

Healthcare Quality MSc(HQ) Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies



GRAD MAP FOR MSc(HQ) STUDENTS 

Why **GRADUATE STUDIES** in **HEALTH QUALITY**?

This two year, part-time, interdisciplinary course-based program consists of seven (7) core courses and a supervised project leading to a Master of Science in Healthcare Quality (MScHQ) degree that will prepare you for practice, research and education in the developing area of Healthcare Quality, Risk and Safety. Ensuring patient safety and minimizing risk are crucial concerns of those working in healthcare related fields. The MScHQ provides professionals with the knowledge and tools to research, advocate and implement strategies for risk reduction and quality improvement within the healthcare system.



Why **QUEEN'S**?

The Master of Science in Healthcare Quality (MScHQ) at Queen's is the first online program of its kind in Canada, specializing in linking theory and practice in quality, risk, and safety in healthcare. We offer interdisciplinary courses, led by leaders in their fields, convenient distance learning and valuable international exposure. Unparalleled in its scope, the Master of Science in Healthcare Quality is the only program in Canada to address the growing need for interactions across disciplines, professions and communities. Join us on the forefront of improving health quality, risk, and safety in Canada and worldwide.

Program **STRUCTURE**

MScHQ (2 years, part-time study): Online, course-based with two (2) 1-week in-person intensive courses; seven (7) required courses and a supervised project.

Part-Time **STUDIES**

The Master of Science in Healthcare Quality degree program will be delivered on a part-time basis over two years by a interdisciplinary team from the Faculties of Health Science, Law, and Engineering as well as the Schools of Business and Policy Studies at Queen's University. The interdisciplinary team of experts in the areas of quality, risk and safety will provide learners with a unique opportunity to link theoretical foundations with practical application.

Our program is designed for working professionals who would like to pursue a graduate degree. The majority of courses are delivered through interactive online classes and independent learning, but students will be expected to attend two, one-week intensive on campus sessions in July/August of your first and second year of the program. Students will be expected to carry between 1-2 courses at a time.

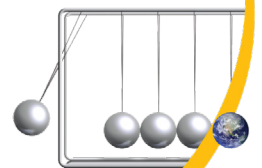
Required **COURSES**

- HQRS 840 - Introduction to Quality, Risk and Safety (in Kingston)
- HQRS 841 - Process Improvement in Healthcare
- HQRS 842 - Research and Evaluation Methods to Assess Quality, Risk & Safety
- HQRS 847 - International Perspectives on Policy, Economics, and Quality Healthcare
- HQRS 846 - Human Factors in Healthcare (in Kingston)
- HQRS 845 - Organizational Behaviour in Healthcare
- HQRS 844 - Law, Risk and Healthcare
- HQRS 898 - Project in Healthcare Quality (Final project)

Program **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Study where you work and live
- Build on your academic education or enhance your career with advanced knowledge and skills
- Learn about healthcare quality from an interdisciplinary perspective
- Spend time with a cohort of peers during your two (2), one-week intensive courses at Queen's University in Kingston, Canada
- Experience team-based learning with other students
- Network with students, alumni, and leaders in this emerging field
- Complete a supervised project on a topic of your choice

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Healthcare Quality MSc(HQ) MAP *

MASTER OF SCIENCE (HEALTHCARE QUALITY) MSc(HQ)



GETTING STARTED

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

WRAPPING UP

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS

- Start with key priorities like getting set up in online courses.
- Attend the first intensive in-person session.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and [Expanding Horizons](#) professional development workshops, the Graduate Coordinator and the [SGS Habitat](#).

MAXIMIZE THE IMPACT OF YOUR RESEARCH PROJECT

- Start to think about the audiences for your research project.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Monitor the online student community and other healthcare quality communities such as [Health Quality Ontario](#) and [IDEAS](#) for job positings or skill development workshops.
- Check out professional development workshops from [Expanding Horizons](#).

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Follow #QueensHQ on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#). Join the HQ Connects Facebook group to connect with current students and alumni.

BUILD YOUR CAREER

- Considering a career change? 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.
- 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.
- Monitor the online student community and program social media for job postings or opportunities.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

- Complete your coursework; begin to research and work on your major project (898).
- Attend the second intensive in-person session.

- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as the Healthcare Quality Research Forum.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.
- Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a [Grad Chat](#) to discuss your research interests.

- Start keeping an e-portfolio of your skills, experiences, and competencies.
- For help with teaching, get support from the [Centre for Teaching and Learning](#). Enroll in [SGS901](#) or the [PUTL](#) certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.

- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and more.
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the [QUIC and Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre's Training Certificate](#).
- International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an [International Student Advisor](#).

- Explore different careers of interest by reading [alumni profiles](#) on the SGS website, using [QueensConnects](#) on LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni, as well as the [HQ Programs website](#).
- If you are considering a PhD or applying to medical school check out the program requirements so you can have a good head start. For more information about a PhD in Health Quality, visit the [HQ Programs website](#).

- Finish up your required courses and research project.

- Attend a major conference in your field, such as [Health Quality Transformation](#).
- Publish your research project in a relevant journal.
- Consider putting an article in [The Conversation](#).

- Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in difficult forums: casual conversation, networking, interviews. Get help from a [Career Services workshop](#).
- Check out opportunities for extra training through CTL, Expanding Horizons, MITACS, or other sources to boost your skills.
- Contact the MScHQ Program through e-mail, social media, and/or HQ Connects Facebook group for contacts and career opportunities.

- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through [QueensConnects](#) on LinkedIn, the [Queen's Alumni Association](#), professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a [Career Services workshop](#).
- Consider joining professional associations like [Health Sciences Association](#).

- Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Research careers of interest. Craft your CV or Resume and job application materials.
- Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your industry resume and beginning of your job search plan (if applicable).

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Health Quality 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, gather 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
- Interprofessional Education foundations

WHERE CAN I GO?

The Master of Science in Healthcare Quality program is designed for young professionals or mid- to senior-level executives who wish to continue to work full time, while pursuing an advanced degree. Professionals that may be well suited to taking the Master of Health Quality are:

- Lawyers
- Engineers
- Business professionals
- Healthcare administrators
- Healthcare Information Technologists (IT)
- Healthcare professionals
- Policy advisors
- QI leader/QI focus to your profession

Graduate Studies FAQs

How do I use this map?

Whether you are considering or have embarked on graduate studies at Queen's, use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. The map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your individual accomplishments. Everyone's journey is different – the guide offers options for finding your way at Queen's and setting the foundation for your future. To make your own customized map, use the online [My Grad Map](#) tool.

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.

Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- **Grade requirements:** Graduated from an accredited, baccalaureate-granting University with a minimum of a second class standing of a B or 73% (GPA 3.0).
- Received a preferred degree in a healthcare discipline, law, business, engineering, or policy studies.
- Have an undergraduate course in statistics and evidence of an understanding of research methodology and/or quality improvement experience.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- A statement of interest in the program is required to match the applicant's academic and work experience with the objectives of the program.
- Current curriculum vitae.
- 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 1.

Before you start your application, please review the [Graduate studies application process](#) and the [HQ Programs Website](#).

What about FEES?

- **Course Fees:** \$14708.25 CAD Domestic per year (2017-18)*
- **Additional Fees:** \$1600 CAD Program Fee (2018-19)*

*Please note that tuition and fees are subject to changes from the Queen's University Board of Trustees. Visit the [Office of the University Registrar](#) for more information on program fees.



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