**What do I need to know to APPLY?**

**ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**
- Honours Bachelor’s degree.
- Grade requirements: minimum upper second class standing (60+ average of all courses).

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**
- Statement of research interest.
- Curriculum Vitae.

(if English is not your native language, prospective students must meet the **English language proficiency requirements** in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. You will need (1) a total TOEFL (paper-based) score of at least 600, or (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 Academic: 65.

**KEY DATES & DEADLINES**
- **Application due:** January 31 (Domestic & International students), which must include all supporting documents. However, late applications may be considered on a rolling basis until all spots are filled.

**What about FUNDING?**

Master's students in the Geography program are guaranteed minimum funding of $14,000 per year for two years. Minimum funding levels are, however, generally higher than the guaranteed minimum. International students will be provided with an additional $5,000 per year for two years. Minimum funding levels are, however, generally higher than the guaranteed minimum. International students will be provided with an additional $5,000 per year for two years. Minimum funding levels are, however, generally higher than the guaranteed minimum.

Additional funding is highly likely.

Apply for external funding from OSS, SSHRC and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a $5,000 top-up to Masters winners of federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships.

**Why GRADUATE STUDIES IN GEOGRAPHY?**

Explore critical questions about our environment and our society as you develop research skills. Study with award-winning faculty in an interdisciplinary department that combines fundamental analysis and research with practical, applied approaches to planning and implementation.

**Why QUEEN’S?**

The Department of Geography and Planning at Queen’s University offers a comprehensive graduate program based on innovative research and strong collaboration between faculty and graduate students. Our specialized Earth System Science labs include GIS and remote-sensing labs equipped with a wide range of the latest software and hardware, and facilities with the latest field equipment and laboratory instrumentation. In human geography, we provide strong support for fieldwork that engages topics of public interest from the community to the national and international scale. Many of our students work on questions of global significance, including development projects in Latin America or Africa, ecological change in the Arctic or the relationship between international migration and human rights. We provide a place for graduate students to learn and excel within a vibrant and supportive intellectual community.

"Studying Geography has allowed me to go places I never thought I would be able to go.”

– Rebecca Edwards, MSc
**SUMMER OF YEAR 1 / FALL OF YEAR 2**

### ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS
- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, and doing your coursework.
- Consider how your course papers can contribute to your thesis.
- Find your way through the academic process with the help of departmental and **Expanding Horizons** professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the GGS Habitat.
- Begin to research and write your thesis proposal.

### COMPLETE YOUR COURSEWORK
- Complete your coursework.
- Start research with goal of completing most of your research by January of your second year.

### BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE
- Consider positions in student services, the EOPS, or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, CFRC Studio D and the GGS Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees. Join the departmental Graduate Student Council (GSC) and seek ways to get involved.
- Check out professional development workshops from **Expanding Horizons**.

### ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, such as Sustainable Kingston, Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve, and Kingston Community Health Centres.
- Take advantage of the numerous facilities and laboratories and learn what research is occurring in the various departmental research groups.
- Get involved in student or young researchers organizations (e.g. through the Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU), the Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG), or the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) in Year 1).

### LAUNCH YOUR CAREER
- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services career planning workshop or meeting with a career counsellor. Check out books like *What Are You Going to Do With That?* or *The Academic Job Search* 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 Graduate Student Career Forum to explore your career pathways.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

### EXPLORE DIFFERENT CAREERS OF INTEREST
- Explore different careers of interest by reading alumni profiles on the GGS website, and using Queen'sConnects on LinkedIn to connect with Queen’s alumni, or find alumni in various careers through *Ask an Alum*.
- If you are considering a PhD, explore programs of interest reach out to faculty, and apply to PhD programs and external scholarships.

### MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT
- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as the Canadian Association of Geographers Division (CAGONT) meetings.
- Attend and participate in graduate seminars in our department and in other departments such as the Policy Speakers Series and the Environmental Studies Speakers Series.
- Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media.

### COMPLETE YOUR THESIS
- Complete your thesis.
- Publish elements of your research if possible. Learn from the Expanding Horizons Publishing workshop.

### WHAT WILL I LEARN?
A graduate degree in Geography 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, gain 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 Master’s degree in Geography can take your career in many directions. Many of our MA and MSc students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master’s students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:
- Further academic studies
- Consulting
- Geographic information systems
- International development
- Government
- Policy research

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

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Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!