



# Master of Science in Clinical Research

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Harvard Medical School's Master of Science in Clinical Research (SMCR) is a one-year residential program designed for applicants who have completed a medical degree and aspire to become leaders in evidence-based medicine. As clinical research rapidly advances due to breakthroughs in gene therapy, genetics, and the growing influence of artificial intelligence, this program equips students with the tools needed to translate scientific findings into clinical practice.

Students will develop a strong foundation in epidemiology, biostatistics, and decision sciences while also exploring cutting-edge areas like applied omics and AI-driven innovation. The curriculum includes a capstone project focusing on systematic reviews or meta-analyses, allowing students to apply their learning to real-world challenges. Designed for early career medical professionals, including fellows, junior faculty, and clinicians, this program is full-time and part-time on the HMS campus, providing a unique opportunity to gain specialized expertise while advancing their careers.

## Virtual Information Sessions:

Register for an information session to hear from one of our program directors, learn more about the program, and have your questions answered in a Q&A. Information sessions are held over Zoom and typically last 30 minutes in duration. You can register by clicking on the corresponding link:

[Master of Science in Clinical Research](#)



Register for an information session!

## Admissions Timeline

Application Opens:

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

Early Application Deadline\*:

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Regular Application Deadline:

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Program Begins:

July 2025 (in-person)

**Note: Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and the timing of the decision depends on the volume of applications received.**

**\*Applications for international students, including those studying in the U.S. on a student visa are due February 18, 2025.**

## How to Apply

You can start a new application to either program by clicking here:

[Apply Now!](#) If you have any questions, please email us at [smcr@hms.harvard.edu](mailto:smcr@hms.harvard.edu)



Start a Master of Science in Clinical Research application!

# Admission Requirements

## Master of Science in Clinical Research

- **CV:** Provide a summary of your experience, education, skills, awards, and any research/medical publications.
- **Transcripts:** All international applicants must submit transcripts in English or accompanied by an English translation. Unofficial transcripts may be submitted at the time of application; however, accepted applicants must provide official copies from their graduating institutions before matriculation. Please do not submit copies of degree diplomas or certificates.
- **Letters of Reference:** During the application process, you will be prompted to enter the name and email address of two references, one of which should be a current or prior mentor and/or supervisor and address your suitability to the program. The second letter of reference should be from a Current Department Chair or Division Chief.
- **Research Interest Statement:** Provide a summary (up to 250 words) describing your research interests.
- **Research Training [optional]:** List any formal or informal training you have received in research methodology. Include specific courses or experiences with biostatistics and/or epidemiology. If you do not have any research training, you may leave this section blank.
- **Research Experience [optional]:** Detail your participation in research studies. Clearly describe the setting (clinical, laboratory, other), study type, mentor (if available), your specific tasks and responsibilities (e.g., study design, data collection, basic/ translational methods, data management, data analysis, data interpretation, communication of results, other), and scientific output (if any) for each project. If you do not have any research experience, you may leave this section blank.
- **Research Output [optional]:** Please attach two research outputs you co-authored that best represent your research experience. Additionally, provide a summary (up to 250 words) describing these contributions. If you do not have any research output, you may leave this section blank.
- **English Language Proficiency:** A language proficiency test is required for applicants for whom English was not the medium of instruction for their undergraduate or graduate degree. The MHQS program accepts TOEFL iBT, IELTS Academic, or the Duolingo English Test. Applicants must score a minimum of 103 (TOEFL iBT), 11 (TOEFL Essentials), 7.5 (IELTS), or 130 and a satisfactory programmatic review of the writing and video samples (Duolingo English Test) to be considered for the program.
- **Application Fee:** \$100 USD\* (\*waived for Dubai candidates)
- **Visa Requirements:** Applications for international students are due by February 18th, 2025. This includes all applicants who will be studying in the U.S. on a student visa. For more information about the visa process, please visit the [Harvard International Office](#) website.

