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Graduate Programs in Medical Physics

Physics continues to make critically important contributions to the health field — contributions that save lives. Medical physicists improve the understanding, diagnosis and treatment of disease using the tools of physics. More information about medical physics and its profile in Canada is available at: comp-ocpm.ca.

Carleton’s Department of Physics offers two outstanding programs in the area of medical physics — a Master of Science (MSc) and a PhD. In both programs, there are three areas of specialization: imaging, cancer therapy and medical biophysics. Our programs are linked with the University of Ottawa through the Ottawa-Carleton Institute for Physics (OCIF) which allows both universities to offer a broad spectrum of complementary programs.

Our PhD program in medical physics is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Educational Programs campep.org. We are a research-intensive department and our doctorate involves a substantial research project which builds on the courses taken. We also offer a combined specialization in Data Science at the Master’s level.

Research Opportunities
Medical physics research on the Carleton campus includes Monte Carlo computer simulations for radiotherapy dosimetry and treatment planning system development, X-ray imaging, Raman spectroscopic imaging for biomedicine, motion compensation for both imaging and therapy. Off campus there is active research in cancer radiation therapy treatment delivery, verification, and dosimetry; in MRI, PET, and SPECT, and radiation imaging applications to security; and in radiation biology and environmental health physics. All of this activity is networked through the Ottawa Medical Physics Institute (OMPI), a city-wide Carleton University research network (physics.carleton.ca/ompi).

Capital Advantage
Carleton University’s location in the nation’s capital places you in the highest concentration of scientific and technical expertise in the country, providing unparalleled access to both personnel and resource material. Our faculty and students work closely with physicists at centres such as The Ottawa Hospital Dept of Medical Imaging, The Ottawa Hospital Cancer Centre, Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre, The National Research Council Canada, the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and Health Canada.

Admission Requirements

**For the MSc Program**: An Honour’s BSc in Physics or a closely related field with at least an Honours standing is normally required for admission to the MSc program. In some cases, students holding an MSc in a discipline of physics outside of medical physics will be considered.

Application & Deadlines

For admission into Carleton’s graduate programs, you will need to demonstrate that your knowledge and use of English are strong enough for graduate studies at an English-language university. For a listing of our minimum English-language requirements, please visit our website at: graduate.carleton.ca/international.

Financial Assistance
Generous funding is available in the form of teaching/research assistantships and scholar-ships based on academic excellence. For additional information on graduate student funding, visit: physics.carleton.ca/graduate/funding-and-awards.

**I was drawn to Carleton's physics program because of its distinguished medical physics faculty who research on radiation therapy of cancer. Within the department, there is a great sense of community and a great deal of collaboration, idea-sharing and support.**

- Elsayed Ali, PhD/G12 (physics)