



Short-Term Enrolment Projections 2024-2027

March 2024

For approval by SCADP on March 25, 2024, then University Senate on April 18, 2024

This report contains enrolment targets for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 and enrolment projections for 2026-2027, which have been developed by the Strategic Enrolment Management Group (SEMG). More specifically, this report includes:

- **Revisions to 2024-2025 targets:** 2024-2025 targets were previously approved by Senate in April 2023, and the modifications are now submitted for April 2024 Senate approval;
- **Revisions to 2025-2026 targets:** initial 2025-2026 targets were provided for information to Senate in April 2023 as enrolment projections, and the revised targets are now submitted for April 2024 Senate approval; and
- **Enrolment projections for 2026-2027:** submitted to Senate for information.

The Development of Enrolment Targets

The SEMG includes the Provost, Vice-Provosts, Deans, a faculty member, and representatives from the Office of the University Registrar, Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment, and the Office of Planning and Budgeting. This group considers enrolment targets and projections annually for the following three years. Each spring, Senate reviews:

- Any revisions to previously approved targets for the upcoming year that are resubmitted for approval;
- Any revisions to previously submitted (for information) targets for the first of the two following years that are resubmitted for approval; and
- The projections for the second of the two following years submitted for information.

This practice of submitting overlapping enrolment targets enables annual budget planning, which begins 12 months prior to the year of the budget that is being planned.

The enrolment targets are developed as follows:

- Meetings are held with each Dean to review enrolment priorities, applicant demand, program capacity and any other issues affecting enrolment;
- The SEMG reviews data on Queen's applications, province-wide applications, sector trends, provincial and federal policy issues and initiatives, and annual faculty and school enrolment plans;

- Preliminary targets for the upcoming three years are presented to SEMG and assessed against the data, and university priorities and goals;
- SEMG recommends rolling three-year enrolment targets and projections to SCADP. The first two years' projections are presented as targets for approval, and the third year's projections are presented for information;
- SCADP reviews and recommends the two upcoming years' enrolment targets to Senate for approval and provides the third year's projections for information.

Undergraduate Enrolment Context

Applications to Queen's for 2024-25 remain strong, with over 58,000 applications to undergraduate programs. This is the largest number of applications ever received. This continues a pattern of stable growth in applications over the past five years.

The Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) reports that first-year direct-entry applications to Ontario universities for 2024-2025 have increased by 2% year-over-year as of March 6, 2024, while applications to Queen's have increased by 5% year-over-year. Over the last five years the OUAC reports a 13% increase in applications, while Queen's has experienced a 24% increase over that same time.

Applications to Queen's from international fee-paying students have decreased by 15% this year, driven by a decrease in applications from India. This is consistent with a trend across the broader Ontario post-education/university sector, where applications from international fee-paying applicants are down 10%. More information on international enrolment is provided in the international student enrolment section of this report.

Graduate Enrolment Context

Graduate enrolment, saw a significant 29% increase from 2017-18 to 2021-22, we are beginning to observe a shift, but between 2021-22 and 2023-24, there has been a modest, yet noticeable 5% decrease in graduate enrolment. This decline is not entirely unexpected, given the exceptional admissions year of 2021-22, it is nonetheless a noteworthy trend to observe.

As of March 4, 2024, however the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs had received a record breaking 10,616 applications for all SGSPA programs for 2023-24, representing a significant 7% increase from the previous year. Notably, this growth encompasses an 8% rise in domestic applications and a 4% increase in international student applications.

We are in the initial phase of the graduate admissions cycle for the 2024-25 academic year. Preliminary observations indicate a notable uptick in domestic applications for programs administered by the SGSPA compared to the same period in the preceding year. However, international applications show a decline year-over-year at this early stage of the admissions cycle, apart from applications to graduate diploma programs (mainly due to an increase in

international applications received for the Graduate Diploma in Immigration and Citizenship Law program). These international trends are indicative of the progressively intricate global landscape, impacted by the recent announcement by IRCC regarding student visa caps.

