Why GRADUATE STUDIES in EPIDEMIOLOGY?

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. Students gain skills to communicate scientifically, describe trends and patterns of disease incidence and prevalence, critically review scientific literature related to public health and epidemiology, collect and analyse data, and more.

The goal of the Epidemiology PhD program is to provide a common methodological foundation from which to conduct research in human populations across diverse health-related areas. The scope of the field of epidemiology is broad; it includes a range of content areas and methodologies. Depending upon their focus, students learn about various research designs, biostatistics, program evaluation, health economics, as well as how to design surveys or use administrative data.

“Combined with the intimate and supportive environment cultivated by the faculty, the Queen’s Epidemiology program is an outstanding choice for your graduate career!”

– Atif Kukaswadia, PhD

Program STRUCTURE

PhD (4 years): Course work (3 core courses), comprehensive exam, and dissertation.

Research AREAS

- Epidemiology and Population Health
- Health Services and Policy Research
- Clinical Epidemiology

Visit the Epidemiology website to learn 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.

Why QUEEN’S?

At Queen’s, our established strengths are in the areas of cancer, injury, obesity, disability, and mental health epidemiology as well as research in various health services contexts including public health, primary care, cancer care and critical care. We also have some emerging strengths in the areas of Northern health, Aboriginal health, and global health studies.
WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Epidemiology 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 PhD in Epidemiology can take your career in many directions. In Canada, about 40% of all PhDs will work in post-secondary education – the rest will work in industry, government, or non-profits.

- Health Care (Hospital clinical labs)
- Academic labs
- Research labs
- Scientific supply companies
- Administration in academic health care or government settings
- Teaching positions in academic institutions or the private sector
- Technical positions in academic institutions or the private sector

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 ARE THE CAREER OUTCOMES?

The coronavirus pandemic may impact how some activities are delivered in 2020-2021. Please check directly with the host of any activity on the map for the latest information.

WHAT ARE THE CAREER PATHWAYS?

The coronavirus pandemic may impact how some activities are delivered in 2020-2021. Please check directly with the host of any activity on the map for the latest information.

WHAT ARE THE SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES?

There is no specified document in the image that provides the information about skills and competencies. The text is focused on career options and pathways.

WHAT ARE THE CAREER SERVICES?

The Queen's Graduate School of Business (GSB) provides various career services such as job search advice, resume and cover letter reviews, career panels, and workshops.

WHAT ARE THE ACADEMIC PATHWAYS?

The image does not provide specific academic pathways, but it mentions accessing academic labour market websites and studying in diverse institutions or the private sector.

WHAT ARE THE SAFETY AND ETHICAL ISSUES?

The image mentions the importance of safety and ethical issues, such as meeting ethical research and publication guidelines, and obtaining necessary oral defence accommodations.

WHAT ARE THE CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS?

The image does not specify cultural and community engagements, but it suggests various activities such as attending conferences in your field, participating in hiring committees, and attending job talks.

WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS AND LEADERSHIP?

The image mentions the importance of impact and leadership, such as developing leadership skills, understanding cultural diversity, and networking with leaders and professionals.

WHAT ARE THE PERSONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES?

The image mentions personal growth and development opportunities, such as attending workshops, courses, and networking events.

WHAT ARE THE RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES?

The image mentions research and publication opportunities, such as attending research conferences, publishing articles, and presenting research.

WHAT ARE THE MATERNITY AND FAMILY LIFE SUPPORTS?

The image mentions maternity and family life supports, such as providing resources for in vitro fertilization and ongoing support for families.

WHAT ARE THE JOB SEARCH AND CAREER PLANNING RESOURCES?

The image provides resources for job search and career planning, such as using LinkedIn, attending career fairs, and accessing career services.

WHAT ARE THE HIGHER EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES?

The image mentions higher education and professional development opportunities, such as attending workshops, courses, and networking events.

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OPPORTUNITIES?

The image mentions health and wellness opportunities, such as participating in professional development activities, attending workshops, and accessing career services.
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Master’s degree in epidemiology or a related discipline.
- Demonstrated research competency, usually through a research-based thesis.
- Grade requirements: First-class academic standing (80%).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Statement of Interest (including area of research and potential supervisor).
- Transcripts and CV.
- Applicants with non-thesis based Master’s training may include published, in-press or under review research papers as documentation of academic research experience.
- 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, (2) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30), for a total of 88/120 (applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score), or (3) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score), or (4) PTE Academics: 65.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Application due: January 31.
- Application review begins in early March.

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

What about FUNDING?

The Epidemiology department guarantees a minimum funding of $18,000 per year. There are also opportunities for paid research assistantships.

Apply for external funding from CIHR, NSERC, OGS, the Heart & Stroke Foundation, CBCF, the Department of Defence, the American Cancer Society and other sources. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships.