Graduate Studies FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
In order to be considered for admission to the Professional Master of 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. These 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 7.0 in each component or
- 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 (MCQCEE) 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 Canada 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).

Why combine MEDICINE and GRADUATE RESEARCH?
The Professional Master of 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 STRUCTURE
Professional Masters (1 year). This program requires the completion of coursework (MSc 800, 801, 802, + 1 elective) in addition to a research project. Upon completion, students who wish to pursue further training in research may opt to apply for one of the thesis-based Masters or PhD programs offered in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

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

GRADUATE MEDICINE

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School of Graduate Studies
Create an impact
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Medical Sciences M.M.Sc Map
Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Where can I get help?
Queens 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 OSU 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, Queens 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.
Getting Started

- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, and doing 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.
- Complete WHMIS hazard training.

Intermediate Stage

- Continue your coursework.
- Take the Lab Safety Training course and ADDA training.
- Present your project to Medical Sciences graduate students and faculty.
- Complete your coursework.

Wrapping Up

- Attend or present at a graduate conference. Ask your supervisor for recommendations.
- 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.
- Consider publishing elements of your research. Learn from the Expanding Horizons Publishing workshop.
- Attend a major conference in your field. There are many to choose from, so talk to your supervisor for advice on which one 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.
- Attend a conference in your field.
- Start to think about the audiences for your research.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.
- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest.
- Consider joining one of the many professional associations.
- Attend a conference in your field.
- 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 Alumni.”
- 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.
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What will I learn?

A graduate degree 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 Master’s degree in Medical Sciences can take your career in many directions. Our Master’s 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.

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Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!