

MASTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES/STUDIES

2024 SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Nipissing's Master of Environmental Science (MESc)/Master of Environmental Studies (MES) programs take a unique interdisciplinary approach by integrating ideas and methodologies from the humanities, social sciences, indigenous studies, and natural sciences to explore and address environmental issues. Both the MES and MESc programs consist of either i) **coursework plus a Major Research Paper** (one-year/12-month program – offered on a full-time or flex-time basis) or ii) **coursework plus a Thesis** (two-year/24-month program – offered on a full-time or flex-time basis).

Thesis Route (four three-credit courses + thesis) – Two years/24 months to complete

The thesis route provides students with the opportunity to pursue original research questions by conceiving of, designing and executing a study in their area of interest. Coursework provides exposure to interdisciplinary thinking and development of conceptual and technical expertise in a specific area of interest.

Major Research Paper Route (six three-credit courses + MRP) – One year/12 months to complete

The Major Research Paper (MRP) route offers students a research experience that involves analysis and interpretation of ideas and information, while emphasizing a broad exposure to environmental systems and problem solving through additional graduate-level course work.

The MES and MESc programs offer additional training for both working professionals or recent graduates who wish to expand upon their academic and disciplinary training while further developing their research skills and are appropriate preparation for further graduate studies at the doctoral level or for a career in research, consulting, or government. Students should consult with their prospective supervisor to determine which degree path is right for them.

Students are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to contact faculty to discuss potential supervision/research interests and degree paths prior to submitting their applications to the program. Availability of faculty supervision is a requirement of admission to the program.

DEGREES OFFERED: Master of Environmental Science
Master of Environmental Studies

For further information regarding the Master of Environmental Sciences/Studies program, please visit www.nipissingu.ca/mesc.

Program related questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Coordinator at gradenviro@nipissingu.ca.

APPLICATION AND FEE DEADLINE:

- For January 2024 start: October 27, 2023
- For September 2024 start: January 12, 2024*

SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTATION DEADLINE:

- For January 2024 start: October 27, 2023
- For September 2024 start: January 19, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. EST

Applications received after the application deadline date will not be considered for scholarships. Flex-time and January start applicants are not eligible for funding consideration. For questions pertaining to scholarship criteria, please contact sgs@nipissingu.ca.

Late applications will continue to be accepted after the deadline dates. Late applications will be considered if room remains in the program; funding consideration is not available for late applications and late documentation. Contact admissions@nipissingu.ca or at 705-474-3450 ext. 4600 to verify if late applications are still being accepted.*

***Late applications, application fees, and late documentation must be submitted no later than August 1, 2024, for the September start and November 10, 2024, for the January start.*

SUBMIT ALL SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTATION BY MAIL OR EMAIL TO:

Nipissing University - Office of the Registrar
100 College Drive, Box 5002
North Bay ON P1B 8L7
Phone: 705-474-3450 ext. 4600
Email: admissions@nipissingu.ca

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants must hold a four-year undergraduate degree or equivalent as recognized by Nipissing University in any discipline from an accredited university and at least a 75% average on the last ten full (20 semester) courses completed at the time of application, or equivalent qualifications to be considered for admission.

NOTE: Non-Academic course grades (e.g. Bachelor of Education, Practical courses, clinical courses, Co-op courses, Placements, etc.) are not used in the calculation of admission averages.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: (Due January 19, 2024)

Please submit transcripts, letters of reference and other supporting documentation after you have submitted your online application. Nipissing University cannot verify receipt of transcripts and supporting documents if we have not received your application. You may paperclip your documents. No staples or folders please. Do not bind documents in any other manner.

1. Online application and fee. Online application can be accessed from our website: www.nipissingu.ca/registrarforms. The base application fee will be paid online through the application. Additional transcript fees may apply.
2. Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts from all institutions attended, including those attended on a Letter of Permission or exchange program. High School or College (diploma programs) transcripts are not required. A copy of the transcript from exchange programs can be sent directly by your host institution to Nipissing University if they are willing to do so, otherwise an official transcript must be sent directly from the university where the exchange program was held. Transcripts from Ontario postsecondary institutions can be ordered through the application process. Transcripts from postsecondary institutions outside of Ontario or

within the United States universities must be sent directly by the issuing institution to Nipissing University (faxed and emailed copies will only be accepted when we can verify that they come directly to us from the issuing institutions). **Internationally-educated applicants** (with the exception of exchange programs) must have their transcripts evaluated (course by course evaluation) by the World Education Services – www.wes.org/ca. The WES credential evaluation is also due by the documentation deadline. The requirement cannot be waived.

