



### Guide for International Applicants

The Department of Microbiology & Immunology values a diverse graduate student community and welcomes applications from qualified students worldwide. The following information is intended to help prospective international applicants navigate the application process.

#### Application deadlines

As an international student, you will need to ensure you apply by the earlier deadlines established for non-Canadian citizens. These deadlines are listed on our [How to Apply](#) page.

#### English language proficiency

If English is an additional language for you, you are required to pass a designated examination to demonstrate your ability to study at an advanced level in the language. Specific requirements and acceptable tests are listed on [our website](#).

#### Exemptions

The language proficiency requirement may be waived if you completed your degree at a recognized university where the language of instruction is English and in a country where English is one of the official languages.

Applicants who believe they qualify for a waiver should submit a brief letter explaining their eligibility as the proof of English proficiency during the application process.

#### Funding and scholarship

Full-time graduate students in our department receive funding through research awards that help cover tuition, fees, and some living expenses. Additional support may be available through competitive scholarships and teaching assistantships.

#### Tuition and Fees

For the 2025/2026 academic year, tuition rates for [international students](#) are as follows:

Program	Year	Estimated Amount (per year)
MSc	Year 1	\$21,179
	Year 2	\$13,119
	Year 3	\$5,198
PhD	All Year	\$9,372



Tuition and fees are paid directly from your funding package. Any remaining funds are provided to students as monthly payments to support living expenses.

- MSc students can normally expect a minimum take-home amount of \$16,000 per year after tuition and fees.
- PhD students can normally expect a minimum take-home amount of \$17,000 per year after tuition and fees.

### **Information for your student visa**

If you're accepted, you will require a letter from the Faculty of Graduate Studies confirming your acceptance to obtain a student visa. This letter will be provided to you as part of the acceptance process. We encourage you to apply as soon as possible after accepting your offer of admission.

For your visa application, you will also require Dalhousie University's [Designated Learning Institution](#) number which is issued by the Government of Canada. Dalhousie's number is # O19209939282.

Note: as of January 1, 2026, graduate students will no longer require a Provincial Attestation Letter (PAL) to apply for a study permit.

### **MSc to PhD Transfers**

Students admitted to the MSc program have the opportunity to transfer into the PhD program with the agreement of their supervisory committee. Transfers are generally considered around the 12<sup>th</sup> month of initial registration, and students are expected to prepare a PhD research proposal as part of the process.

### **Additional Information**

For general program information and admission requirements, please visit our department website: [Graduate Program - Department of Microbiology & Immunology](#).