

Senior Year: Now What???

Jamie Guo Feng Lau
The Academic Advising Center



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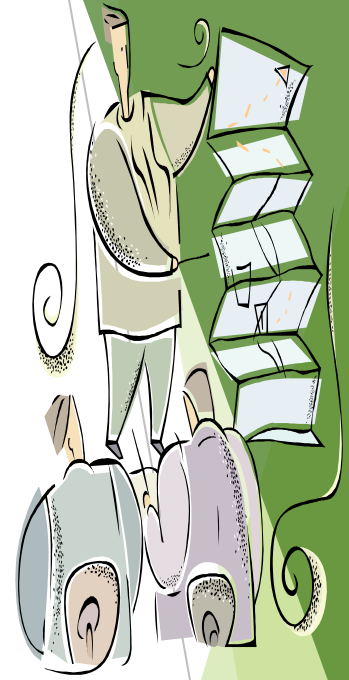
Make An Appointment

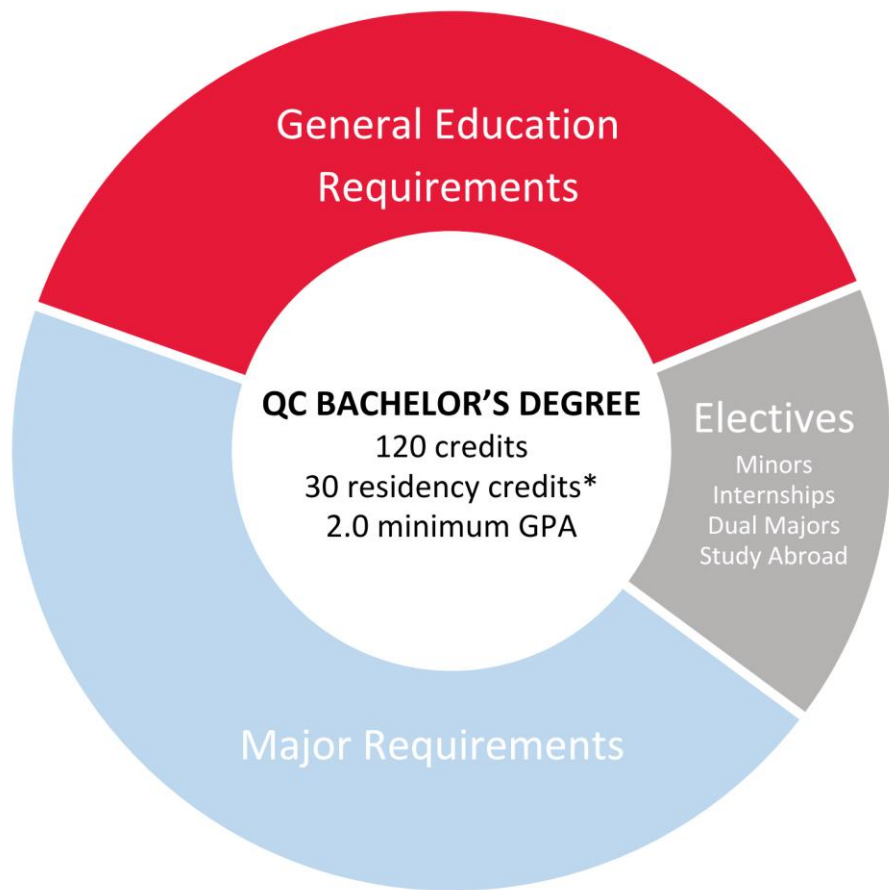


Congratulations, Welcome to Senior Year!

It's important in your last year to review and think about:

- ✓ Important dates, deadlines, and procedures for graduation
- ✓ Career Resources
- ✓ Graduate / professional schools





