Why combine **MEDICINE** and **GRADUATE RESEARCH**?

The Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences is a new program offered through a partnership between the Department of Biomedical and Molecular Sciences (DBMS), Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME), and Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME). This program has been specifically designed for graduates of medical schools who have not yet matched to a postgraduate residency program in Canada.

The Medical Sciences program provides medical school graduates with an opportunity to enhance their clinical and research skills before applying to a postgraduate residency program. Students will build on the foundations of their medical degree in many ways. They will further develop their clinical skills in the context of the Canadian healthcare system and explore current issues in medical sciences. They’ll interpret foundational research and its relationship to clinical practice, conduct research responsibly using appropriate guidelines and procedures, and apply ethical behaviours consistent with academic integrity and professional standards.

It is anticipated that the emphasis on research, clinical skills, and scholarship will enhance any future applications for residency positions through the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS).

**Program OVERVIEW**

**Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences**
- Begin in July
- 12 credit units

**Apply for postgraduate residency through CaRMS**

**Postgraduate Medical Education Residency Program**

**Apply for Master’s programs**

**Faculty of Health Sciences thesis-based Master’s Programs**

**Complete second half of Professional Master of Medical Sciences**

**Program STRUCTURE**

Graduate Diploma (6 months). This is a course-based program. Upon completion of MSC1 800, 801 + 1 elective, students may apply for the Professional Masters of Medical Sciences or ladder into other MSc programs in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

**Option 1:** Start in July and go to December  
**Option 2:** Start in January and go to June
WHAT WILL I LEARN?
A Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences can equip you with:
• Knowledge and technical skills: CANMEDS Educational Framework
• 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
• An understanding of ethical practices, social responsibility, responsible research and cultural sensitivity
• Professionalism in work, research, and interactions
• Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussion

WHERE CAN I GO?
A Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences can take your career in many directions. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:
• Academic and research labs
• Administration in academic, health care or government settings
• Apply for residency through the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS)
• Data Analysis (Health units, government agencies)
• Health Care (Hospital clinical labs)
• Health research (research associates in universities, hospitals, government, public health units)
• Marketing positions in private sector
• Pharmaceutical companies
• Scientific supply companies
• Teaching positions in academic institutions or the private sector
• Technical positions in academic institutions or the private sector

WHAT CAN I DO?
You can choose from a wide range of career paths. Your options include:
• Technical positions in academic institutions or the private sector
• Professionalism in work, research, and interactions
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Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

In order to be considered for admission to the Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences, applicants need to hold an MD or equivalent from a medical school on the [International Medical Education Directory](https://www.amee.edu) and have a B+ graduating average or higher in all postsecondary education.

Instructions on how to submit all required documentation will be sent to you by email upon application submission.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Applicants must submit:

- Official transcripts from all postsecondary education;
- Personal Statement indicating the alignment of the applicant’s background and career aspirations with the objectives of the program;
- Curriculum Vitae;
- 2 references from individuals familiar with the candidates academic and/or clinical performance; and a
- Medical Student Performance Record or Dean’s Letter.

All Applicants must submit their score reports on both Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Examination (MCCQE) Part 1 and National Assessment Collaboration (NAC) examination. Applicants may submit the Medical Council of Canada Evaluating Examination (MCCEE) in place of the MCCQE part 1.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

While proof of English language proficiency is not required, a thorough understanding, as written, is essential. It is strongly suggested that applicants also review requirements for admission to residency programs and to the School of Graduate Studies.

Please note that these requirements are higher than the minimum standards set by the School of Graduate Studies. As these students will be involved in observing the clinical care of patients, and participating in the clinical team discussion about the investigation and management of their clinical problems and in the clinical assessment of standardized patients, a thorough understanding and ability to communicate in English is essential.

The APPLICATION PROCESS

STEP 1: Submit your online application via the School of Graduate Studies.

STEP 2: Once you have submitted your application, read instructions on how to submit all required documents.

STEP 3: Submit all required documents to the School of Graduate Studies. After review of the complete application, competitive candidates will be invited for an interview with the Medical Sciences Program (via Zoom).