International Student Enrolment

The university remains committed to increasing the number, proportion, and diversity of international students on campus. International students currently comprise 12% of the full-time student population.

Queen's has embedded undergraduate recruitment staff in China, India, Viet Nam, and has recently added a resource in the UAE to support growth. In addition, Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment works with a select group of education agents to guide applicants throughout the application process. The university supports all students through the transition to their academic careers at Queen's and provides robust international student support through the Queen's University International Centre (QUIC). Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment, in partnership with the QUIC, is leading efforts, in collaboration with the faculties and schools, to support incoming international students with enhanced transition support and outreach activities that contribute to an improved student life and learning experience. The first- to second-year undergraduate retention rate among international students in 2023 was 86.3%.

The international portfolio is experiencing significant volatility due to geopolitical tensions and government policy changes, most notably the IRCC student visa caps. To ensure we remain competitive and able to continue to attract and retain international students, we completed an in-depth external review with broad consultations across campus. Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment is now implementing the recommendations of that review.

At the time of preparation of this report, the university had still not received its allocation pursuant to the new visa caps.

Prioritizing Indigenization, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Anti-Racism and Accessibility (I-EDIAA)

Queen's Access and Inclusion team in Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment expanded their connections with students, families, and community agencies in underserved communities to provide information on programs and options for financing a Queen's education. Key to supporting this increased outreach is our Equity Ambassador program – trained upper-year students who develop and deliver workshops and webinars in schools and communities, as well as connect with youth through social media and one-on-one meetings, sharing their perspectives and experiences at Queen's. This year we expanded community partnerships to the Ottawa region and increased our suite of workshop offerings by more than 50%.

Introduced for the 2023-24 academic year, 108 first-year students are receiving the Major Access Awards, providing recipients with a total of \$5.28M over four years of study. These awards enable students with the highest financial need to accept their offer of admission to Queen's, when they may not have been able to due to personal, geographic, or socio-economic circumstances.

Additionally, Financial Aid and Awards rebranded the bursary application to an awards profile, and in conjunction with enhanced marketing support from Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment, has led to a 111% increase in need-based applications for fall 2024.

Indigenous Student Enrolment

The university continues to enhance targeted and sustained recruitment and outreach strategies to maintain the growth of self-identified Indigenous learners at Queen's at the undergraduate and graduate levels. In September 2021, an [Indigenous Students Verification Policy](#) was approved to ensure that resources, access and services, that are restricted based on Indigenous identity, are allocated to students with verified Indigenous identity. This work is undertaken in collaboration with the Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre.

Longstanding outreach and recruitment activities to increase Indigenous student enrolment continued with the hiring of a dedicated Indigenous Recruitment Coordinator in Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment. In partnership with dedicated staff at the Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre, along with current Indigenous students, they connect with prospective applicants and families, promote Queen's Indigenous Admission Pathway, and provide support throughout the admission process.

The introduction of Indigenous Community-Based Research Funds (ICRF) and the launching of the Indigenous Graduate Pathways Program, which is designed to encourage Indigenous students from other Ontario Universities to experience Queen's graduate programs through access to online courses has enhanced the accessibility of Indigenous students. Implementing the Indigenous Admissions policy, with its focus on recruiting Indigenous students, combined with the introduction of the Teyonkwayenawá:kon – Graduate Scholarship, has increased the representation of Indigenous applicants.

First-Generation Student Enrolment

The university is committed to increasing the number of self-identified first-generation students who would be the first in their families to attend college or university.

Undergraduate Admission and Recruitment's Access and Inclusion team works in communities and in schools to assist students applying through Queen's First-Generation Admission Pathway. Initiatives to reduce financial barriers among first-generation students include the Promise Scholars program, which is currently providing dedicated financial, academic, and career supports to 16 local, first-generation students.

Enrolment Tables

Two tables are included in this report:

- Table 1: Student Enrolment Intake; and
- Table 2: Enrolment Summary (Total Enrolment).

