Why **GRADUATE STUDIES in REHABILITATION SCIENCE?**

Graduate programs in Rehabilitation Science at Queen's University stress the multidisciplinary contribution of many health professions and disciplines to rehabilitation. The focus is on understanding how people who experience disability can be enabled to live full and satisfying lives as members of their community, considering a broad range of individual, community and societal factors. Students can expect to be introduced to a broad spectrum of rehabilitation related concerns including function and participation across a wide range of health conditions and disabilities (for example neurotrauma, mental health, intellectual disabilities), policy development, professional education, and interdisciplinary and intersectoral services. The program attracts students from varied backgrounds including occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech-language pathology, kinesiology, psychology, social work, arts & humanities, nursing, education, epidemiology, law, engineering, and others.

Why **QUEEN’S?**

The School of Rehabilitation Therapy at Queen's University is committed to leading and inspiring positive changes that transform lives through rehabilitation research, education and practice. As part of this commitment, part of our core mission is to educate rehabilitation scientists who contribute to health and well-being globally through collaboration, creativity, and the discovery of new knowledge. We are recognized nationally and internationally for our excellent faculty, high-quality professional and research programs, and the ways in which our scholarship contributes to the lives of people affected by or at risk of disability.

Program **STRUCTURE**

PhD (4 years, full time): Required and elective course work, comprehensive exam (written and oral components), thesis, and oral defense.

“**At the School of Rehabilitation Therapy I have improved my research skills [and] had the unique opportunity to develop teaching skills and learn how to coordinate projects and activities related to the academic field.”**

– Kamary Coriolano Lins da Silva, PhD

**RESEARCH** Areas

- Human Mobility & Motor Control Across Lifespan
- Disability & Participation
- Workplace Health & Accommodation
- Moving Knowledge into Practice and Policy
- Health Professional Education
- Military and Veteran Health
- Community-Based Rehabilitation

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

Visit the [Rehabilitation Science website](http://www.queensu.ca/sgs) 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. This is also an opportunity for you to find out if the faculty member is accepting new graduate students to supervise.
YEAR I

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS
- Key priorities include your relationship with your supervisor, completing required health and safety training, research ethics training, and any other required coursework, and developing your research proposal.
- Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation plans.
- Look to Student Academic Success Services for a variety of supports.

YEAR II

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS
- Priorities include completing your comprehensive examination and pursuing research.
- Find your way through the academic process with the help of the Expanding Horizons workshops and the PhD Handbook.
- Attend the departmental seminar series (RNIB 903).

YEAR III

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT
- Present your work at graduate conferences such as the Rehabilitation Research Colloquium, the Canadian Rehabilitation Research Conference, or at topic conferences.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.
- Continue to present at conferences.

YEAR IV

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT
- Present your work at graduate conferences such as the Rehabilitation Research Colloquium, the Canadian Rehabilitation Research Conference, or at topic conferences.
- Continue presenting at conferences.
- Contact the Queen's Media Centre for guidance on speaking to news outlets about your work.

TRANSITIONING

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations aligned with the Rehabilitation Sciences, such as local hospitals, community services and associations that support people with disabilities and promote accessibility of community opportunities for all citizens.
- Connect to broader communities of rehabilitation professionals.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees.
- Talk to the program assistant for tips on getting involved.
- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, CFCF, and the SGSS Blog.
- Look in the AMS Clubs Directory.
- Use a Teaching Assistant or Research Assistant position to develop your skills and experience.

LAUNCH YOUR CAREER
- Finding career fit starts with knowing yourself. Take a Career Services career planning workshop or meet with a career counsellor for help. Check out books like Jo What Are You Going to Do With That? or Planning a Scientific Career in Industry from the Career Resource Area 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.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?
A graduate degree in Rehabilitation Science can equip you with:
- Knowledge and technical skills including 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 and understanding of sound ethical practices, professional responsibility, responsible research and cultural competence.
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions.
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussion.

WHERE CAN I GO?
A PhD in Rehabilitation Science can take your career in many directions. In Canada, less than 40% of all PhDs will work in post-secondary education – the majority will work in industry, government, or non-profits.
- Clinical/Program Research and evaluation
- Academia (research and teaching)
- Agencies (government - not for profit, or private) - that support clinical care, research or workforce related to health or disability
- Program development at the local, national or international level
- Policy development
- International community-based rehabilitation
- Teaching (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 for the online version with links!
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- High academic standing in a completed Master’s degree in Rehabilitation Science or a related field. Contact the program director and potential supervisors to discuss how your studies and experiences to date may be related to rehabilitation sciences.
- The entire transcript is reviewed but particular attention is given to your last 20 courses and how well you have progressed throughout your academic career. Preference is given to students with higher academic standing.

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, (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: February 15th.
- Notification of acceptance: Late April/Early May.

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

What about FUNDING?

PhD students in Rehabilitation Science are offered a minimum funding of $18,000 per year.

We encourage all students to apply for external funding from OGS, CIHR, SSHRC and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a one time $10,000 award to incoming PhD students who have won federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships.