2 elective.

- Courses do not need to be taken in a specific order.
- Courses are offered four terms throughout the year: Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer.
- Courses are 10 weeks in Fall and Winter and 7 weeks in Spring and Summer.
- Courses are approximately 36 hours online and 70-100 hours independently.

Required **COURSES** (3)

GDE students choose one of the following concentrations and take all 3 courses in their chosen Concentration:

- Assessment & Evaluation
- Classroom Specialist
- Educational Administration
- Global Education
- Indigenous Education
- Literacy Education



ELECTIVE Courses (2)

GDE students choose 2 elective courses outside their chosen concentration. The breadth of elective options allows students to customize a learning portfolio that supports their professional context. Electives include:

- **PME 800** Self-Regulated Inquiry and Learning
- **PME 801** Cultivating Creativity
- **PME 803** Organizational Leadership
- **PME 810** Integrated Planning, Instruction, and Assessment
- **PME 811** Innovation in Teacher and Learning
- **PME 814** Problem Based Learning
- **PME 815** Digital Literacy
- **PME 878** Experiential Practice in Education
- Students may also choose courses from outside their designated concentration as electives.

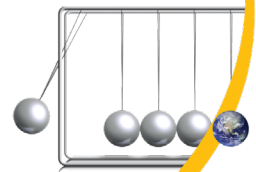
The **GDE** and **SAGE**

The GDE program can also be completed as part of our Specialized Applied Graduate Experience (SAGE) program, a customizable graduate experience offering the choice of three different credentials within one ladder program. Find out more about SAGE [here!](#)

"My experience so far as a student in the Graduate Diploma has been fantastic. The idea of doing a distance program seemed daunting at first, but the Queen's faculty have made it easy and enjoyable. They have worked hard to create an inviting and constructive online learning environment, offering valuable discussions and feedback. The content of the courses provides room to be challenged and grow as an educator. The GDE is a wonderful program and is a great lead-in for the Professional Master of Education."

- Laura Mann (GDE Student)

School of Graduate Studies
Create an impact
www.queensu.ca/sgs



Graduate Studies FAQs

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 [SGS website](#) for available resources.



Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- A baccalaureate degree from a recognized university
- Statement of Interest
- Graduation with a B- graduating average or higher (70% graduating average or a ranking in the top third of the graduating class where number grades are not available)
- Under exceptional circumstances, consideration will be given to highly motivated individuals with relevant field experience who do not meet the B- requirement
- Applicants whose native languages do not include English must obtain a minimum English language requirement of 580 or higher on the paper-based TOEFL exam; 237 Computer-based; 88 on the TOEFL iBT test or IELTS Band 7 or higher.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 2 academic references (or 2 professional references if last degree was completed more than 5 years prior)
- As part of the online application and application fee, applicants will be required to submit official transcripts from all universities attended (except Queen's), and 2 academic references.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES

- Please refer to <https://educ.queensu.ca/GDE> for key dates and deadlines.

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

APPLICATION Process

As part of the online application and application fee, applicants will be required to submit official transcripts from all universities attended (except Queen's), and 2 references (either academic or professional).

The online application form includes two spaces for reference contact information.

Referees are notified that you want them to provide a reference for you by email after you have submitted your online application, so please submit your application at least two weeks before the application deadline and be sure to include the correct email addresses of your referees on your online application. Applications will not be deemed complete and will not be reviewed by the admissions committee until all listed references are received.

In addition to the online application and application fee, applicants are required to submit official transcripts (envelopes from the institution cannot be opened) from all universities you have attended except for Queen's.

If you have questions, please contact the [Graduate Studies & Research Office](#).

"As an assessment consultant, I am always eager to expand my knowledge and understanding of my field, though due to my professional obligations it has been difficult to find the right opportunities to do so. The PME program at Queen's University has proved to be an ideal fit for my situation, allowing me to gain foundational training in an array of education concepts as well as helping me to develop practical tools that I have been able to apply in better serving my clients, all while continuing to work full-time."

- Matthew Marini (PME Student)



FACULTY OF
EDUCATION

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