Table 1: Student Enrolment Intake

University-Wide Intake:

For 2024-2025 and beyond, the total **first-year direct-entry** target has increased from the target previously approved by Senate, from 5,034 to 5,074. This increase is to respond to applicant demand and program capacity in Commerce, Engineering, and Health Sciences. The growth in these programs has been facilitated, in 2024-25, by a reallocation of the Bader College intake target, as well as some targets in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

For 2024-2025, the planned **first-year second-entry** target is 601, an increase of 50 students from what was previously approved. For 2025-2026, the planned **first-year second-entry** target increases to 616 students, an increase of 55 over the previously approved target of 561. The projection for 2026-2027 then increases to by 5 to 621 students.

The projected intake of graduate students for 2024-2025 will to decline by 43 students. The revised intake target is set at 3,431, a reduction from the Senate-approved target of 3,474. Nonetheless, we anticipate an upturn in projected graduate intake for the subsequent academic year, with an increase to 3,450 in 2025-2026, followed by a modest increase to 3,465 in 2026-2027.

These adjustments to the graduate intake targets reflect evolving Faculty/Institutional priorities, influenced by various recruitment challenges such as demographic shifts, a strong job market, the rising cost of living in Kingston, the comparative strength of our funding packages, and the progressively intricate global landscape. The subsequent projected increase in the intake target for the following years is indicative of the institution's anticipated capacity and aspirations for graduate education. These projections align closely with the goals outlined in the Capital Improvement Plan, reflecting the projected growth in graduate enrolment.

Undergraduate Intake by Faculty and Program:

Table 1 shows first-year and upper-year intake by faculty, school, and program. A summary for each faculty/school is set out below.

Arts and Science:

The total intake target for 2024-2025 and beyond decreases from 3,141 to 3,050, as some spaces have been reallocated to other programs based on exceptional demand and capacity.

For 2024-25 and beyond, the upper-year Arts and Science transfer student target remains unchanged at 118 students.

Bader College:

Academic programing at Bader College was suspended for the winter academic term due to a number of structural issues at Herstmonceux Castle requiring immediate attention. Enrolment intake is currently projected to resume for 2025-26. The Bader College intake for 2024-25 (155 spaces) has been redistributed to the Bachelor of Health Sciences and Commerce programs. The increased intake for those two programs remains in the projections below for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 academic years.

Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science:

For 2024-2025 and beyond, the first-year intake target increases from 850 to 915 students, and the upper-year target intake remains at 90.

Smith School of Business

For 2024-2025 and beyond, the planned first-year intake target for the Commerce program increases from 500 to 580 students, and the upper-year target remains at 5.

Faculty of Health Sciences:

Planned intake to the on-campus Bachelor of Health Sciences program in 2024-2025 and beyond increases from 229 to 360. The intake targets for the online Bachelor of Health Sciences program for 2024-2025 and beyond remain at 35.

The planned intake to the Nursing program remains unchanged at 124 for 2024-2025 and beyond. The intake targets previously approved for the Nursing-Advanced Standing program for 2024-2025 and beyond have decreased from 64 to 48 based on available funding from the Province.

The School of Medicine's first-year intake increases from 128 to 140 students for 2024-2025 and beyond.

The 2024-2025 intake target for Post-Graduate Medicine increases from 207 students to 245 students, and from 217 to 260 in 2025-2026. The intake target then increases to 265 for 2026-2027.

Faculty of Law:

The intake target for Law remains at 216 for 2024-2025 and beyond.

Faculty of Education:

The faculty adjusts the intake targets for the Consecutive Education programs to maintain a balance with the students progressing from the Concurrent Education program. The target intake for 2024-2025 has been increased to 714 students; it decreases to 488 in 2025-2026 and increases for 2026-27 to 531.

Graduate Intake:

As highlighted in Table 1, the revised enrolment targets for master's and doctoral programs reflect modifications in planned enrolment intakes for 2024-2025. Following a careful review of the faculty enrolment targets for master's programs, Queen's institutional target has been reduced from the previously anticipated enrolment of 2,461 to 2,238. The enrolment target for doctoral students has been similarly reduced from 419 to 357.

