Why GRADUATE STUDIES in PATHOLOGY & MOLECULAR MEDICINE?

Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social and technological phenomena. Graduate students in Pathology and Molecular Medicine have opportunities to pursue comprehensive training in basic and translational biomedical research. They pursue advanced degrees under the supervision of an exceptional group of basic, clinical and translational researchers.

Why QUEEN’S?

With a focus on cancer – 12 of our 20 investigators are cancer biologists – our department members deliver comprehensive diagnostic laboratory and clinical services to Southeastern Ontario through the Kingston General Hospital, offering great training for the next generation of biomedical research scientists and laboratory physicians.

Program STRUCTURE

MSc (2 years): Course work, research demonstrating experimental competence, and a thesis.

Research AREAS

- Cancer Research and Developmental Biology
- Human Genetics and Cytogenetics
- Hemostasis, Thrombosis Research, and Vascular Biology

Visit the Pathology and Molecular Medicine website to read faculty profiles and learn more about faculty members’ research areas. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact them and tell them about your interest in graduate work, area of research interest and related experience. Please include a current CV, contact information for 2-3 references who would be familiar with your academic performance and any research experience and an unofficial transcript.
Pathology & Molecular Medicine MSc Map

GETTING STARTED

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS
- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, forming your committee, and doing your coursework.
- Consider how your course papers can contribute to your Master's thesis.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from the departmental, the department Grad Chair and the SGSPA.

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT
- Start to think about the audiences for your research.
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for funding from sources such as CIHR, NSERC, OGS, the Heart & Stroke Foundation, the Department of Defence and the American Cancer Society.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE
- Consider positions in student services, the SGSPA, 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.
- Check out professional development workshops from School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development and the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY
- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, such as the Canadian Cancer Society, Kingston General Hospital and the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

LAUNCH YOUR CAREER
- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services workshop or meeting with a career counsellor. Check out books like So What Are You Going to do With That? or Planning a Scientific Career in Industry from 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.

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

WHAT WILL I LEARN?
A graduate degree in Pathology and Molecular Medicine can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:
- Knowledge and technical skills
- Effective communication skills in multiple fora 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

WHERE CAN I GO?
A Master's degree in Pathology & Molecular Medicine can take your career in many directions. Many of our MSc students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:
- Leadership: initiative and vision
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- Technical positions in academic institutions or the private sector
- Scientific supply companies
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Academic labs
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- Teaching positions in academic institutions or the private sector
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Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Honours BSc or equivalent in life sciences, biochemistry, biology, or equivalent program with at least a B+ average. (Students with only a general degree can be admitted for a qualifying year.)
- We consider all of your grades, but pay particular attention to the last two years of science-related courses.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- 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 due: February 1st to be considered for internal funding.
- Notification of acceptance: Quickly pending confirmation of a supervisor.

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

What about FUNDING?

We offer our Master's students minimum funding of $22,000 annually. For internal, provincial and national competitive award winners, the funding package increases by 2.5%, 5% and 10% respectively.

Apply for external funding from OGS, CIHR/NSERC and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a one time $5,000 top-up to Master's winners of federal government tri-council awards. See the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on awards and scholarships for more.