Health Sciences

Get to know
HEALTH SCIENCES

The Bachelor of Health Sciences program is an online program purposefully designed with flexibility at its core. Students can complete courses on a timetable that best suits their lifestyle. The degree may be completed on either a full-time or part-time basis, there are different entry points throughout the year, and students can choose from a General or Honours degree.

Unlike many other traditional science programs, a significant amount of customization is possible through the Bachelor of Health Sciences program. Optional courses comprise almost a third of the degree program, meaning that students can select courses that interest them the most. These courses may be selected from a wide range of Arts and Science courses, further enhancing the multidisciplinary nature of the degree.

Students who develop a particular interest in a specific area of the health sciences may choose to take one of six specially-designed learning tracks. These provide a more specialized focus within a particular field, ranging from Infection, Immunity, and Inflammation to Global and Population Health.

This program offers students access to courses that will prepare them for admission to a wide variety of Health Professional programs such as medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary medicine, rehabilitation therapy, and nursing. These programs are increasingly competency-based, meaning that their graduates must achieve and demonstrate competency in specific health-related roles. This concept has been built into the Bachelor of Health Sciences curriculum, enabling our graduates to provide evidence of their achievements in these roles, potentially strengthening their applications to professional health programs.

Degree OPTIONS

Bachelor of Health Sciences (General)
3 Years, 90 credits

Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours)
4 Years, 120 credits

Queen's ADMISSIONS

Applicants who have, or will successfully complete, a diploma from a Canadian or International high school will be considered through the traditional admission stream. Candidates must apply through Queen's Undergraduate Admission using the webapp. Course prerequisites include 4U English, any 4U Math, and two of 4U Chemistry, 4U Biology, or 4U Physics. Check online for courses required for students outside of Ontario.

Students who lack the traditional admission requirements have the opportunity to enter the program by starting out as a Non-Degree Interest Student. Students accepted as this type of student can bridge into the program after completing three specific first year courses and achieving a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in these courses.

The online ADVANTAGE

Online learning is becoming increasingly popular and the benefits are numerous. Perhaps the biggest advantage of online learning is the flexibility it provides. Students can work at their own pace and are not restricted by the traditional format and hours of a classroom experience. Learning can happen anytime and anywhere online, and this gives students the flexibility to customize learning to their own unique lifestyles. This individual pace also encourages students to become more motivated and engaged as learning happens at a time and place of each student’s choosing.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

The Bachelor of Health Sciences program has been purpose-built to expose learners to a wide range of knowledge in the field of health sciences. Innovative courses have been developed such as:

- Developmental Origins of Health and Disease
- Health Ethics, Law, and Policy
- Evolutionary Biology of Cancer

In addition to these courses, the curriculum highlights a number of traditional fields within the health sciences, while also incorporating important topics such as Global and Population Health and Social and Physical Determinants of Health and Disease. Courses are built as interactive online modules that not only teach content through a variety of multimedia, but allow students to test their knowledge as they work through each module.

That is a degree from Queen’s.
bhsc.queensu.ca
2017-2018
Health Sciences PROGRAM MAP *

BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCES | BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCES (HONOURS)

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

1ST YEAR
Complete your Orientation Module prior to starting course work.
Take PHGY 170, ANAT 100, PHAR 100, STAT 263, BMED 171, and BMED 173. Also take 6.0 units of optional courses and 6.0 units of electives (which can include optional courses).
If you plan to graduate in four years with an Honours degree, consider completing one (or more) of the six optional learning tracks. Review the courses available for each one on the BHSc website and register for them accordingly.

2ND YEAR
Take PHGY 210, BMED 270, BMED 271, BCHM 270, and one of MCR 270 or 271. Also take an additional 6.0 units of optional courses and 6.0 units of electives (which can include optional courses).
If you have planned to declare a learning track at the end of this year, consider courses included in each track in your optional/elective choices.
If you’re planning to graduate after third year, switch into the General degree. Be aware that 4th year courses can be optional courses. Apply to graduate on SOLUS.

3RD YEAR
Take BMED 370, BMED 372, BMED 373, PHGY 370, and PHAR 370. Also take an additional 9.0 units of optional courses and 6.0 units of electives (which can include optional courses).
If you have declared a learning track, make sure that required courses to complete your track(s) are considered.
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4TH YEAR (HONOURS)
Take BMED 471, BMED 472, and BMED 473. Also take an additional 15.0 units of optional courses and 6.0 units of electives (which can include optional courses).
If you have declared a learning track, make sure that required courses to complete your track(s) are considered.
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GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

If in Kingston, see the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for ideas to get involved.
Other ways to become involved include volunteering for after-school children’s programs, volunteering in retirement residences, aiding the integration of recent immigrants to Canada, or volunteering at veterinary clinics or a local animal shelter.

Look into attending, by webinar, high profile Queen’s conferences such as the Canadian Undergraduate Conference on Healthcare, TEDxQueensU, or Queen’s Healthcare and Business Conference.
Begin to engage with a community organization to ready yourself for BMED 471.