The revised target for graduate diplomas, currently at 836, has been increased from its original target of 594. This modification is primarily a function of an increase in projected intakes for the Graduate Diploma in Immigration and Citizenship Law (GDICL) program in the Faculty of Law, offset by a slight decrease in projected intakes for both Smith's GBUS (Business Administration) diploma program and the Faculty of Education's Graduate Diploma in Education (GDE).

Table 2: Enrolment Summary

Table 2 shows total enrolment by faculty, school, and program, and includes all enrolment data that inform faculty budgets. Also included is a full-time-equivalent column to reflect the various course loads and weighting per student and the associated budget implications for each faculty and school. This table demonstrates the university's strong undergraduate and graduate retention rates — continually among the highest in the country — and tracks the flow-through of any enrolment changes included in Table 1.

The SEMG has worked collaboratively to enhance enrolment planning information for SCADP and Senate. Feedback is welcome as the SEMG continues to improve enrolment-related data reporting.

The results of these plans and strategies are detailed in the annual Enrolment Report, which will be submitted to Senate in January 2025.

Table 1: Student Fall Enrolment Intake

Enrolment Report to the Senate Committee on Academic Development											February 2024	
Table 1: Student Fall Enrolment Intake											Queen's University Office of Planning and Budgeting	
Program	2023 Actual		2024 Prev Planned		2024 Planned		2025 Prev Planned		2025 Updated Plan		2026 Planned	
	First Year	Upper Year	First Year	Upper Year	First Year	Upper Year	First Year	Upper Year	First Year	Upper Year	First Year	Upper Year
Undergraduate (Full-Time)												
Arts & Science												
BA/BAH	1,392	13	1,330	65	1,274	65	1,330	65	1,274	65	1,274	65
BSC/BSCH	965	5	931	35	931	35	931	35	936	35	936	35
BFAH	0	0	10	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
BMUS	4	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0	15	0
BCMP/BCMPH	306	0	325	5	350	5	325	5	350	5	350	5
BSCH KINE	190	0	165	0	180	0	165	0	175	0	175	0
BMT	0	14	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	13
Con-Ed Arts/Science/Music/KINE	298	0	300	0	300	0	300	0	300	0	300	0
Distance Studies (BA1)	55	5	65	0	0	0	65	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Degree/Certificate Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Arts & Science	3,210	37	3,141	118	3,050	118	3,141	118	3,050	118	3,050	118
Commerce												
	482	0	500	5	580	5	500	5	580	5	580	5
Engineering												
	861	4	850	90	915	90	850	90	915	90	915	90
Bachelor Health Science - Distance	28	3	35	0	35	0	35	0	35	0	35	0
Bachelor Health Science - On Campus	252	0	229	0	370	0	229	0	370	0	370	0
Nursing	148	0	124	0	124	0	124	0	124	0	124	0
Bader College*	171	12	155	30	0	0	155	30	155	30	155	30
Subtotal Direct Entry	5,152	56	5,034	243	5,074	213	5,034	243	5,229	243	5,229	243
Education (Yr 5 & Consec)												
		576		575		714		542		528		571
Law	218	8	216	4	216	4	216	4	216	4	216	4
Medicine	139	0	128	0	140	0	128	0	140	0	140	0
Post-Graduate Medicine	213	0	207	0	245	0	217	0	260	0	265	0
Nursing-Advanced Standing		52		64		48		64		48		48
Subtotal Second Entry	570	636	551	643	601	766	561	610	616	580	621	623
Subtotal Undergraduate (Fac/School)	5,722	692	5,585	886	5,675	979	5,595	853	5,845	823	5,850	866
Graduate (Full-Time)												
School of Grad Studies												
Research Masters	654		806		696		813		709		710	
Professional Masters	394		548		485		546		486		490	
Doctoral	323		419		357		423		351		349	
Diploma	600		494		766		494		767		769	
Subtotal SGS	1,971		2,267		2,304		2,276		2,313		2,318	
Smith School of Business												
Masters	930		1,107		1,057		1,107		1,067		1,077	
Diploma	92		100		70		100		70		70	
Subtotal Smith	1,022		1,207		1,127		1,207		1,137		1,147	
Subtotal Graduate	2,993		3,474		3,431		3,483		3,450		3,465	
Budgeted Total Enrolment	8,715	692	9,059	886	9,106	979	9,078	853	9,295	823	9,315	866