3. Two (2) confidential academic recommendations from professors **OR** other appropriate professionals who can speak to their level of preparation and readiness for graduate studies. The references must be from someone qualified to address the academic ability and competence of the applicant to undertake graduate studies. References cannot be completed by anyone who is personally related to the applicant. Recommendations are to be confidential; therefore, they must be mailed in sealed envelopes with the referee's signature over the seal or emailed by the referee using their professional email address and sent directly to admissions@nipissingu.ca. The Confidential Recommendation forms are included in this package. **Please indicate to your referee that a comprehensive letter included with the recommendation form will be most beneficial in determining your eligibility for admission.**
4. A **comprehensive** résumé detailing your educational and professional experience. Please include scholarships and awards, significant academic accomplishments, internships, research projects, involvement in student organizations, volunteer work and publications and presentations.
5. A typed Statement of Interest providing the following information:
 - Intent to pursue either the Major Research (MRP) or the Thesis research option.
 - A description of your study and/or research interests (you might choose to identify four or five key words or phrases that relate to your proposed study).
 - Identification of which faculty member(s) you would like to complete your MRP/Thesis research with.
 - An explanation of how/why you became interested in the specified field(s) of study.
 - Awareness of peer reviewed research (minimum of 2-3 articles) in your intended field of study.
 - Reasons for seeking admission into this particular program (MES/MES program at Nipissing University).

Applicants are STRONGLY encouraged to contact faculty to discuss potential supervision/research and interests and degree path prior to submitting their applications to the program.

The final admission decision will be based on the availability of an appropriate supervisor.

6. Proof of Proficiency in English for internationally educated applicants whose first language is not English, also due by the application deadline. Nipissing University accepts the following tests as proof of proficiency in English:
 - Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) 93 with a minimum score of 20 in reading and listening and a minimum score of 22 in writing and speaking.
 - International English Language Testing Service (IELTS) with a minimum overall score of 6.5 with no band less than 6.5.
 - Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic) with a minimum overall score of 63 with a minimum score of 60 in each section.
 - Canadian Academic English Language (CAEL/CAEL Online) with a minimum overall score of 70 with no band less than 60.
 - Cambridge English Qualifications with a C1 minimum overall score of 176 with a minimum score of 169.

The required minimum scores must be submitted before the candidate can be considered for admission. Duolingo is not accepted.

7. Scholarship Applications:

- To apply for Ontario Graduate Scholarship funding, please visit the Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) webpage at www.nipissingu.ca/ogs. For questions pertaining to scholarship criteria, please contact sgs@nipissingu.ca or 705-474-3450 ext. 4292. The OGS application is due January 14, 2024 and is to be submitted electronically to the Graduate Studies Department at sgs@nipissingu.ca.
- For other funding opportunities, please visit www.nipissingu.ca/gradfunding.

*****Please note that the OGS application requires two Academic Assessment Reports with an academic reference for each. The forms in the OGS application are different than the references required for the Admission application. Should you choose the same academic referees for both the OGS application and the Admission application, your referees will be required to fill out both the Admission reference form and the OGS academic reference and attach a separate letter to each form. Your referees should make note of what is to be addressed for each reference.**

Applicant: Please complete this section before presenting to referee

Name of Applicant:

Surname	First	Middle	Student # or OUAC Ref. #
---------	-------	--------	--------------------------

Referee: We would appreciate your appraisal of the above applicant for a Master's degree in the field of Environmental Science/Studies. The information in the report will be considered confidential.

1. How long have you known the applicant? (MM/YY) From: _____ to _____
2. In what capacity? _____
3. Indicate with an 'X' your evaluation of this applicant with respect to their ability to complete a graduate program in the field of Environmental Science/Studies:

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	No Basis for Comment
Intellectual Capacity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Scholarly Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Originality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Critical Judgment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oral Expression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Written Expression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work Habits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. In comparison with other students at the applicant's level, indicate where you would place this applicant.

Among the top 5% 10% 25% 50% lower than 50%

5. Please attach a current letter of reference which speaks to the candidate's strengths, or any concerns you may have with their ability to succeed at the Masters level. This letter will be used for admission purposes and scholarship consideration. A comprehensive letter will be most beneficial in determining the applicant's eligibility.

