Graduate Studies in Immunology

Contact

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M5S 1A8

Program & Admissions Information

Applied MSc program:
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Fundamental PhD program:
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http://www.immunology.utoronto.ca

What is Immunology?

Immunology is an integrative branch of the medical sciences that draws upon the more traditional disciplines of Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Pathology, and Biochemistry.

In essence, Immunology is the study of the physiological responses that result when foreign (i.e. non-self) materials are introduced into a vertebrate organism such as human. Traditionally, the discipline has focused on the body's response to infectious micro-organisms, with the purpose of developing effective vaccines. However, the scope of modern Immunology now encompasses all aspects of self vs. non-self-recognition phenomena including organ transplantation, tumour immunology and autoimmune diseases.

Recent major advances in our understanding of the cellular and molecular basis of the immune response promise to provide us with a new generation of prophylactic, therapeutic and diagnostic reagents of relevance to human and animal health.

The Department:

The Department presently has approximately 70 Graduate Faculty members; student enrolment is usually between 20-30 students per year across both of our academic streams.

Labs can be found throughout the city, such as in the Medical Sciences Building on the main campus, as well as nearby institutes and hospitals such as the Hospital for Sick Children, the University Health Network, and Sunnybrook Research Institute.

Through the Immunology Graduate Students’ Association (IGSA), students in the Department take part in many activities and events outside of the lab.

These include our annual summer picnic and winter holiday party, and regular social events scheduled at venues throughout Toronto, such as pub nights, games nights, trip to Canada’s Wonderland, and more.
**Programs**

**MSc in Applied Immunology**

- **non-thesis based** – training in designing, implementing and evaluating Immunological techniques through specified course work and a major research project in a host laboratory. Students complete oral and written presentations as they progress to summarize their findings and discoveries.

- **diverse course selection** – candidates in the program choose from a wide array of graduate courses, from ours and other departments, which fit their interests.

- **fixed length** – students can complete their degree within two-years or less.

- **stipend** – students receive a guaranteed summer term stipend.

- At this time, we are unable to accept applications from International students for this program.

**Stipend**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applied Immunology MSc</th>
<th>one time $5,000*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* additional financial aid may be available for tuition payment</td>
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**Average Time to Completion**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MSc</th>
<th>MSc w/Advanced Standing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>1.3 years</td>
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**PhD in Fundamental Immunology**

- **thesis based** – an advanced research degree intended to reflect a level of training consistent with the ability of the candidate to function as an independent research scientist.

  - Involves successful completion of course work reflecting a knowledge of modern Immunology, as well as a demonstrated ability to carry out research of publishable quality. Each candidate must submit a satisfactory thesis based on his/her original research, and successfully defend it in a final oral examination.

- **rotations** – spend time in three different labs before choosing a supervisor in order to find the best fit for you.

- **stipend** – guaranteed for the duration of your program.

**Stipend**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PhD years 1 &amp; 2</th>
<th>$18,635 + tuition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PhD year 3+</td>
<td>$20,706 + incidental fees</td>
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**Average Time to Completion**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PhD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6.5 years</td>
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**Apply to Immunology**

[http://www.uoft.me/applytoimmunology](http://www.uoft.me/applytoimmunology)