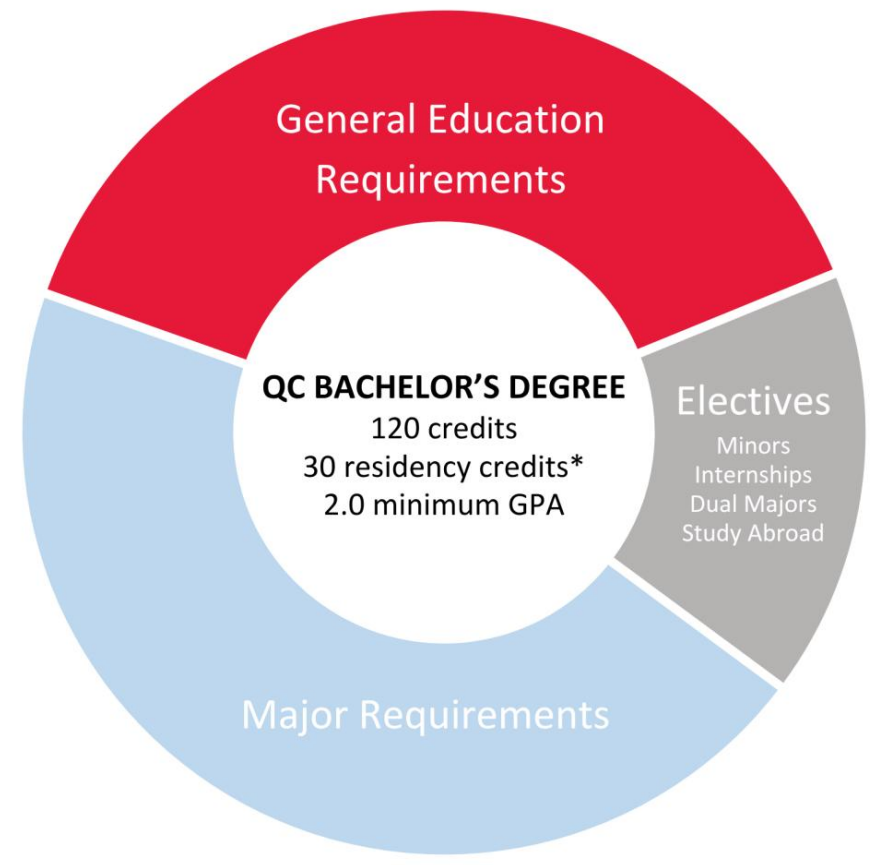
SECTION 1

Queens College Degree Requirements

QC Bachelor's Degree

Have you completed the following:

- ▶ Minimum of 120 credits (Transfer students must complete minimum of 30 credits in residency)
- ▶ All your Pathways General Education Requirements
- ▶ One major
- ▶ Minimum 2.0 Grade Point Average



For more information on degree requirements, visit our [website](#).

Double check your degree requirements

DegreeWorks :
Your
academic
planning tool
via your
CUNY Portal
Account

Format
Student View

Degree progress



Requirements Credits

Cumulative GPA
3.342

PROCESS NEW

Audit date 10/14/2025 4:59 PM

Degree: Bachelor of Fine Arts IN-PROGRESS

Credits required: 120 Credits applied: 197 Year: 2020-2021 Undergrad Cumulative GPA: 3.342

- ✔ 120 credits are required for your degree
- ✔ A minimum of 30 credits must be taken in residence
- ✔ GPA Requirement Met
- ✔ PATHWAYS - General Education Requirements
- ✔ Writing-Intensive Requirements
- 🕒 A Completed Major is Required

Meet with your advisor(s)



Meet with an Academic Advisor

- ▶ To review general education requirements
- ▶ Schedule an appointment via the [Navigate App](#)

Meet with your major / minor advisor(s)

- ▶ To review major(s) / minor(s) requirements
- ▶ Please check department websites for office hours

Section 2

Important dates, deadlines, and procedures for graduation



Applying for Graduation

STUDENTS MUST FILE FOR GRADUATION ONLINE VIA CUNYfirst!

