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 SG5 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 115 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
- Grade requirements: The admissions process to the Queen’s MScPT program is highly competitive. To be eligible for admission, students must first have a four-year baccalaureate degree or equivalent with a minimum second-class standing (B-) from a recognized university. Subsequent to this initial requirement, further academic requirements include cum-GPA and sub-GPA cut-off marks. The actual cut-off mark is based on the applicant pool. In 2018, the sub-GPA cut-off was 3.70.
- Course prerequisites: Courses in introductory psychology, statistics, human anatomy, and human physiology.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Queen’s Physical Therapy Personal Submission Form questions.
- Two Confidential Reference Forms (downloadable from ORPAS website).
- Documented evidence (through volunteer work, community service or personal experience) of strong interest in the profession of physical therapy, knowledge of the profession and desire to work with people of all ages.
- Canadian Citizenship or Canadian Permanent Resident Status.
- Completion of prerequisite courses.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
Applicants who have resided in Canada or another English speaking country for less than three years as of the first day of the month of the term in which students are to begin must achieve a satisfactory score on one of the following tests:
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) - minimum score required: 250 for Canadian Citizenship or Canadian Permanent Resident Status.
- Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) - minimum score required: 80.
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) - minimum score required: 8.

For a complete list of admission requirements, view the MScPT Admission Requirements.

Why GRADUATE STUDIES IN PHYSICAL THERAPY?
The mission of the Master of Science of Physical Therapy (MScPT) program is to provide an outstanding learning environment for the education of future physical therapy professionals. With critical inquiry and evidence-based practice as the foundation, the program promotes the acquisition of advanced academic knowledge, skills and behaviours that are essential for a primary health care provider in a complex and continually evolving health care environment. The overall aim of the MScPT program is to ensure that the graduate acquires the essential competencies of a practicing physical therapist and has the ability to provide leadership within a changing health care environment.

Why QUEEN’S?
The School of Rehabilitation Therapy was established by Queen’s University in 1967 to meet the needs of the local population. We continue to make active contributions to and engage with the members of our local community. Through interprofessional and international research collaborations, community development projects and many other initiatives, our work has expanded and enabled us to contribute to the daily lives of individuals and communities regionally, nationally and internationally.

What about FEES?
You are not technically eligible to apply for a bursary before becoming a registered student at Queen’s University; however, you may be eligible for bursary assistance through student awards, including OGS bursaries and the Queen’s General Bursary. In addition, every second year the program offers the Torrible Goldman Sachs Scholarship to an incoming student whose parents immigrated to Canada.

Program STRUCTURE
As a full-time, continuous, 24-month long program, the MScPT program is structured as a series of 14 “blocks”. Each block is 7 weeks in length. Nine blocks are devoted to academic instruction on campus and 5 blocks are assigned clinical placement experiences. The majority of your clinical placement experiences will be arranged in facilities within the Queen’s University catchment area. Catchment boundaries normally include Whitby in the west, Cornwall in the east, and Orillia/Midland in the north. For each placement, students have the opportunity to rank their top 5 preferences from a list of available placements. Placements are assigned based on student preferences and a priority system to ensure students are given experiences in multiple practice settings to meet the program requirements. Typically, there is no financial support to cover the costs associated with clinical placement. For international placements, there may be additional funding available through the Department of National Defence. You will complete approximately 1,125 hours in clinical placements, in diverse practice settings in order to meet graduation criteria.

Upon successfully completing the MScPT program at Queen’s University, graduates may apply to the Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators to take the Physiotherapy Competency Examination.

I currently work at a clinic that has a few hopeful Queen’s PT applicants for this year. Talking to them made me reflect on just how amazing my time at Queen’s really was.”

– Jesse Avenus, MSc PT

The examination must be successfully completed in order to attain professional registration to practice as a physical therapist in Canada.

A full description of the program objectives, curriculum design and academic course descriptions can be found on the School of Rehabilitation Therapy (SRT) website.

GRADUATE STUDIES

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Admissions Coordinator
613-533-6000 x 7548
ptinfo@queensu.ca

Why does a year of university tuition cost so much? For one thing, the overall cost of living is high. But it is also due to the fact that universities have to live within a tight budget and must make tough decisions about how to allocate resources. The tuition fees at Queen’s are competitive compared to other universities in Canada. In fact, they are lower than the average for universities in the province. This is because Queen’s is committed to making higher education accessible for all students. In addition, Queen’s offers a wide range of scholarships and bursaries to help students finance their studies. So, while the cost of tuition may seem high, it is actually a small investment in your future.”

– Canada University Tuition Costs – Queen’s University

The School of Graduate Studies
Create an impact
www.queensu.ca/grad
**Physical Therapy**

**MSc(PT) MAP**

**GETTING STARTED**

- Get settled in Kingston and begin your course work.
- Consider how your course work can help with your placements.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from the school and Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the Associate Director, and the SGS Habitat.
- Participate in clinical labs to gain and master physiotherapy skills, and learn skills needed to critically appraise research in the field of physical therapy.
- Take part in valuable class and teamwork activities including lectures, discussion, and problem solving through challenging cases with support from experienced clinicians and faculty members.
- Apply critical thinking skills to clinical cases in class and on clinical placement.

**INTERMEDIATE STAGE**

- Complete your course work.
- Reflect on the professional skills acquired through your clinical experience.
- Learn how to properly articulate your skillset when applying for jobs with Career Services workshops.
- Attend the Rehab Society’s annual Career Fair which is organized for graduating students (January or February).

**WRAPPING UP**

- 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 CITL, Expanding Horizons, Mitacs, or other sources to boost your skills.
- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through QueenConnect on LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.

**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

The curriculum follows a competency-based framework in which the specific goal is to prepare individuals to undertake the roles of a physical therapist in Canada. A graduate degree in Physical Therapy 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 Physical Therapy can take your career in many directions within the field of PT. Our Master’s students are equipped for challenging opportunities in:

- Hospitals and rehabilitation centres
- Outpatient clinics
- Sports practices
- Primary care teams, including Family Health Teams and Community Health Centres
- Community agencies
- Home care
- Children’s treatment centres and school health programs
- Multidisciplinary health care teams
- Sports physiotherapy clinics
- Government
- Policy and professional organizations
- International development and aid organizations

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.