Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- A minimum B+ average in the last two years of an Honours (4-year) Bachelor’s program. Students with humanities based backgrounds or from traditionally unrelated fields may also be considered for admission if they can demonstrate professional equivalency through prior experience in Arts administration.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Statement of Interest: Applicants can submit a statement of interest of up to 2000 characters.
- Two reference letters, either academic or professional.
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The School of Graduate Studies requires the following minimum scores: TOEFL (paper-based): 550, (computer-based): 213, (internet-based): 86, (listening & speaking), 20 (oral), for a total of 88/120 (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), or (3) PTE: 65.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Applications will be processed as they are received.
- Final application due: January 15
- Notification of acceptance: As they are received and processed
- Classes start: May 14
- Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

What about FUNDING?

There is no guaranteed funding for students. However, students may apply for Teaching Assistant or Research Assistant positions. Most students will also undertake a paid professional internship in the winter term.

FUNDING
- 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 My Grad Mag tool.

Where can I get help?

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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 50+ departments & research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen’s offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies.

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 Mag tool.

GRADUATE STUDIES MA/Graduate Diploma in Arts Management Map

DEVELOPING OUR CULTURAL LEADERS

Why GRADUATE STUDIES IN ARTS LEADERSHIP?

Ours is a laddered program where students can receive a Graduate Diploma in Arts Management with the successful completion of the first term, or choose to complete the MA in Arts Leadership with the successful completion of the second and third terms. Students receive a 360° view of the arts industry with courses in arts philanthropy and major gifts, arts marketing, cultural policy, strategic thinking and planning, contract negotiation, industrial relations, and an introduction to financial and management accounting. They are exposed to, and taught by, top practitioners in the arts industry who provide a focus on experiential learning through live site research assignments and a final term practicum placement in an arts organization to serve as a capstone project. 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.

Why QUEEN’S?

Queen’s offers its students a perfect balance of engagement with rigorous academic programs and access to first class practitioners and arts facilities. Both the diploma and ARTSL MA programs are cross-disciplinary – taught by a combination of instructors from the Dan School of Drama and Music, the Master of Industrial Relations program, and the Smith School of Business. In addition, the campus boasts world class facilities including a major Performing Arts Centre, Art Gallery, and Library – all with senior staff whose management experience adds to the practical teaching environment. 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 50+ departments & research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen’s offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies.

Program OUTCOMES
- Acquire institutional management skills
- Gain a comprehensive understanding of the tenets of the nonprofit sector
- Receive guidelines for strategic thinking and implementing organizational missions
- Benefit from advanced marketing and development training
- Learn integrated approaches to arts advocacy and cultural policy
- Discern the special nature of negotiating Arts-related contract and collective agreements
- Plan for capital development projects and the related community integration
- Understand and serve as a proponent for the Creative Economy

Program STRUCTURE

The five core courses needed to complete the Graduate Diploma in Arts Management are offered during a single summer session studying at Queen’s. After successful completion of the Graduate Diploma program, a student may continue on to pursue the MA in Arts Leadership through the completion of one additional term of coursework in the Fall followed by a second “capstone” term involving a practicum placement in the arts industry.

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MA STUDY PHASE

- Complete your coursework (either on campus or at a distance).
- Finalize your plans for your practicum.

MA PRACTICUM

- Complete your Master’s program with a professional placement while looking forward to exploring future applications for your new training and connections.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Arts Leadership or Arts Management 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
- 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 Diploma in Arts Management and/or Master’s degree in Arts Leadership can take you in many directions. Many of our MA students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master’s students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Arts Administration
- Production Management
- Not-for-Profit Advocacy
- Cultural Sector Marketing
- Arts Facility Management
- Community Outreach and Education
- Development and Advancement
- HR Management for the Arts
- Business Management
- Director for Performing Arts Organization

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.html for the online version with links!