Begin or (continue) to engage with a community organization to ready yourself for BMED 471.
Assess what experience you’re lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – contact Career Services for help.

Investigate full-time jobs or further education related to careers of interest.
Ensure your LinkedIn profile is ready to be viewed by recruiters and potential employers; use Queen’s Career Services resources to improve your page. Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or your topics of interest in Health Sciences.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer with various community organizations, such as local charities, local organizations that cater to a specific at-risk population, hospitals, public health units, or larger, national or global organizations such as Canadian Blood Services, the Canadian Red Cross, Medicins Sans Frontieres, Right to Play or Me to We.

Develop greater connections with the organizations that you volunteer for; taking on responsibilities or special projects that help the organization in a tangible manner.

Conduct targeted networking with those working in your careers of interest.
Connect with Queen’s professors through video chat or via email to learn about the career possibilities in a specific field.

Consider joining professional associations or scientific societies in your field of interest such as the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists, the Canadian Nurses Association or Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. Some of these associations have their own internal field-specific job boards or resources that could be useful to you.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

Think about international affairs and global health issues and how you would like to incorporate these areas into your degree.
Bilingualism opens up many job opportunities in Canada. Consider increasing your proficiency in French through Queen’s courses or language clubs, city-run programs, or through apps such as Duolingo, Rosetta Stone, or Babble.

If you’re looking to internationalize your degree or to leverage your existing cross-cultural experience, start brainstorming about what kind of experience you would like to have.
As a BHSc student, you are not eligible for exchanges, but you can study at the Bader International Study Centre, or volunteer or work/inter abroad.

If you are interested, apply as an upper year student to study at the Bader International Study Centre in the UK.
Build your intercultural competencies by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills.

Check Queen’s University International Centre (QUIC) resources for ideas to work/inter, or volunteer abroad.
Prepare for work or studies in a multicultural environment by taking QUIC’s online Intercultural Modules.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

Explore the BHSc program website to see how it can act as a stepping stone to a new healthcare career.
Need career advice? You can book a telephone appointment with a career counsellor through MyCareer or call the Career Services reception at 613.533.2992.

Grappling with program decisions? Talk to one of the BHSc Academic Advisors by emailing bhscadvisor@queensu.ca.
Look for opportunities to get hands-on experience in your field by becoming an intern at dental or veterinary clinics, in hospitals, or by looking for summer work opportunities in government/private laboratories.

Start focusing on areas of interest and research which educational requirements are needed; the Program website can help you start. If needed, prepare to make any required tests (like the MAT or Dental Aptitude Test) and research possible scholarships/bursary opportunities in your desired field.
Connect with Queen’s alumni on LinkedIn.

Confirm requirements for full-time jobs or professional program applications or other opportunities related to careers of interest.
Apply to jobs or future education, or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with resumes, interviews, grad school applications, or other decisions.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormaps 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 Major Map using our online My Major Map tool.

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Where could I go after graduation?

Animal research
Audiology
Biochemistry
Biotechnology
Dentistry
Drug development
Education
Environmental management
Epidemiology
Ergonomics
Ethics
Forensics
Genetics
Graduate studies
Health administration and public health
Law
Medical and clinical research
Medical illustration
Medicine
Microbiology
Neuroscience
Nursing
Nutrition & dietetics
Occupational therapy
Occupational health and safety
Optometry
Pharmacy
Physical therapy
Public and private research laboratories
Public health
Teaching
Toxicology
Veterinary medicine

*some careers may require additional training and you may need to ensure your BHSc course selection fulfills the required pre-requisites. Career paths are suggestions only.
Health Sciences
PROGRAM MAP

How to use this map
Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don’t have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the My Major Map tool.

Get started thinking about the future now – where do you want to go after your degree? Having tentative goals (like careers or grad school) while working through your degree can help with short-term decisions about courses and experiences, but also help you keep motivated for success.

Get the help you need
Queen’s provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen’s, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do.

Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally, and Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.

Succeed in the workplace

What employers want
The Canadian Council of Chief Executives list the top 6 skills sought by employers as:
1. People skills
2. Communication skills
3. Problem-solving skills
4. Analytical abilities
5. Leadership skills
6. Industry-specific knowledge

Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen’s, starting with the skills list here for ideas. Explaining your strengths with compelling examples will be important for applications to employers and further education.

What can I learn studying HEALTH SCIENCES?
- Knowledge of cellular structures, organic systems, organic chemistry, and the functions of the human body
- Understanding of statistical research methods, the scientific method, and experimental design
- An appreciation for the social and scientific aspects that contribute to health and healthcare
- Research skills – ability to draw relevant information out of a large amount of data
- Attention to detail – analyze and interpret scientific data
- Problem solving – adopt a systematic approach to problems
- Oral and written communication – produce laboratory reports and present a report to a group
- Resource and time management
- Advocacy on behalf of different stakeholders/populations with the ability to craft messages based on the audience
- Collaborating with peers to achieve common goals
- Optional: Gain experience working in a laboratory setting and operating equipment

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