*Bader College actuals in 2023 represent student intake in the Fall term

Table 2: Enrolment Summary

Enrolment Report to the Senate Committee on Academic Development						February 2024			
Table 2: Enrolment Summary						Queen's University Office of Planning and Budgeting			
Program	Fall Full-Time Enrolment				Annualized FFTE				
	Actual	Planned			Actual	Planned			
	Fall 2023	Fall 2024	Fall 2025	Fall 2026	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	
Undergraduate									
Arts & Science									
BA/BAH	5,968	5,748	5,587	5,545	5,914	5,572	5,427	5,386	
BSC/BSCH	3,821	3,839	3,825	3,767	3,814	3,819	3,808	3,747	
BFAH*	53	44	33	30	58	50	39	35	
BMUS	51	58	60	66	58	61	63	68	
BCMP/BCMPH	1,203	1,243	1,266	1,268	1,218	1,246	1,264	1,267	
BSCH KINE	719	689	666	667	706	688	668	668	
BMT	29	21	23	22	32	20	21	20	
Con-Ed Arts/Science/Music/KINE	901	876	848	849	898	869	861	854	
Distance Studies (BA1)	326	236	208	194	446	385	364	352	
Non-Degree/Certificate Programs	51	58	59	60	200	203	203	204	
Subtotal Arts & Science	13,122	12,812	12,575	12,468	13,344	12,912	12,718	12,601	
Commerce	2,072	2,093	2,142	2,199	2,111	2,092	2,138	2,190	
Engineering	3,532	3,565	3,653	3,691	3,730	3,705	3,789	3,824	
Bachelor Health Science - Distance	255	231	223	223	356	334	326	326	
Bachelor Health Science - On Campus	1,088	1,212	1,150	1,257	1,140	1,124	1,062	1,154	
Nursing	534	513	495	489	551	514	497	492	
Bader College	183	0	155	155	130	0	239	239	
Subtotal Direct Entry	20,786	20,426	20,393	20,482	21,362	20,681	20,769	20,826	
Education (Yr 5 & Consec)	620	812	684	669	1,163	1,272	1,184	1,104	
Law	634	637	644	641	679	689	682	679	
Medicine	466	498	520	551	466	498	520	551	
Post-Graduate Medicine	571	596	611	614	621	596	611	614	
Nursing-Advanced Standing	100	94	90	90	142	137	133	133	
Subtotal Second Entry	2,391	2,637	2,549	2,565	3,071	3,192	3,130	3,081	
Subtotal Undergraduate (Fac/School)	23,177	23,063	22,942	23,047	24,433	23,873	23,899	23,907	
Graduate (Full-time)									
School of Grad Studies									
Research Masters	1,215	1,378	1,401	1,412	1,163	1,325	1,360	1,373	
Professional Masters	626	710	738	734	866	934	965	998	
Doctoral	1,583	1,625	1,663	1,725	1,577	1,625	1,675	1,744	
Diploma	585	732	837	837	559	757	848	849	
Subtotal SGS	4,009	4,445	4,639	4,708	4,165	4,641	4,848	4,964	
Smith School of Business									
Masters	1,035	1,177	1,181	1,193	1,035	1,177	1,181	1,193	
Diploma	92	70	70	70	57	35	35	35	
Subtotal Smith	1,127	1,247	1,251	1,263	1,092	1,212	1,216	1,228	
Subtotal Graduate	5,136	5,692	5,890	5,971	5,257	5,853	6,064	6,192	
Budgeted Total Enrolment	28,313	28,755	28,832	29,018	29,690	29,726	29,963	30,099	

*Intake seats to be redistributed internally within Arts & Science and Education when admission to the Bachelor of Fine Art (Visual Art) and the Concurrent Education/Bachelor of Fine Art (Visual Art) program is temporarily suspended.