**Pathology & Molecular Medicine MSc Map**

**Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies**

**Why GRADUATE STUDIES in PATHOLOGY & MOLECULAR MEDICINE?**

Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social and technological phenomena. Graduate students in Pathology and Molecular Medicine have opportunities to pursue comprehensive training in basic and translational biomedical research. They pursue advanced degrees under the supervision of an exceptional group of basic, clinical and translational researchers.

Queen’s is a great setting to learn first-hand how the fast pace of molecular genetic research is changing clinical practice, leading to exciting new diagnostic and treatment approaches for cancer and other diseases.

**Research AREAS**

- Cancer Research and Developmental Biology
- Human Genetics and Cytogenetics
- Hemostasis, Thrombosis Research, and Vascular Biology

Visit the Pathology and Molecular Medicine website to read faculty profiles and learn more about faculty members’ research areas. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work, area of research interest and related experience.

Please include a current CV, contact information for 2-3 references who would be familiar with your academic performance and any research experience in an unofficial transcript.

**Program STRUCTURE**

MSc (2 years): Course work, research demonstrating experimental competence, and a thesis.

**What about FUNDING?**

We offer our Master’s students minimum funding of $22,000 annually. For internal, provincial and national competitive award winners, the funding package increases by 2.5%, 5% and 10% respectively.

Apply for external funding from OGS, CIHR/NSERC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a one-time $5,000 top-up to Master’s winners of federal government tri-council awards and scholarships.

**ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**

- Honours BSc or equivalent in life sciences, biochemistry, biology, or equivalent program with at least a 8+ average. (Students with only a general degree can be admitted for a qualifying year)
- We consider all of your grades, but pay particular attention to the last two years of science-related courses.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The School of Graduate Studies requires the following minimum scores: TOEFL (paper-based): 550, (internet-based): 550, (Writing 24/30), Speaking (22/30), Reading (22/30), Listening (20/30), for a total of 88/120 (applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score), or (3) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score), or (4) PTE Academic: 65.

**KEY DATES & DEADLINES**

- Application due: February 1st to be considered for internal funding.
- Notification of acceptance: Quickly pending confirmation of a supervisor.
- **Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.**

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**Application FAQs**

**What do I need to know to APPLY?**

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**Getting Started**

- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, forming your committee, and doing your coursework.
- Consider how your course papers can contribute to your Master's thesis.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and expanding horizon professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the SGS Habitat.

**Intermediate Stage**

- Complete your coursework, begin to research and write your thesis.
- Present your research to Pathology & Molecular Medicine graduate students and faculty.
- Complete and defend your Master's research thesis.

**Wrapping Up**

- Attend or present at a graduate conference such as Canadian Cancer Research Alliance (CCRA).
- Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media.
- Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.
- Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversations, networking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Check out opportunities for extra training through CTBR, Expanding Horizons, or other sources to boost your skills.
- Investigate internships from MITACS and other sources.

**What Will I Learn?**

A graduate degree in Pathology and Molecular 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

**Where Can I Go?**

A Master's degree in Pathology & Molecular Medicine can take your career in many directions. Many of our MSc students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Health Care (Hospital clinical labs)
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Academic 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 companies

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!