

Medical Sciences G.Dip. Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies



GRAD MAP FOR GDip STUDENTS

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.



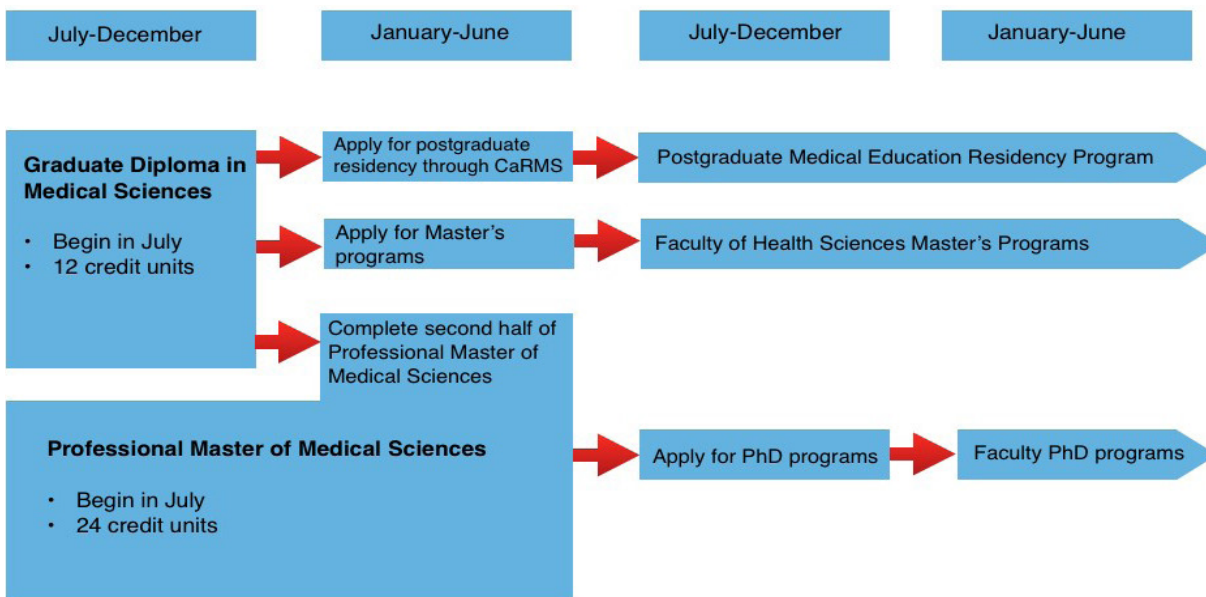
It is anticipated that the emphasis on research, clinical skills, and scholarship will enhance any future applications for residency positions through the Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS).

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

Program **OVERVIEW**



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.

Medical Sciences GDIP MAP*

GRADUATE DIPLOMA (GDIP)



GETTING STARTED

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

WRAPPING UP

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS

- Start your coursework.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and [Expanding Horizons](#) professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the [SGS Habitat](#).

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT

- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for funding from sources such as CIHR, NSERC, OGS, the Heart & Stroke Foundation, CBCF, the Department of Defence and the American Cancer Society.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Consider positions in student services, the [SGPS](#), or media outlets like the [Queen's Journal](#), [CFRC](#), [Studio Q](#) and the [SGS Blog](#). Look in the [AMS Clubs Directory](#) for more ideas.
- Check out professional development workshops from [Expanding Horizons](#) and the Rehabilitation Science Department.

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 [Kingston General Hospital](#).

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 *So What Are You Going to do With That?* or *Planning a Scientific Career in Industry* 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.

- Continue your coursework.

- Attend a graduate conference. Ask your supervisor for recommendations.
- Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a [Grad Chat](#) to discuss your research interests.

- Start keeping an eportfolio 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 research groups.
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the [QUIC and Four Directions Aboriginal Student Centre's Training Certificate](#).
- If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an [International Student Advisor](#).

- 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](#)".
- If you are considering entering the Professional Masters of Medical Sciences or other MSc programs, reach out to faculty and apply to programs and external scholarships.

- Complete your coursework.
- Consider applying for the Professional Masters of Medical Sciences or ladder into other MSc programs in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

- Attend a major conference in your field. There are many to choose from, so talk to your supervisor for advice on which ones would be most relevant.
- Consider putting an article in [The Conversation](#).

- 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](#).

- 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](#).
- Attend a conference in your field.

- 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 Diploma in Medical Sciences 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

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.

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.

What is the Queen's graduate 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 & 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.

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 candidates 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).



SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

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