Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

**ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**
- Completion of a Master’s degree in Kinesiology and Health Studies or relevant subject.
- Grade requirements: B+ average.

**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 IELTS scores: (1) 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: March 1st to qualify for internal funding. Applications will be considered until the program is full.
- Notification of acceptance: Successful candidates will be notified by letter of offer from their potential supervisor via email.

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

What about FUNDING?

The minimum funding guarantee for Kinesiology and Health Studies PhD students is $18,000 per year. Internal funding sources consist of fellowship awards, graduate scholarships, teaching assistantships, and research assistantships.

We encourage all students to apply for external funding from OGS, Tri-Council Funding, and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a $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.

**Why GRADUATE STUDIES in KINESIOLOGY & HEALTH STUDIES?**

The Kinesiology and Health Studies programs offer you the opportunity to study health, physical activity, sport, and the body from a range of perspectives. Students may study the mechanics of movement; the body’s physiological responses to exercise; physical activity at a population level; the promotion of health, wellbeing, and social justice among communities; the psychology of sport and physical activity; the effects of biological factors on individual health; and the effects of socio-cultural factors on individual, community and population health.

**Why QUEENS’?**

Our students have the opportunity to collaborate with internationally-recognized researchers on exciting, multi-disciplinary research projects in state-of-the-art facilities in our own, standalone building completed in 2009. Cross-disciplinary opportunities with other Queen’s departments enhance the graduate experience. Collaborations are available with Biomedical and Molecular Sciences, Commerce, Cultural Studies, Faculty of Education, Gender Studies, Global Development Studies, Mechanical and Materials Engineering, Psychology, Public Health Sciences, Geography and Planning, and Sociology. Students may pursue research activities at Kingston General Hospital, Hotel Dieu Hospital, and with a number of our community based partners, including the Boys and Girls Club of Kingston, HIV/AIDS Regional Services, Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health, and the Limestone District School Board.

**RESEARCH AREAS**
- Biomechanics and Ergonomics
- Exercise Physiology
- Health Promotion
- Physical Activity Epidemiology
- Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity
- Socio-Cultural Studies of Sport, Health and the Body

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

Visit the School of Kinesiology & Health Studies 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.

“IT’s a very rich learning environment. As a student, I’ve really appreciated the chance to be surrounded by people who are studying different, but related, things. It really broadens my horizons.”

- Caitlin Mason, PhD
**Kinesiology & Health Studies PhD MAP**

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)**

**YEAR I**
- **ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**
  - Key priorities include forming your committee, coursework, field exams, and language exam.
  - Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation planning.
  - Look to Student Academic Success Services for a variety of supports.
  - Attend the SKHS Research Colloquium.

- **SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXAM.**
- **EMBARK ON YOUR SUBSTANTIVE RESEARCH.**
- **FIND YOUR WAY THROUGH THE ACADMIC PROCESS WITH THE HELP OF EXPANDING HORIZONS AND THE SGS HABITAT.**
- **ATTEND AT LEAST 80% OF THE SKHS SEMINAR SERIES.**
- **SET UP REGULAR MEETINGS WITH YOUR SUPERVISOR TO DISCUSS PROGRESS AND OBSTACLES TO TIMELY COMPLETION.**
- **SEEK EXPERIENTIAL/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES.**

**YEAR II**
- **CONTINUE TO MEET REGULARLY WITH YOUR SUPERVISOR, REVIEW RESEARCH PROGRESS AND WRITE YOUR DISSERTATION. CHECK OUT THE SKHS DISSERTATION BOOT CAMP OR DISSERTATION ON THE DATA.**
- **USE CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS TO CREATE, DISCUSS, AND EXPLORE WAYS TO DISSEMINATE RESEARCH FINDINGS. LEARN FROM THE EXPANDING HORIZONS PUBLISHING WORKSHOP.**
- **PRESENT AT THE SKHS RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM.**
- **BEGIN DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL THESIS DEFENSE EXAMINERS.**

**YEAR III**
- **ATTEND OR PRESENT AT A GRADUATE CONFERENCE SUCH AS THE MACINTOSH CONFERENCE OR THE HORNWOOD CONFERENCE.**
- **EXPAND YOUR RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA SUCH AS TWITTER OR A BLOG.**
- **APPLY FOR THE GRADUATE DEAN'S TRAVEL GRANT FOR DOCTORAL FIELD RESEARCH.**

