Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- 4-year Bachelor's degree in Psychology (or equivalent area).
- Grade requirements: minimum upper second class standing (B+ average).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- Statement of Interest.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores. Scores above the 60th percentile are required.
- 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): 79, (PTE): 65, IELTS: 7.0.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Application due: December 1.
- Notification of acceptance: Decisions begin on December 1.

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

What about FUNDING?

MSc. students in Psychology receive minimum funding of $18,000 per year for the two years of the program.

Apply for external funding from the Tri-Councils and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a one-time $5,000 top-up to Masters winners of federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies' information on scholarships and awards.

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychology is a particularly diverse profession encompassing research, teaching and applied work. While the two former activities are relevant mainly, but by no means exclusively to universities, applied psychologists work in a wide variety of settings, including industry, management, the school systems, private practice, penitentiaries, and hospitals. Like members of all professions, the conduct of psychologists whether they are engaged in practice, teaching or research, is regulated by principles, standards and by statute. In Ontario, persons who call themselves a psychologist must meet at least, one of three criteria: they must be a university professor, be employed in a psychologist's position by the federal penitentiary service, or must be registered.

Why QUEEN'S?

The graduate program in Psychology at Queen's is internationally renowned for its excellent faculty and students, its innovative training and the value of its research, scholarship and skill development. We offer a wide range of Programs in core areas of Psychology, with a strong emphasis on fundamental research and discovery, as well as intensive training in clinical skills and applications. Our Department and Queen's host world-class researchers and a number of state-of-the-art techniques and laboratories. Our goal is to prepare students for successful careers in a variety of settings, including academic institutions, clinical and health care settings, industry and the private sector, education, and many others.

FUNDING for MSc students

The School of Graduate Studies requires the following minimum scores:

RESEARCH Areas
- Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science
- Clinical Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Social/Personality Psychology

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.

GRADUATE STUDIES PROGRAMS

GRADUATE STUDIES IN PSYCHOLOGY
- MSc (2 years): course work, and thesis/dissertation.

My Grad Map

“My experiences have given me the opportunity to flourish as both a student and a researcher. With strong foundational courses in statistics and a state of the art MRI machine upgrades, Queen’s has given me a well-rounded graduate experience that will prepare me for my future endeavours.”

Sydney Gorlick, MSc 2019

School of Graduate Studies
Create an impact
www.queensu.ca/sgs
**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 dissertation/thesis.
- 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**

- Start to think about the audiences for your research.
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for Tri-Council funding.

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

- Consider positions in student services, the SOPS, or media outlets like the Queen's Journal CPRC, and the SGS Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental or university committees. Talk to the Association of Graduate Students in Psychology (AGSIP) for tips on getting involved.
- Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons and the psychology 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 and events, such as the Got Your Back! campaign.

**LAUNCH YOUR CAREER**

- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services 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 School of Graduate Studies Career Week to explore your career pathways.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

**INTERMEDIATE STAGE**

- Complete your coursework, begin to research and write your dissertation/thesis.
- Complete the human and/or animal research ethics training.

**MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**

- Attend or present at a conference.
- Attend and participate in graduate seminars.
- Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

- Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences and competencies.
- Use a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant position to develop your research or teaching skills.
- For help with teaching, get support from the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Enroll in SGS902 or the PUTL certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.

**ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**

- 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 Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre.
- If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor.

**LAUNCH YOUR CAREER**

- 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 Alum.”
- If you are considering a PhD, explore programs of interest reach out to faculty, and apply to PhD programs and external scholarships.

**WRAPPING UP**

- Complete your dissertation/thesis.
- Consider publication options for your research.
- Attend a major conference in your field, such as the Canadian Psychological Association Annual Conference, or the European Congress of Psychology.
- Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.
- 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, 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 Queen’sConnects on LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Consider joining professional associations like the Canadian Psychological Association or the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology.

**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

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

- Academia and research
- Government agencies
- Private sector
- Clinical/Hospitals
- Correctional Services Canada
- Private practice

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

* 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.

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