Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Bachelor degree in one of Geological Sciences, Geological Engineering, Mining Engineering, or Civil Engineering. Degrees in fields such as Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Sciences, or Geography are seriously considered, but may require additional Geology courses.
- Grade requirements: B average.

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 School of Graduate Studies requires the following minimum scores: TOEFL (paper-based): 550, (internet-based): 92-94; IELTS: 6.5. Alternatively, the following minimum scores are required: (1) TOEFL (internet-based): 100; (2) IELTS: 7.0; (3) PTE: 65.

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 SOS, Habitat for available resources.

What about FUNDING?
There is no departmental or university funding available for 1 year Master of Science in Applied Geology students. Students are expected to obtain external funding prior to admission in the program. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies' information on awards and scholarships.

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in APPLIED GEOLOGY?
The Master of Science in Applied Geology is a one-year program leading to enhanced knowledge in Mineral Exploration/Resource Geology or Geological Engineering. The program normally commences in September and can be completed by the end of April or August of the following year depending on the project and/or pattern.

Why QUEEN'S?
As a Master's student in Geological Science 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 geological science. As well, students are able to work in first-rate facilities with world-renowned scientists and research engineers, and have opportunities to collaborate with industrial leaders and engage in extensive fieldwork on six continents, making our program truly a world-class experience. Students can also collaborate with other departments at Queen's, including Mining, Environmental Studies, Chemistry and Biology as well as other institutions like RMC.

Program STRUCTURE
The Master of Science in Applied Geology degree is based either on a project/course-work option, or a course-work only option:
- Option 1: GEOL 898 (project) plus 6 term length course credits.
- Option 2: Eight term length course credits.

Under the project/course-work option, a student is required to complete six primary term length course credits. The project course is in addition to these six courses, and is taken under the code GEOL 898. At least four primary courses must be taken in the Department of Geological Sciences & Geological Engineering. Up to 25% (1 course) of the primary courses can be 4th year and/or graduate courses which are co-taught and co-numbered with 4th year courses. The project culminates in a written report.
### GETTING STARTED

**ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**
- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, forming your committee, and doing 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.

**MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for NSERC and OGS funding.
- 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 or university committees. Talk to the Joliffe Club (graduate student society) for tips on getting involved.
- Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons.

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**
- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different local community organizations, such as Martha’s Table, or Loving Spoonful.
- Seek professional development opportunities and networking opportunities 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 QUIC and FDIC.
- If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and FDIC.

**ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**
- Explore different careers of interest by QueensConnects on LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through QueensConnects on LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Consider joining professional associations like the Geological Association of Canada.

**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 counselor. Check out books like So What Are You Going to Do With That? 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 Career Week to explore your career pathways.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

### WRAPPING UP

**COMPLETE YOUR COURSEWORK.**
- Option 2 students must complete GEOl 898.
- Attend a major conference in your field, such as the International Conference on Geology and Geoscience.
- Consider putting an article in The Conversation.

**PRACTICE ARTICULATING THE SKILLS YOU HAVE BEEN DEVELOPING IN SETTINGS OUTSIDE THE UNIVERSITY, SUCH AS CASUAL CONVERSATION, NETWORKING, AND INTERVIEWS.**
- Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Check out opportunities for extra training through CTL, Expanding Horizons, MITACS, or other sources to boost your skills.

**DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS IN TEACHING AND LEARNING.**
- Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, and interviews.

### WHERE CAN I GO?
A Master's degree in Applied Geology can take your career in many directions. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:
- Academia and research
- Mineral and oil exploration
- Mining and hydrocarbon extraction
- Policy analysis
- Surface and underground construction
- Environment assessment
- Protection and rehabilitation
- Resource management
- Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

### WHAT WILL I LEARN?
A graduate degree in Applied Geology 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
- Perserverance
- 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

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