- ▶ March 1 (Last day to file for Spring 2026 graduation)
- ▶ July 1 (Last day to file for Summer 2026 graduation)
 - ▶ April 1 (*For students graduating by the end of summer and wishing to participate in commencement ceremony.)
- ▶ November 1 (Last day to file for Fall 2026 graduation)
- ▶ January 1 (Last day to file for Winter 2027 graduation)
 - ▶ *Winter graduates must file a paper application with the QC Hub.*

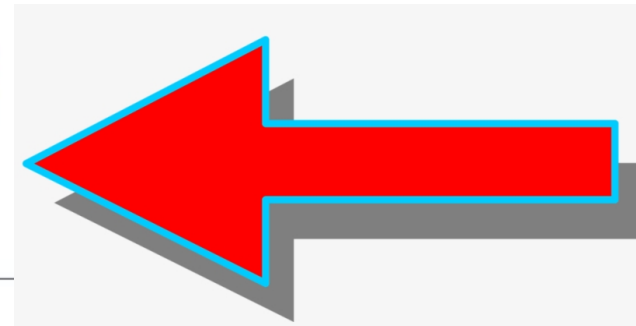
Graduation Application

For step-by-step instructions on how to submit your application, visit our [website](#).

The screenshot shows a navigation menu with four tabs: Search, Plan, Enroll, and My Academics. Below the menu is a search bar labeled "go to ...". The main content area is titled "Apply for Graduation" and "Submit an Application for Graduation". It contains a paragraph of text: "Click on the Apply for Graduation link to proceed with your application. If the link is not visible you may not be eligible for graduation at this time. Please see your Academic Advisor for more information." Below this text is a table with the following content:

Program: Undergraduate	
Queens College Undergraduate	
Degree: Bachelor of Arts Major: Psychology BA Minor: Urban Studies Minor	Apply for Graduation

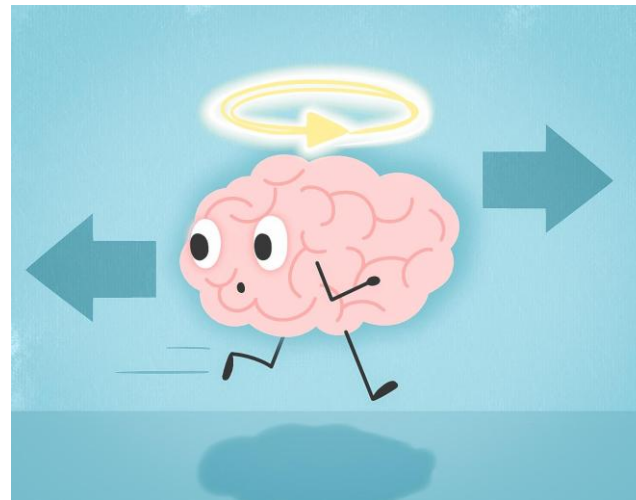
At the bottom of the screenshot, there is another navigation menu with tabs for Search, Plan, Enroll, and My Academics, and a search bar labeled "go to ...".



Before submitting your application, double check your information!

Change of Graduation Information

- ▶ Once you file for graduation, you are prevented from registering for future semesters.
- ▶ If you wish to change your graduation date, you must fill out the [Change of Graduation Information Form](#).



The Degree Audit Process

- ▶ Step 1: You initiate the process by [filing](#) for graduation online via your [CUNYfirst](#) account on or before the [deadline](#). (System will reflect “*Applied*”)
- ▶ Step 2: Your student record will be reviewed for completion of the college’s general education requirements, pending the completion of the current semester’s coursework. (System will reflect “*Program in Review*”)
- ▶ Step 3: Your student record will then be reviewed for major/minor specific requirements. **Once the initial degree audit has been conducted, students will be notified via their Qmail email account only if there is a problem.** (System will reflect “*Pending Work*”)
- ▶ Step 4: After grades have been posted to your account and the college’s grading process is complete, a final review of your application will be completed. **Only students who have met all requirements for graduation will be conferred.** For a list of conferral dates and processing times, please visit the [Registrar’s Website](#). (System will reflect “*Degree Awarded*”)

For more information regarding the degree audit process, please visit the [Office of the Registrar](#).

Commencement Ceremony



SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, May 28, 2026

***Make sure to RSVP for yourself and guests.**

For information regarding departmental events, graduation photos, class rings, yearbook, etc., visit the Queens College commencement website:

www.qc.cuny.edu/ce

Contact Information:

Location: Kiely Hall 413

Phone: 718-997-3600

E-mail: Commencement@qc.cuny.edu

Section 3

Services offered by the Center for Career Engagement and Internships



Applying for Jobs

Visit the Center for Career Engagement and Internships

- ❑ Have your resume/CV/portfolio reviewed
- ❑ Attend workshops and events on Interviewing Skills and Job Search
- ❑ Sign up for CCEI Jobs Database ([Handshake](#))
- ❑ Take the [Focus 2 Career Test](#) (it only takes 20 minutes!) and explore [career maps](#)
- ❑ Plan to meet with a Career Educator to discuss career options

To learn more about the CCEI services, visit the [Center's website](#).



