Why GRADUATE STUDIES in TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE?

The innovative Master of Science (MSc) in Translational Medicine is a unique research-based graduate program. The program provides students with a fresh perspective, offering a curriculum interweaving graduate level research with authentic clinical experiences in a multidisciplinary environment across departments at Queen’s University.

Combining the fields of medicine and research, this program links graduate level research skills with a variety of clinical experiences including patient interactions, clinical observerships and medical rounds to enhance professional thinking and action. This innovative curriculum will offer important foundation work for future careers in the biomedical field, and will provide critical skills for pursuing careers that include clinician scientists, biomedical researchers, leaders in industry and public health and/or health policy.

What is TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE?

Translational Medicine is driven by our patients and their diseases. Guided by this primary focus, translational research spans across the spectrum from molecular and cell biology to preclinical models to patient studies and back again. Our programs aim to train the next generation of researchers to be effective translators of biomedical discovery. Our graduates will operate at the intersection of clinical and related sciences and will have the expertise to generate and lead discovery through an integrated process, increasing the efficiency of translating science knowledge into health improvement.

Program STRUCTURE

The MSc in Translational Medicine is a 2-year research-based program, which requires the completion of 12-credit courses (3 core courses, 3-credit electives) and a thesis.

Mini-Master’s: Students registered in the MSc in Translational Medicine with first-class standing, and who show exceptional promise in their research may be considered for promotion to the PhD in Translational Medicine, without completion of the MSc.

Core COURSES

• TMED 800 Translational Medicine
• TMED 801 Profession of Medicine
• TMED 802 Research Success Skills

Program HIGHLIGHTS

• Build on your academic education or enhance your career with advanced knowledge and skills
• Learn about translational medicine from an interdisciplinary perspective with authentic clinical experiences
• Experience team-based learning in a close-knit community with small class sizes
• Network with students, alumni, and leaders in this emerging field
• Complete a supervised project on a topic of your choice

“The TMED program is designed to challenge and excite students through clinical observerships, engaging clinical research lectures, stimulating facilitated discussions and meaningful self-directed research. The TMED classes have encouraged me to focus on my thesis project since the first day of school and understand my research’s impact on patients. I am confident that the TMED program and its opportunities will help me reach my full potential as an aspiring researcher.”

- Alyssa Burrows, MSc’23
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 Major Map tool.

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GETTING STARTED

- Start with key priorities like scheduling an initial meeting or meetings with your supervisor; forming your committee, and doing your coursework.
- Have your first committee meeting, identify a research topic and consider how your course assignments/papers can contribute to your master’s thesis.
- Complete the ethics review if applicable.
- Complete your core courses and electives.

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT

- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, CFRC, and the SGPS Blog. Check the AMCS Club Directory for more options.
- Serve on the TMED Student Society, faculty or university committees.
- Check out professional development workshops from School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development and the Department of Medicine.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, such as Kingston Health Sciences Centre, KFL&A Public Health Unit, and Kingston Community Health Centres.
- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, CFRC, and the SGPS Blog. Check the AMCS Club Directory for more options.
- Serve on the TMED Student Society, faculty or university committees.
- Check out professional development workshops from School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development and the Department of Medicine.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- Find 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 Who Are You Going to Be?
- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QIRC.
- If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor.

LAUNCH YOUR CAREER

- Explore different careers of interest by using Queens Connects on LinkedIn to connect with Queen’s alumni. Check out Career Cruising for more information.
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- Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks.
- Research careers of interest. Craft your CV or resume and job application materials.
- Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your industry resume and beginning of your job search plan. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, and interview.

WHERE CAN I GO?

- A Master’s degree in Translational Medicine can equip you with:
  - Knowledge and technical skills
  - Effective communication skills in multiple contexts 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, professional 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 Translational Medicine can take your career in many directions. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers such as:
  - Medicine
  - Public Health and Health Policy
  - Health research (research associates in universities, hospitals, government, public health units)
- Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

APPLICATION DEADLINE
- February 1

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- An undergraduate honours degree from a recognized university with a minimum of a B+ average in the last two years. At Queen's, a B+ is equivalent to a percentage conversion of 77-79.9% and a Grade Point Average of 3.3 (out of 4.3).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Applications for admission are completed and submitted on the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs website, including an online application form and specific instructions regarding how to submit the following documents:
  - A Statement of Interest about how applicants' background experiences and career aspirations make them ideally suited for the program (up to 4000 characters in the online application);
  - Transcripts for all postsecondary education;
  - Two references from individuals familiar with the applicant's academic performance
- Applicants are required to submit an electronic resumé/curriculum vitae to tmed@queensu.ca.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
- In cases where English is not the first language, nor was the language of instruction in undergraduate studies, applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency. Those applicants will need to provide proof of English language proficiency through one of the following:
  - International English Language Testing System (Academic module) with a minimum score of 7 in each component, or
  - TOEFL iBT with a passing score of 93 including a minimum score of 24 on the speaking section.

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

What about FUNDING?

We offer our master's students a minimum funding of $21,000 per year for two years.

Apply for external funding from OGS, CIHR/NSERC and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a one time $5,000 award to incoming Masters students who have won federal government tri-council awards. See the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs’ information on awards and scholarships for more.