

Qualifying Research Paper Guidelines

Students applying to the doctoral degree in Developmental Psychology and Education (DPE) must meet the minimum admission requirements for the degree, as outlined on the [OISE website](#). In addition to these requirements, applicants are expected to have completed a master's thesis. Students who have not done a master's thesis will be required to submit a [Qualifying Research Paper](#) (QRP) as a condition for final admission to the degree program. Please note that there are a very limited number of DPE PhD spots available each year and admission into the DPE PhD is highly competitive.

The purpose of the QRP is to demonstrate the applicant's research skill, and readiness to engage in the advanced research required at the doctoral level. The QRP requirement can be fulfilled by submitting an original piece of research undertaken for the purpose of applying for admission to the DPE PhD Program. The QRP needs to meet the expectations for graduate level research.

In terms of the format, a QRP should be in the form of a manuscript, conference paper or book chapter that is at the level of research for papers presented at conventions of major professional organizations (e.g. American Educational Research Association, Canadian Psychological Association, Cognitive Science Society, Scientific Studies of Reading) or for submission to a peer-reviewed journal. This can be a piece of empirical work or a review paper.

All QRPs will be reviewed by the DPE Program Chair and will require approval before being accepted.

Given that admission requirements vary among doctoral programs, applicants should carefully review the admissions requirements for each individual doctoral program that they are considering applying to (i.e. a QRP is not admissible everywhere).