Why combine MEDICINE and GRADUATE RESEARCH?

The Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences is a new program offered through a partnership between the Department of Biomedical and Molecular Sciences (DBMS), Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME), and Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME). This program has been specifically designed for graduates of medical schools who have not yet matched to a postgraduate residency program in Canada.

The Medical Sciences program provides medical school graduates with an opportunity to enhance their clinical and research skills before applying to a postgraduate residency program. Students will build on the foundations of their medical degree in many ways. They will further develop their clinical skills in the context of the Canadian healthcare system and explore current issues in medical sciences. They'll interpret foundational research and its relationship to clinical practice, conduct research responsibly using appropriate guidelines and procedures, and apply ethical behaviours consistent with academic integrity and professional standards.

Program OVERVIEW

- **Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences**
  - Begin in July
  - 12 credit units
  - Apply for postgraduate residency through CaRMS
  - Postgraduate Medical Education Residency Program
  - Apply for Master’s programs
  - Faculty of Health Sciences Master’s Programs
  - Complete second half of Professional Master of Medical Sciences

- **Professional Master of Medical Sciences**
  - Begin in July
  - 24 credit units
  - Apply for PhD programs
  - Faculty PhD programs

It is anticipated that the emphasis on research, clinical skills, and scholarship will enhance any future applications for residency positions through the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS).

Program STRUCTURE

Graduate Diploma (6 months). This is a course-based program. Upon completion of MSCI 800, 801 + 1 elective, students may apply for the Professional Masters of Medical Sciences or ladder into other MSc programs in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Option 1: Start in July and go to December
Option 2: Start in January and go to June

Note: Completion of the Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences or the Professional Master of Medical Sciences does not guarantee entry into a postgraduate medical education residency program, Master’s program, or PhD program.
A Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences can equip you with versatile, transferable 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, personal 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 Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences can take your career in many directions. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Health Care (Hospital clinical labs)
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Academic and research labs
- Scientific supply companies
- Administration in academic health care or government settings
- Teaching positions in academic institutions or the private sector
- Technical positions in academic institutions or the private sector
- Marketing positions in private sector

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!
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

In order to be considered for admission to the Graduate Diploma in Medical Sciences, applicants need to hold an MD or equivalent from a medical school on the International Medical Education Directory and have a B+ graduating average or higher in all postsecondary education. Instructions on how to submit all required documentation will be sent to you by email upon application submission.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

In cases where English is not the first language, nor was the language of instruction in medical school, applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency. Those applicants will need to provide proof of English language proficiency through one of the following:

- International English Language Testing System (Academic module) with a minimum score of 7 in each component or
- a TOEFL iBT with a passing score of 93 including a minimum score of 24 on the speaking section.

Please note that these requirements are higher than the minimum standards set by the School of Graduate Studies. As these students will be involved in observing the clinical care of patients, and participating in the clinical team discussion about the investigation and management of their clinical problems and in the clinical assessment of standardized patients, a thorough understanding and ability to communicate in English is essential.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Applicants must submit:

- Official transcripts from all postsecondary education;
- Personal Statement indicating the alignment of the applicant’s background and career aspirations with the objectives of the program;
- Curriculum Vitae;
- 2 references from individuals familiar with the candidate’s academic and/or clinical performance; and a
- Medical Student Performance Record or Dean’s Letter.

Applicants with an MD from a Canadian or U.S. university, must submit their score reports on Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Examination (MCCQE) Part I.

Applicants, who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents with an MD from a country outside Canada or the U.S. must submit their score reports on both Medical Council of Canada Evaluating Examination (MCCEE) and National Assessment Collaboration (NAC) examination. International applicants, who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents, must submit their score reports on Medical Council of Canadian Evaluating Examination (MCCEE).

The APPLICATION PROCESS

STEP 1: Submit your online application via the School of Graduate Studies.

STEP 2: Once you have submitted your application, read instructions on how to submit all required documents.

STEP 3: Submit all required documents to the School of Graduate Studies. After review of the complete application, competitive candidates will be invited for an interview with the Medical Sciences Program (via Skype).