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% 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 about how applicants’ background experiences and career aspirations make them ideally suited for the program (up to 4000 characters in the online application).
  • Transcripts for all postsecondary education;
  • Two references from individuals familiar with the applicant’s academic performance.
• Applicants are required to submit an electronic résumé/curriculum vitae to tmmed.coreекторname@queensu.ca.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
• In cases where English is not the first language, nor was the language of instruction in undergraduate studies, applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency. Those 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 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, CHIR/NSERC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a one time $5,000 award to incoming Masters students who have won federal government tri-council awards. See the School of Graduate Studies’ website for more.

FUNDING

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 interleaving 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
**GETTING STARTED**

- **Achieve your academic goals**
  - 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.
  - Complete the ethics review process if applicable.
  - Complete your core courses and electives.

- **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.

- **Build skills and experience**
  - Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, CFRC and the SGS Blog.
  - Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees.
  - Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons and the Department of Medicine.

- **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, such as Kingston Health Sciences Centre, KFL&A Public Health Unit, and Kingston Community Health Centres.
  - 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 Graduate Student Career Week to explore your career pathways.
  - Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

**INTERMEDIATE STATE**

- **Achieve your academic goals**
  - Present your research to faculty and fellow graduate students.
  - Schedule regular meetings with your supervisor and meet thesis committee at least twice a year.
  - Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and Expanding Horizons academic workshops, the program director, the SGGS Habitat and Student Academic Success Services (SASS).

- **Maximize research impact**
  - Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.
  - Expand your research audience through social media.
  - Attend or present at a graduate conference based on the discussion with your supervisor.

- **Build skills and experience**
  - Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences and competencies.
  - Use a Research Assistant position to develop your research skills.
  - For help with teaching, get support from the Centre for 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 exploring different forums: casual conversation, networking, interviews.
  - Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in different forums: casual conversation, networking, interviews.
  - Consider participating in the Expanding Horizons, MITACS, or other sources to boost your skills.
  - Investigate internships from MITACS and other sources.

**WRAPPING UP**

- **Achieve your academic goals**
  - Write and revise your research and thesis draft.
  - Defend your thesis and submit to the OSpace.
  - Present your research at the TMED Seminar Day.

- **Maximize research impact**
  - Consider publishing elements of your research. Learn from the Expanding Horizons, Publishing workshop.
  - Attend a major conference in your field based on the discussion with your supervisor.
  - Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies for a Grad Chat.

- **Build skills and experience**
  - Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in different forums: casual conversation, networking, interviews.
  - 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.

- **Engage with your community**
  - Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through QueenConnects on LinkedIn, the Queen’s Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences.
  - Consider joining appropriate professional associations in consultation with your supervisor.

**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

A Master’s degree in Translational Medicine can equip you with:

- 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 collaborator or 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 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.