

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Issued: August 2025

ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION

1. What are the admission requirements?

- Master's Programs - Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) with a minimum of 3.7 GPA from a recognized university.
- Doctoral Programs - Appropriate master's degree (or equivalent) with a minimum of 3.7 GPA, from a recognized university. To verify that your university is recognized, go to <http://www.whed.net/home.php>

Further admission requirement details can be found on the Department of Physiology and Biophysics website:

<https://medicine.dal.ca/departments/department-sites/physiology/education/graduate-programs/admission-requirements.html>

All admission decisions are made by the Grad Education Committee on a case-by-case basis and are based on academic performance, letters of reference, and any relevant professional activities. Eligibility cannot be determined until a complete application is submitted.

2. Can I apply to a PhD program directly from a bachelor's degree?

No, but an application may be made to transfer from the MSc to the PhD program between 12 and 18 months after starting your MSc degree with approval from the M.Sc. supervisor, the Ph.D. supervisor (if different), the M.Sc. Supervisory Committee, and the Graduate Education Committee.

3. How can I apply?

- Find a lab and supervisor
- Complete the application form at https://www.dal.ca/faculty/gradstudies/graduate-programs-admissions/admission_requirements/admission_process.html and pay the application fee.
- Gather all necessary documents:
 - Final (or non-official) electronic transcripts sent directly from your institution

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[DAL.CA](https://medicine.dal.ca)

Frequently Asked Questions

- A 1-page letter detailing your previous research experience and current research interests
- Two letters of reference
- A letter of recommendation from your potential supervisor

You can find more details about the application process at the sites below:

Department of Physiology and Biophysics:

<https://medicine.dal.ca/departments/department-sites/physiology/education/graduate-programs/application-process.html>

Faculty of Graduate Studies:

https://www.dal.ca/faculty/gradstudies/graduate-programs-admissions/admission_requirements/admission_process.html

4. I am an international applicant. How do I know if you recognize my degree? What English tests are accepted and when I will need to provide one?

The Faculty of Graduate Studies will accept degrees that can be verified through the World Higher Education Database at:

<http://www.whed.net/home.php>

The acceptable English tests and minimum scores required for each can be found on our website below. You will typically be asked to provide your results with your other admission documents. If you are not able to complete it in time, you may be accepted, but your acceptance will be conditional upon you passing the test:

<https://medicine.dal.ca/departments/department-sites/physiology/education/graduate-programs/admission-requirements.html>

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

5. When do I need to register for my courses?

Important registration dates can be found here:

https://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

FEES AND TUITION

Frequently Asked Questions

6. What are the tuition fees I can expect?

**Note: These fees are based on the Dalhousie's 2025-2026 Fee Schedules and may be subject to change.*



Canadian Students:

Master's Student (1 st Year)	Fall	Winter	Summer	TOTAL
Tuition & Fees	\$4,842.51	\$ 4,181.32	\$4,234.90	\$13,258.73

Master's Student (2 nd Year)	Fall	Winter	Summer	TOTAL
Continuing Fees Only	\$2,154.84	\$ 1,493.65	\$1,547.23	\$5,195.72

- All full-time students are provided with DSU (Dalhousie Student Union) [Health and Dental Plans](#) each September for \$488.86. Students with proof of sufficient, comparable coverage may apply to opt-out at www.dalonline.dal.ca no later than September 16, 2025.



International Students:

Master's Student (1 st Year)	Fall	Winter	Summer	TOTAL
Base Tuition	\$5,588.25	\$ 4,186.32	\$4,239.9	\$14,014.47
International Fees	\$2,640.33	\$ 2,640.33	\$2,640.33	\$7,920.99
				\$21,935.46

Master's Student (2 nd Year)	Fall	Winter	Summer	TOTAL
Continuing Fees	\$ 2,900.58	\$1,498.65	\$1,552.23	\$5,951.46
International Fees	\$ 2,640.33	\$2,640.33	\$2,640.33	\$7,920.99
				\$13,872.45

- International students are automatically provided with a health insurance plan every year for an additional cost of \$926.59 (single coverage) or \$2,331.75 (family coverage). This is charged in the fall term. Students with proof of sufficient, comparable coverage may apply at [International Student VIP website](#) for

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reimbursement no later than September 16, 2025. Proof of coverage is required for each academic year.



