Graduate Studies FAQs

How do I use this map?

Whether you are considering or have embarked on graduate studies at Queen’s, use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. The map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your individual accomplishments. Everyone’s journey is different – the guide offers options for finding your way at Queen’s and setting the foundation for your future. To make your own customized map, use the online My Grad Map tool.

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 HABITAT 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 20 different departments & research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, 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 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 degree in Engineering (any) or Science (closely related field).
- Grade requirements: Minimum cumulative average of 75% or B from Canadian or US Universities, or 80% for international students.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Curriculum Vitae.
- English Proficiency Requirements as listed on the ECE graduate website.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Application due: January 31 (international), March 1 (domestic).
- Notification of acceptance: usually before the end of April for international students, end of May for domestic students.

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

What about FUNDING?

MEng student in a course work program do not receive financial support.

Students who receive permission to enroll in our Industrial Internship Option can receive funding as intern (ELEC 895) from the industry partner.

Electrical & Computer Engineering

Why GRADUATE STUDIES IN ELECTRICAL & COMPUTER ENGINEERING?

As a MEng student in the important field of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE), you can play a vital role in future developments in such areas as microchip design, bioelectronics, machine intelligence, autonomous vehicles & robots, next-generation Internet, fibre optics, communications & wireless networks, network security, power engineering, green energy, supercomputing, software engineering, and thousands of other areas. Almost every aspect of modern life is impacted by electrical and computer engineering.

The MEng program is a course work based professional program that suits students who are interested in acquiring advanced engineering knowledge and skills to enhance employment opportunities as a technical specialist in industry. Through an industry internship option, the program offers the student an opportunity to connect knowledge with current industry practice.

Why QUEEN’S?

As a MEng student in ECE at Queen’s you are part of one of the most research intensive universities in Canada. Our research program is internationally renowned with a wide range of research activities in all of the major specialization areas of electrical and computer engineering.

Queen’s ECE offers a number of cross-disciplinary opportunities in collaboration with the departments of Mathematics & Statistics, Physics, Computing, Mechanical Engineering, Mining, the School of Kinesiology and Health Studies, as well as a collaborative graduate program in Computational Science and Engineering.

Our students come from all over the world. At Queen’s, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community.

Program STRUCTURE

MEng (1 year): Complete 8 term length courses pre-approved by the department, and seminars.

MEng with Industry/Internship option (3 semesters): Complete a semester-long paid internship.

MEng with Academic Project option (3 semesters): Complete a semester-long project supervised by faculty in Department.

STUDY Areas

- Communications and Signal Processing
- Computer and Software Engineering
- Microelectronics, Electromagnetics and Photonics
- Power Electronics
- Biomedical and Intelligent Systems

Visit the Electrical and Computer Engineering website to read about program options.
GETTING STARTED

- Start with key priorities like completing your coursework.
- Attend the Departmental Speaker Series (ELEC 891).

MAXIMIZE LEARNING IMPACT

- Participate in innovation activities, such as the Queen’s Innovation Connector.
- Attend an "Engineering Internship and Other Program Options" information session to learn about the program options.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Serve on departmental, faculty, or university committees. Talk to the Graduate Electrical & Computer Engineering (GECE) student society for tips on getting involved.
- See professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons program to gain job search skills and knowledge of the Canadian context.

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 Engineering Society Design Teams.

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?" for advice on various career options.
- Tune into IEEE messages and publications targeting student members and career building. Learn about the jobs and careers of other ECE grads.
- 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 Career Week to explore your career pathways.

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

- Complete your coursework.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the SGS Habitat.

WRAPPING UP

- Finish your coursework and optional project/internship, and ensure you have enough credits to graduate.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- Knowledge and technical skills
- Effective 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
- Persuasion
- 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 Electrical and Computer Engineering can take you in many directions. Some of our MEng students choose to continue their academic career with an MASc or PhD. Our Master’s students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in numerous sectors, such as:

- Tech companies, such as Qualcomm, Ciena, Microsoft, Google, IBM, Cisco Systems, General Dynamics
- Startups in all sectors, such as software, devices, intelligent apps
- Services such as financial, pensions, actuarial, intellectual properties
- 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!

* 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.

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