**Application FAQs**

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

**ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**
- Honours Bachelor’s degree in Applied Science or Engineering.
- Grade requirements: minimum cumulative average of a B (73-76.9%).

**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), 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 deadline:** No hard deadline. It is encouraged that prospective international students apply before March 1st to allow time to receive Visa.
- **Notification of acceptance:** End of March to July for September admissions.

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

**What about FUNDING?**

MASc students receive minimum funding of $16,500 per year. Students are usually funded through a combination of research assistantships, teaching assistantships, and/or scholarships. Funding levels differ for international students.

Apply for external funding from OGS 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 MECHANICAL ENGINEERING?**

As a Master’s student in the field of Mechanical and Materials Engineering (MME), you can play a vital role in future developments in such areas as: aerodynamics, biomechanics and tissue engineering, fuel cells, fluid flow, gas turbines, design optimization, robotics, ceramics and polymers, and many other areas. Mechanical Engineering continues to play a vital role in modern life.

Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social and technological phenomena. Check out whygradstudies.ca for more reasons to choose graduate studies in engineering.

**Why QUEEN’S?**

As a Master’s student in Mechanical and Materials Engineering at Queen’s you are part of one of the most research intensive universities in Canada. Our research program is internationally renowned with a wide range of research activities in all of the major specialization areas of Mechanical and Materials Engineering. The Mechanical and Materials graduate program has been recognized for the quality of its academic and research programs. It also focuses on multidisciplinary, collaborative research with faculty in other departments, other faculties and other universities.

**Program STRUCTURE**

MASc (2 years): Research based program with 4 term-length courses and a thesis. Combined BASc and MASc program: BASc students can take 2 MASc courses in their 4th year, and the other 2 courses during their MASc.

“My [...] research project has involved collaboration with a surgeon in Sweden, researchers at the U of Queensland, Australia and NRC in Ottawa. This may sound extraordinary, but it is in fact closer to the norm for our Department.”

— Melanie Thompson, MASc

**DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL & MATERIALS ENGINEERING**

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**RESEARCH Areas**
- Biomechanical
- Energy and Fluid Systems
- Manufacturing and Dynamic Systems
- Materials Engineering

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

**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 SOS HABITAT for available resources.

**What is the community like?**

At Queen’s, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen’s more than 130 graduate programs, within 50+ departments and research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen’s offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies. Queen’s is an integral part of the Kingston community, with the campus nestled in the core of the city, only a 10-minute walk to downtown with its shopping, dining and waterfront. For more about Kingston’s history and culture, see Queen’s University’s Discover Kingston page.

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**GETTING STARTED**

- **ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**
  - Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor and starting your coursework.
  - Consider how your coursework can contribute to your thesis.
  - Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and **Expanding Horizons** professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the SGS website.

- **MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**
  - Start to think about the audiences for your research.
  - If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for NSERC and OGS funding.
  - Explore research facilities, including the Machine Shop, Reactor Materials Testing Lab, and the Solar Calorimetry Lab.

- **BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**
  - Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, OPUS, and the SGS Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
  - Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees.
  - 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.
  - Consider volunteering with different community organizations, such as the Human Mobility Research Centre, and the Centre for Advanced Materials & Manufacturing.

- **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?* 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.

**INTERMEDIATE STAGE**

- **ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**
  - Complete your coursework, begin to research and write your thesis.
  - Attend the Departmental Graduate Seminar Series (MECH 897).

- **MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**
  - Attend or present at a graduate conference through the Canadian Society of Mechanical Engineering, Canadian Section of Combustion Institute, or CFDSociety of Canada.
  - Consider participating in the **3 Minute Thesis (3MT)** competition.
  - Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.

- **BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**
  - Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences and competencies.
  - Use a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant position to develop your research or teaching skills.
  - 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.

- **ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**
  - Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.
  - Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking **DUSP** and Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre's Training Certificate.
  - If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, find your way through the academic process with help from the SGS website, and using Queen'sConnects on LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni, or find alumni in various careers through “Ask an Alum”.

- **LAUNCH YOUR CAREER**
  - Explore different careers of interest by reading alumni profiles on the SGS 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.

**WRAPPING UP**

- **ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**
  - Present your research to Mechanical Engineering graduate students and faculty as part of MECH897, and complete and defend your Master's research thesis.

- **MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**
  - Consider publication options for your research.
  - Attend a major conference in your field, such as a conference by the American Society of Mechanical Engineering.
  - 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.

- **BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**
  - Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and 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.
  - Investigate internships from Mitacs and other sources.

- **ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**
  - Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through Queen'sConnects on LinkedIn, the Queen's Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
  - Consider joining professional associations like the Professional Engineers of Ontario (PEO) or the Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering.

- **LAUNCH YOUR CAREER**
  - Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, or interviews.

**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

A graduate degree in Mechanical Engineering 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
- Persistence
- 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 Mechanical Engineering can take your career in many directions. Many of our MASc students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Academia – Professors, Research Science – Simulation Engineer, Government
- Industry – Design Engineer, Consulting

Taking time 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!

*This map is intended to provide suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone's abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. Build your own Grad Map using our online My Grad Map tool.