Canadian Students:

PhD Student	Fall	Winter	Summer	TOTAL
Tuition & Fees	\$3,546.84	\$2,885.65	\$2,939.23	\$9,371.72

- All full-time students are provided with DSU Health and Dental Plans each September for \$488.86. Students with proof of sufficient, comparable coverage may apply to opt-out at www.dalonline.dal.ca no later than September 16, 2025.



International Students:

PhD Student	Fall	Winter	Summer	TOTAL
Tuition	\$4,292.58	\$2,890.65	\$2,944.23	\$10,127.46

- International students are automatically provided with a health insurance plan every year for a cost of \$926.59 (single coverage) or \$2,331.75 (family coverage). This is charged in the fall term. Students with proof of sufficient, comparable coverage may apply at [International Student VIP website](#) for reimbursement no later than September 16, 2025. Proof of coverage is required for each academic year.

7. How can I fund my education?

Your funding may come from a supervisor's grant, an individual scholarship, or a combination of both. Finding full funding is critical to your acceptance into the program.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies scholarship funding period is up to **two years** for MSc students and up to **four years** for PhD students. This is dependent upon annual written evidence of satisfactory progress, plus the availability of research funding support from the supervisor.

Some of our students have found success with the following:

1) Tri-Agency Scholarships:

Only open to Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada

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- **CGS-M (Canada Graduate Scholarship –Master’s):**
- <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/gradstudies/finance-your-studies/scholarships-bursaries/cgs-m.html>
 - **Application deadline – Dec 2, 2024**
- **CGS-D (Canada Graduate Scholarship –Doctoral)**
- <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/gradstudies/finance-your-studies/scholarships-bursaries/cgs-d.html>
 - **Application deadline – Oct 6, 2025**

2) **Harmonized Scholarships:**

You need only submit one application to be considered for all potential scholarships.

These include (but are not limited to):

- **NS (Nova Scotia) Graduate Scholarship**
- <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/gradstudies/finance-your-studies/scholarships-bursaries/nsgs-masters.html>
 - **Deadline: (Date TBA)**

3) **Scotia Scholars:**

<https://researchns.ca/ssa/>

- **Deadline: Spring (Date TBA)**

4) **Bursaries/ Awards/Travel Grants:**

- **Travel Grants**
- <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/gradstudies/finance-your-studies/scholarships-bursaries/travel-grant.html>
- **Emergency Bursary**
- <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/gradstudies/finance-your-studies/scholarships-bursaries/emergency-bursary.html>
- **John and Lina Graham Commonwealth Bursary**
- <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/gradstudies/finance-your-studies/scholarships-bursaries/graham-commonwealth.html>

8. Can I hold multiple awards?

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Yes, and students are encouraged to do so.

Total scholarship funding from the combination of multiple awards managed through FGS:

- Master's - \$6,666 per term (\$20,000/year)
- Doctoral - \$10,000 per term (\$30,000/year).

However, you are not prevented from receiving more than this through individual scholarships not managed by FGS (Faculty of Graduate Studies). Some examples would include research assistant positions, stipends from supervisors, department awards, and external scholarships not managed by FGS.

9. What are the minimum amounts currently covered by the supervisors?

- The full funding period is up to **two years** for MSc students and up to **four years** for PhD students.

This is dependent upon annual written evidence of satisfactory progress, plus the availability of research funding support from the supervisor.

- MSc minimum - \$17,500/yr. (up to 2 years)
- PhD minimum - \$21,500/yr. (up to 4 years)

Minimum Take-Home Pay:

As of **September 1, 2025**, the following minimum take-home pay (after tuition and fees) is guaranteed:

PhD students: \$17,000 per year

Starting **September 1, 2026**, a minimum take-home pay of **\$16,000 per year** will also apply to **MSc students**.

These values are frequently assessed and may vary from year to year.

10. Can I fund myself?

Our departmental policy is that we do not accept self-funded students.