Why GRADUATE STUDIES in NURSING?

Consider a graduate degree in Nursing for all it has to offer: well-developed skills in critical thinking, writing, and research and, perhaps even more importantly, skills to facilitate change in today’s health care system. Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the health care system with ways of understanding phenomena using multiple ways of knowing. Today’s employment marketplace seeks people who can critically analyze information and evidence, synthesize in both scholarly and public reports, create new knowledge, and lead change and transformation. Study Nursing and you will acquire such skills.

Why QUEEN’S?

The School of Nursing at Queen’s offers an online PhD program. Students attend three on-campus residencies in Year 1 (September, January, and May), and complete their coursework online. This innovative program prepares graduates with analytical and research skills required to expand knowledge of clinical, theoretical, and health systems issues. Our students are taught primarily in small graduate seminars, in which they engage in a lively, critical examination of philosophy and research, and delve into their own research. Nurtured by close mentoring relationships with faculty supervisors, students engage early and continuously in research and successfully complete the program in 4 years. Situated in an academic environment that embodies scholarship, graduates are well-prepared for careers as leaders in research and scholarship, clinical practice and health care administration.

Program STRUCTURE

PhD (4 years): course work, comprehensive exam, research thesis.

RESEARCH Areas

Practice environments
- Models of care
- Leadership
- Workplace culture, structure and health
- Communication strategies and systems

Populations with complex conditions
- Optimizing function and well-being
- Multimorbidity
- Mental health and/or addictions
- Outcomes monitoring

Health care quality
- Advancing safety
- Risk assessment and reduction
- Educational and technological innovations
- Health system service and delivery

and more

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.

Visit the School of Nursing website to read faculty profiles and learn more 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.

“I loved the collegial atmosphere provided by the caring and supportive faculty. It was at Queen’s that I developed my thirst for knowledge through evidence based research.”

– Judeline Innocent, RN, PhD (2013)
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.
Graduate Studies FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Master’s degree in Nursing or equivalent. Applicants without an undergraduate university degree in nursing will be considered on an individual basis, and are strongly encouraged to contact the School of Nursing to discuss this opportunity prior to applying.
- Grade requirements: minimum B+ average over core courses.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Two academic letters of reference.
- Registration (or eligibility to register) as a Registered Nurse with the College of Nurses of Ontario.
- Statement of academic, research and professional plans.
- Copy of Curriculum Vitae (Resume)
- Questions for Doctoral Nursing Program
- 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 deadline: February 1st, or until all seats are filled.
- Notification of acceptance: mid-March to early April.

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

What about FUNDING?

In keeping with the School of Graduate Studies policy, eligible full-time Ph.D. students qualify for research assistantships (RA), teaching assistantships (TA), teaching fellowships (TF), Queen’s Graduate Awards (QGA) and internal awards.

We encourage all students to apply for external funding from CIHR, OGS, SSHRC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a $5,000 award to incoming PhD students who have won federal government tri-council awards. For more information on many external awards, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships or see what awards are offered through the School of Nursing.

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. Keep in mind that certain resources, such as Career workshops, may not be available while you are completing your degree off-campus.

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. 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’s history and culture, see Queen’s University’s Discover Kingston page.