Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- An undergraduate honours degree from a recognized university with a minimum of a B+ average in the last two years. At Queen’s, a B+ is equivalent to a percentage conversion of 77-79.9% and a Grade Point Average of 3.3 (out of 4.3).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Applications for admission are completed and submitted on the School of Graduate Studies website, including an online application form and specific instructions regarding how to submit the following documents:
  - A Statement of Interest (a maximum of 2 pages) on the candidate’s background and career aspirations (up to 4000 characters in the online application)
  - Transcripts for all post-secondary education.
  - Two references from individuals familiar with the applicant’s academic performance.
- Applicants are required to submit an electronic resume/cv online at deptmed.queensu.ca.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
- English is the first language, and instruction in undergraduate studies, applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency. Applicants will need to prove 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
  - TOEFL IBT with a passing score of 93 including a minimum score of 24 on the speaking section.

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

What about FUNDING?

We offer our master’s students a minimum funding of $21,000 per year for two years.

Apply for external funding from OGS, CHR/NSERC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a $5,000 top-up to master’s winners of federal government tri-council awards. See the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships for more.

Who 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 career concerns, 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.

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE?

The new and innovative Master of Science (MSc) in Translational Medicine is a unique research-based graduate program. The program provides students with a fresh perspective, offering a curriculum interweaving graduate level research with authentic clinical experiences in a multidisciplinary environment across departments at Queen’s University.

Combining the fields of medicine and research, this program links graduate level research skills with a variety of clinical experiences including patient interactions, clinical observations and medical rounds to enhance professional thinking and action. This innovative curriculum will offer important foundation work for future careers in the biomedical field, and will provide critical skills for pursuing careers that include clinician scientists, biomedical researchers, leaders in industry and public health and/or health policy.

What is TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE?

Translational Medicine is driven by our patients and their diseases. Guided by this primary focus, translational research spans across the spectrum from molecular and cell biology to preclinical models to patient studies and back again (see Figure). Our programs aim to train the next generation of researchers to be effective translators of biomedical discovery.

Our graduates will operate at the intersection of clinical and related sciences and will have the expertise to generate and lead discovery through an integrated process, increasing the efficiency of translating science knowledge into health improvement.

Translational Medicine

Program STRUCTURE

The MSc in Translational Medicine is a 2-year research-based program, which requires the completion of 12-credit courses (3 core courses, 3-credit electives) and a thesis.

Mire-Master’s: Students registered in the MSc in Translational Medicine with first-class standing, and who show exceptional promise in their research may be considered for promotion to the PhD in Translational Medicine, without completion of the MSc.

Core COURSES

- TMED 800* Translational Medicine
- TMED 801 Profession of Medicine
- TMED 802 Research Success Skills

Elective COURSES (Pick 3 credits)

- TMED 811 Next Generation Sequencing (1 credit)
- BMED 862 Cellular Techniques (1 credit)
- BMED 865 Imaging Analysis (1 credit)
- BMED 869 Reproduction (1 credit)
- BMED 889 Principles and Drug Discovery and Development
- BMED 891 Advanced Molecular Biology
- NSCI 844* Controversies in Neuroscience
- EPID 809* Public Health System in Canada
- EPID 810* Controlled Clinical Trials
- PATH 824* Experimental Cancer Therapeutics
- PATH 826* The Molecular Basis of Disease

HIGHLIGHTS

- Build on your academic education or enhance your career with advanced knowledge and skills
- Learn about translational medicine from an interdisciplinary perspective with authentic clinical experiences
- Experience team-based learning with other students
- Network with students, alumni, and leaders in this emerging field
- Complete a supervised project on a topic of your choice

FOR MSc STUDENTS

- GRAD MAP FOR MSc STUDENTS
- Additional existing courses may be approved by the program director and students’ supervisor, depending on the research interests of the students.

School of Graduate Studies
Create an impact
www.queensu.ca/sgs
Translational Medicine MSc MAP *

**GETTING STARTED**
- Start with key priorities like scheduling an initial meeting or meetings with your supervisor, forming your committee, and doing your coursework.
- Have your first committee meeting, identify a research topic and consider how your course assignments/papers can contribute to your master’s thesis.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and Expanding Horizons academic workshops, the program director and the SGS Habitat.
- Complete the ethics review process if applicable.

**MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**
- Start to think about the audiences for your research project.
- Apply for external funding after discussion with supervisors about appropriate granting agencies.
- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, PRG, 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 and the Department of Medicine.

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**
- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, PRG, 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 and the Department of Medicine.
- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, such as Kingston Health Sciences Centre, KFL&A Public Health Unit, and Kingston Community Health Centres.

**ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**
- Explore different careers of interest by reading alumni profiles on the SGS website, and using Queen’sConnect on LinkedIn to connect with Queen’s alumni, or find alumni in various careers through “Ask an Alum.”
- If you are considering a PhD, MD, or MD-PhD, reach out to a career counsellor. Check out books like Planning a Scientific Career or meeting with the Alumni Association, professional associations, or at conferences.
- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through Queen’sConnect on LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences.
- Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Research careers of interest. Craft your CV or resume and job application materials.
- Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your industry resume and beginning of your job search plan. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, or interviews.

**WRAPPING UP**
- Write and revise your research and thesis draft.
- Defend your thesis and submit to the OSpace.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, such as Kingston Health Sciences Centre, KFL&A Public Health Unit, and Kingston Community Health Centres.
- Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons and the Department of Medicine.
- Explore different careers of interest by reading alumni profiles on the SGS website, and using Queen’sConnect on LinkedIn to connect with Queen’s alumni, or find alumni in various careers through “Ask an Alum.”
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**WHERE CAN I GO?**
A Master’s degree in Translational Medicine can take your career in many directions. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers such as:
- Medicine
- Public Health and Health Policy
- Health research (research associates in universities, hospitals, government, public health units)
- Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**
A Master’s degree in Translational Medicine 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

Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links! © Career Services, Queen’s University, 2018-2019