Why GRADUATE STUDIES in REHABILITATION SCIENCE?

Graduate programs in Rehabilitation Science at Queen's University stress the multidisciplinary contribution of many health professions and disciplines to rehabilitation. The focus is on understanding how people who experience disability can be enabled to live full and satisfying lives as members of their community, considering a broad range of individual, community and societal factors. Students can expect to be introduced to a broad spectrum of rehabilitation related concerns including function and participation across a wide range of health conditions and disabilities (for example neurotrauma, mental health, intellectual disabilities), policy development, professional education, and interdisciplinarity and intersectoral services. The program attracts students from varied backgrounds including occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech-language pathology, kinesiology, psychology, social work, arts & humanities, nursing, education, epidemiology, law, engineering, and others.

Why QUEEN’S?

The School of Rehabilitation Therapy at Queen's University is committed to leading and inspiring positive changes that transform lives through rehabilitation research, education and practice. As part of this commitment, part of our core mission is to educate rehabilitation scientists who contribute to health and well-being globally through collaboration, creativity, and the discovery of new knowledge. We are recognized nationally and internationally for our excellent faculty, high-quality professional and research programs, and the ways in which our scholarship contributes to the lives of people affected by or at risk of disability.

Program STRUCTURE

MSc (2 years): Required and elective course work, thesis, and oral defense.

RESEARCH Areas

- Human Mobility & Motor Control Across Lifespan
- Disability & Participation
- Workplace Health & Accommodation
- Moving Knowledge into Practice and Policy
- Health Professional Education
- Military and Veteran Health
- Community-Based Rehabilitation

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

Visit the Rehabilitation Science 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 him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work and related experience. This is also an opportunity for you to find out if the faculty member is accepting new graduate students to supervise.

“If you are someone who thrives on developing your quantitative research skills, wants to understand the complexity of qualitative research, or would like to make an impact on our Canadian healthcare system then the Rehabilitation Science program is just for you! [The program] has broadened my scope in terms of the diversity of opportunities available to me – spanning anywhere from working in a traditional research facility conducting clinical trials to focusing my skills in the policy world and making a large scale healthcare change, to addressing barriers to health care and participation in the international context.”

– Kasha Pyka, MSc
Rehabilitation Science MSc Map *

GETTING STARTED

- 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 departmental and Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the SGS website.

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

- Complete your coursework; begin to research and write your Master’s or thesis.
- Participate in the departmental seminar series (RHBS 803).

WRAPPING UP

- Present your research to Rehabilitation Science graduate students and faculty.
- Complete and defend your Master’s research thesis.

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT

- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as the Rehabilitation Research Colloquium, or the Canadian Student Health Research Conference.
- Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, CFRC, and the SGS Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees. Talk to the program assistant for tips on getting involved.
- Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons and the Rehabilitation Science Department.

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 aligned with the Rehabilitation Sciences, such as local hospitals, community services and associations that support people with disabilities and accessibility of community opportunities for all citizens.

LAUNCH YOUR CAREER

- Find a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services career planning 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 Queen’s Journal or the School of Graduate Studies Career Week to explore your career pathways.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Rehabilitation Science can equip you with:
- Knowledge and technical skills in communication skills in multiple forms 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 and understanding of sound ethical practices, sexual 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 Rehabilitation Science 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:
- Clinical/Program Research and evaluation
- Academia (research and teaching)
- Agencies - government, not-for-profit, or private - that support clinical care, research, or workforces related to health or disability
- Program development at the local, national or international level
- Policy development
- International community-based rehabilitation
- Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!

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* This map is intended to provide suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone’s abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. Build your own Grad Map using our online My Grad Map tool.
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Honours Bachelor's degree or equivalent in a discipline related to rehabilitation science (e.g. physical therapy, occupational therapy, kinesiology, sociology, psychology, life sciences, engineering, etc.) Contact the program director to discuss how your studies to date may be related to rehabilitation sciences.
- Grade requirements: Upper second-class standing (B+). The entire transcript is reviewed but particular attention is given to your last 20 courses and how well you have progressed throughout your academic career.

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 15th.
- Notification of acceptance: Mid April.

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

What about FUNDING?

Master's students in Rehabilitation Science are offered a minimum funding of $7,500 per year. 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' information on awards and scholarships for more.