- **ATTEND OR PRESENT AT A CONFERENCE SUCH AS THE MACINTOSH CONFERENCE OR THE HORNWOOD CONFERENCE.**
- **CONTINUE TO PRESENT AT CONFERENCES.**
- **CONSIDER PARTICIPATING IN THE 3 MINUTE THESIS (3MT) COMPETITION.**
- **CONTACT THE QUEEN'S MEDIA CENTRE FOR GUIDANCE ON SPEAKING TO THE MEDIA ABOUT YOUR WORK.**
- **LIST YOURSELF ON THE ARTS AND SCIENCE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH WEBSITE.**

**YEAR IV & TRANSITIONING**
- **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.**
- **CONSIDER PUTTING AN ARTICLE IN THE CONVERSATION.**

**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**
A graduate degree in Kinesiology and Health Studies 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, 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?**
A PhD in Kinesiology and Health Studies 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.
- Educational institutions/faculty positions
- Government agencies working on public health policy
- Sports media and public relations
- Health related fields
- Research assistant
- Community health agencies
- Health industry consultants
- Work related to health

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

**MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**
- **THINK ABOUT AUDIENCES FOR YOUR RESEARCH.**
- **COMPLETE ROMED ONLINE MODULE ON RESEARCH ETHICS IF DOING RESEARCH WITH HUMAN SUBJECTS.**
- **APPLY FOR TRICOUNCIL FUNDING (SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR).**
- **ATTEND CONFERENCES IN YOUR FIELD.**

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**
- **SERVE ON DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY OR UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES.**
- **TALK TO THE SKHS GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL ABOUT GETTING INVOLVED.**
- **CONSIDER POSITIONS IN STUDENT SERVICES, THE SGS, OR MEDIA OUTLETS LIKE THE QUEEN'S JOURNAL, CFRC, AND THE SGS BLOG.**
- **LOOK IN THE AMS CLUBS DIRECTORY.**
- **USE A TEACHING ASSISTANT OR RESEARCH ASSISTANT POSITION TO DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE.**

**ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**
- **CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING WITH DIFFERENT COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF KINGSTON, HIV/AIDS Prevention Services, or the QUEEN'S EXERCISE IS MEDICINE CLUB.**
- **PARTICIPATE IN YOUR GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY THROUGH ACTIVITIES SUCH AS GRADUATE STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAMS, ORGANIZING CONFERENCES, AND RESEARCH GROUPS.**

**LAUNCH YOUR CAREER**
- **FINDING CAREER FIT STARTS WITH KNOWING YOURSELF. TAKE CAREER SERVICES CAREER PLANNING WORKSHOP OR MEET WITH A CAREER COUNSELLOR FOR HELP. CHECK OUT BOOKS LIKE SO 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.**
- **STAY ON THE LOOKOUT FOR SPECIAL EVENTS LIKE GRADUATE STUDENT CAREER FORUM TO EXPLORE YOUR CAREER PATHWAYS.**

- **START BUILDING YOUR TEACHING PORTFOLIO INCLUDING STUDENT EVALUATIONS, AND SEEKING MENTORSHIP.**
- **EXPLORE DIFFERENT CAREERS OF INTEREST BY READING ALUMNI PROFILES ON THE SGS WEBSITE, AND USING QUEENSCONNECTS ON LINKEDIN TO CONNECT WITH QUEEN'S ALUMNI, OR FIND ALUMNI IN VARIOUS CAREERS THROUGH "ASK AN ALUM." FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT CAREER CRUISING.**
- **INVESTIGATE REQUIREMENTS FOR PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS OR OTHER OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO CAREERS OF INTEREST.**

- **PARTICIPATE IN HIRING COMMITTEES AND ATTEND JOB TALKS. RESEARCH ACADEMIC CAREERS OF INTEREST. CRAFT YOUR CV AND JOB APPLICATION MATERIALS.**
- **START FOCUSING ON NON-ACADEMIC AREAS OF INTEREST. RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS OF INTEREST AND START PUTTING TOGETHER YOUR INDUSTRY RESUME AND BEGIN YOUR JOB SEARCH PLAN.**

- **BUILD CONNECTIONS WITH FACULTY OUTSIDE OF YOUR DEPARTMENT. PURSUE INTERNSHIPS FOR FACULTY POSITIONS AND APPLY FOR POST-DOC FELLOWSHIPS AND POSITIONS.**
- **APPLY TO JOBS OR MAKE PLANS FOR OTHER ADVENTURES.**
- **JOIN GROUPS ON LINKEDIN REFLECTING SPECIFIC CAREERS OR TOPICS OF INTEREST.**

**VISIT CAREERS.QUEENSU.CA/GRADMAPS FOR MORE INFORMATION!**

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