Sample Job Websites and Resources

Office of Career Development and Internships: <https://www.qc.cuny.edu/academics/cei/>

Handshake: <https://qc.joinhandshake.com/login>

Occupational Outlook Handbook: www.bls.gov/ooh/

Wayup: www.wayup.com

idealist: www.idealists.org/en

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com

Vault: <https://cunyqc.vault.com/>



For additional resources, visit [CCEI](#).

Section 4

Applying to graduate / professional schools



Applying to Graduate School

Start your research with the below search engines:

- Gradschool.com
- Peterson's
- The Princeton Review

Find out what CUNY has to offer

- Cuny.edu/grad

(Attend CUNY Grad Week: cuny.edu/grad-week/)

Check out Queens College programs

- www.qc.cuny.edu/ga/graduate-programs/

Speak with Professors / Career Counselors / Advisors

Breakdown of Application

Most graduate / professional school applications will want the following:

- ✓ Transcript(s): Most programs are looking for a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0
- ✓ Resume
- ✓ Admission test scores
- ✓ Statement of purpose
- ✓ Letters of recommendation (usually 3)



Not there yet?

What if you don't meet all the admissions criteria?

Consider the following:

- Speak with an admissions counselor at the graduate school
- Take a course as a non-matriculated student
- Complete a second BA
- Look into volunteer opportunities
- Complete pre-requisites at the undergraduate level
- Retake courses for a better grade
- Get work experience





Most Common Graduate Admissions Tests

- [Graduate Record Examination \(GRE\)](#) - Tests verbal, quantitative, and analytical abilities. Test is given year-round. (www.ets.org/gre)
- [Graduate Record Examination \(GRE Subject Tests\)](#) - The GRE subject tests assesses your knowledge of a specific area of study. (www.ets.org/gre)
- [Graduate Management Admission Test \(GMAT\)](#) - Measures verbal, quantitative, and analytical reasoning. This exam is tailored to the needs of business schools. (www.mba.com)
- [Law School Admission Test \(LSAT\)](#) - Examines reading, writing, and logical reasoning. This exam is taken by prospective law students. (www.lsac.org)
- [Medical College Admissions Test \(MCAT\)](#) - Evaluates fluency in the sciences. This exam is taken by prospective medical students. (www.aamc.org)



FREE Practice Exam

Want to know where you stand?

Schedule a FREE Practice Test and Sign up for FREE workshops!

www.princetonreview.com

Select "Graduate" tab, Choose your exam, Select "Free Tests and Events"

www.kaptest.com

Enter test name, Under "More", Select "Free Practice" or "Free Events"

Statement of Purpose

Your statement of purpose (aka personal statement) will tell admissions counselors who you are!

- ✓ Make sure you answer the question(s)
 - ✓ Be honest
- ✓ Proofread, Proofread, Proofread
 - ✓ Read it forward for flow and check grammar
 - ✓ Read it backwards (word by word) for spelling
- ✓ Have someone review it
 - ✓ Get feedback from a professor, career counselor, or advisor



References

Most graduate / professional programs require 3 letters of recommendation:

- ▶ Identify faculty members, administrators, or employers with whom you have become acquainted through classes, extracurricular activities, or jobs.
- ▶ Provide recommenders with a copy of your personal statement and resume.
- ▶ Give recommenders an appropriate amount of time and materials with clear instructions.

Skills and characteristics graduate / professional schools are interested in include:

- ▶ quality of academic work
- ▶ intellectual curiosity/future intellectual promise
- ▶ integrity/honesty
- ▶ social skills
- ▶ maturity
- ▶ communication skills - written and oral



Questions???

Contact Ms. Jamie Guo Feng Lau

Assistant Director of Junior/Senior and Transitioning Services

Email: jlau@qc.cuny.edu

<https://www.qc.cuny.edu/aac/senior-corner/>

Make An Appointment



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