Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Master's degree in Education or a related discipline with first-class standing from a recognized university.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Professional experience in education or a related field is an asset.
- Two-page research proposal.
- 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 15
- Notification of acceptance: Late February

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

What about FUNDING?

All eligible full-time graduate students who request funding (financial support) as part of their initial application can expect to receive a funding offer to help them with the costs associated with their graduate studies in the Faculty of Education.

The minimum guaranteed funding package for Ph.D. students is $18,000 per year, and it is important to note that they must apply for all major external and internal (where appropriate) scholarships for which they are eligible in order to qualify for the minimum guarantee. Recipients of external awards will not receive $18,000 on top of them; however, their packages are likely to be higher than those who do not win external funds. Normally, if students apply for and successfully obtain a Teaching and/or Research Assistantship the average funding for eligible Ph.D. students is approximately $25,000 per year.

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

GRAD MAP FOR PhD STUDENTS

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in EDUCATION?

Through our PhD in Education, you will become a professional leader in education with strong scholarly knowledge. Our graduate programs are designed to develop and support innovative research in education. Join our collaborative and inclusive research community of education experts. Our coursework and research emphasize the creation of knowledge leading to enhancements in teaching and learning theory, policy and practice. Our PhD in Education is a full-time four-year program, which leverages the expertise, collaboration, and partnerships in the Queen’s research community.

Why QUEEN’S?

Queen’s University has an active and vibrant graduate student community. Our Faculty of Education brings together diverse perspectives on education, fostering multidisciplinary expertise within an active collaborative research community. Our research leads to new knowledge and understandings about teaching and learning, and progressive changes in educational policies and practices.

As a researcher at Queen’s, you will engage in outreach initiatives that serve and enhance communities of practice through local, national, and international partnerships.

Program STRUCTURE

PHD (4 years): Course work, comprehensive examination, thesis, and defense.

School of Graduate Studies
Create an impact
www.queensu.ca/sgs
**ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**

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<td>- Key priorities include forming your committee, coursework, and field exams.</td>
<td>- Priorities include completion of coursework, formation of supervisory committee and completion of mandatory comprehensive examination.</td>
<td>- Continue to meet regularly with your supervisor, review research progress, and write your dissertation. Check out the SGS' Dissertation Boot Camp or Dissertation on the Lake.</td>
<td>- Plan date of thesis submission for examination. Present your research to graduate students and faculty at conferences, and work with supervisor to prepare for defence. Review submission guidelines. Secure necessary oral defence accommodations. Discuss career pathways, references letters, and publication options with your supervisor.</td>
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<td>- Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation plans.</td>
<td>- Set up regular meetings with your supervisor to discuss progress and obstacles to timely completion.</td>
<td>- Use conference presentations to create, discuss, and explore ways to disseminate research findings. Learn from the Expanding Horizons Publishing workshop. Begin discussion of potential thesis defence examiners.</td>
<td>- Continue to attend conferences and connect with scholars in your field and with community partners. Continue public outreach through social media and the Queen’s Media Centre. Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.</td>
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<td>- Look to Student Academic Success Services for a variety of supports.</td>
<td>- Find your way through the academic process with the help of Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the Education Associate Dean, and the SGS Habitats. Seek professional development opportunities.</td>
<td>- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as ScholarShare, the American Educational Research Association, and others. Consider visiting professional associations, and at conferences. Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest. Craft your CV and apply for post-doc fellowships and positions.</td>
<td>- Practice articulation of the skills you have developed in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Services workshop.</td>
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**MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**

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<td>- Think about audiences for your research. Complete ROMEO online module on research ethics if doing research with living people or sensitive topics. Apply to SSHRC, OGS, and other funding. Attend conferences in your field.</td>
<td>- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as ScholarShare, or the American Educational Research Association, or the SGS Blog. Think about your research.</td>
<td>- Present at professional conferences. Consider participating in the 1 Minute Thesis (1MT) competition. Contact the Queen’s Media Centre for guidance on speaking to news outlets about your work.</td>
<td>- Continue to attend conferences and connect with scholars in your field and with community partners. Continue public outreach through social media and the Queen’s Media Centre. Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.</td>
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**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

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<td>- Serve on Faculty, EOGS, and SGPS committees. Consider positions in student services or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, the CFRC, or the SGS Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory. Apply for a Teaching Assistantship or Research Assistantship position to develop your skills and experience.</td>
<td>- hone skills for non-academic employment by continuing involvement on committees and in communities. Begin to keep an e-portfolio of your skills, experiences and competencies. Enroll in SGS901 or the PUTF certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.</td>
<td>- Begin to teach as a Graduate Teaching Fellow. Find opportunities for extra training through CTL, Expanding Horizons, or other sources to boost your skills. Investigate internships through the department or Mitacs. Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Queen's and Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre's Training Certificate.</td>
<td>- Practice articulation of the skills you have developed in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Services workshop.</td>
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**ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**

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<td>- Consider volunteering with different community organizations and events, such as local school boards, the Hart Centre, or Boys and Girls Clubs. Join a broader community of the EDRE Campus through professional associations such as the Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSSE) or the American Educational Research Association.</td>
<td>- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organization of conferences, and research groups. If pursuing research abroad or outside Kingston, investigate options such as Ministries of Education, School Boards, Educational non-profit organizations.</td>
<td>- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through Queen’s Connect, or LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop. Join professional associations like the Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSSE) or the American Education Research Association.</td>
<td>- Continue targeted networking with people working in careers of interest. Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Education research.</td>
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**LAUNCH YOUR CAREER**

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<td>- Finding a career fit starts with knowing yourself. Check out books like 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. Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!</td>
<td>- Build your teaching portfolio by using student evaluations, and seeking mentorship. Explore different careers of interest by reading alumni profiles on the SGS website and using Queen’s Connect on LinkedIn to connect with those alumni; or find alumni in various careers through Ask an Alum. For more information, visit Career Cruising. Investigate requirements for professional positions or other opportunities related to careers of interest.</td>
<td>- Attend job talks. Research academic careers of interest. Craft your CV and job application materials. Begin to focus on non-academic areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your industry resume and begin your job search plan.</td>
<td>- Build connections with faculty outside of your department. Pursue interviews for faculty positions and apply for post-doc fellowships and positions. Apply to jobs or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with job searching resumes, or interviews. If considering jobs abroad, research possible immigration regulations. If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor.</td>
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**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

A graduate degree in Education can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- Awareness, an understanding of sound ethical practices, social responsibility, responsible research practices, and cultural sensitivity
- Knowledge and research 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 researcher
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership: initiative and vision, leading people and discussion.

**WHERE CAN I GO?**

A PhD in Education 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 such as:

- University faculty/researchers
- Post-doctoral fellows
- Researchers at research agencies and school boards
- Leaders in health sciences and government
- Provincial and Territorial Departments of Education
- Educational Organizations
- Teachers

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and to network, can help you achieve a smooth transition to employment after graduation.