To the Referee:

This Recommendation is confidential. Please enclose this form and supporting letter in a sealed envelope and write your signature over the seal. You can either return the envelope to the applicant to submit with their application or email the documents directly to the Admissions Office, sent from your professional email account to admissions@nipissingu.ca.

Name: _____

Faculty: _____

Position: _____

Signature: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

Email address: _____

Applicant: Please complete this section before presenting to referee

Name of Applicant:

Surname	First	Middle	Student # or OUAC Ref. #
---------	-------	--------	--------------------------

Referee: We would appreciate your appraisal of the above applicant for a Master's degree in the field of Environmental Science/Studies. The information in the report will be considered confidential.

1. Professional Relationship to applicant _____
2. Period of relationship upon which assessment is based _____
 From: _____ to _____
3. Indicate with an 'X' your evaluation of this applicant in comparison with others performing similar duties.

		Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	No Basis for Comment
Professional Knowledge and Ability		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership Qualities		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teaching Ability		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional Relationships with...	Colleagues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oral Expression		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Written Expression		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reliability of Performance		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Familiarity with Current Theory & Practice		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. In comparison with others performing similar professional duties, how would you rank this applicant.

Among the top 5% 10% 25% 50% lower than 50%

5. Please attach a current letter of reference which speaks to the candidate's strengths, or any concerns you may have with their ability to succeed at the Masters level. This letter will be used for admission purposes and scholarship consideration. A comprehensive letter will be most beneficial in determining the applicant's eligibility.

To the Referee:

This Recommendation is confidential. Please enclose this form and supporting letter in a sealed envelope and write your signature over the seal. You can either return the envelope to the applicant to submit with their application or email the documents directly to the Admissions Office, sent from your professional email account to admissions@nipissingu.ca.

Name:	Company/School/ Organization:
Position:	Address:
Signature:	Date:
Telephone Number:	Email address:

Protection of Privacy
 Information requested from students and applicants is collected under the authority of the Nipissing University Act, 1992. Pursuant to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act you are hereby notified that: "By applying for admission to Nipissing University and by registering in programs or courses at the University, you are accepting the University's right to collect pertinent personal information. The information is needed to assess qualifications for entry, establish a record of performance in programs and courses, provide the basis for awards and government funding, and to assist the University in the academic and financial administration of its affairs". Additionally, personal information may be used by University staff in many offices on a "need to know" basis to identify and contact students who require their services.

Use the following checklist to ensure that you have completed all the necessary steps for the application process. This form does not need to be submitted. The following dates do not apply for applications submitted after the application deadline. Please refer to page 1 of the Supplemental Package for information about late documentation.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Completed application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter 2024 application and application fee submitted by October 27, 2023; OR • Fall 2024 application and application fee submitted by January 12, 2024.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>ALL undergraduate and graduate official transcripts ordered/submitted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See #2 under Required Supplemental Documentation for more information. • All transcripts must be received by October 27, 2023 for Winter 2024 applications and January 19, 2024 for Fall 2024 applications.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Contact Faculty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants are STRONGLY encouraged to contact faculty to discuss potential supervision/research interests prior to submitting their application.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Confidential references</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Reference #1 <input type="checkbox"/> Reference #2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See #3 under Required Supplemental Documentation for more information and further instructions. • Must be received by October 27, 2023 for Winter 2024 applications and January 19, 2024 for Fall 2024 applications.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Comprehensive Resume</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See #4 under Required Supplemental Documentation for more information and further instructions. • Must be received by October 27, 2023 for Winter 2024 applications and January 19, 2024 for Fall 2024 applications.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Statement of Interest</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I have included which faculty member(s) I would like to complete my research paper/thesis with.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See #5 under Required Supplemental Documentation for more information and further instructions. • Must be received by October 27, 2023 for Winter 2024 applications and January 19, 2024 for Fall 2024 applications.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>WES evaluation assessment submitted by October 27, 2023 for Winter 2024 applications and January 19, 2024 for Fall 2024 applications (if required).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See #2 under Required Supplemental Documentation for more information and further instructions.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Official English proficiency test scores submitted October 27, 2023 for Winter 2024 applications and January 19, 2024 for Fall 2024 applications (if required).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See #6 under Required Supplemental Documentation for more information and further instructions.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) funding application (Fall 2024 applicants ONLY)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See #7 under Required Supplemental Documentation for more information and further instructions. Must be received by January 12, 2024 firm. • Consideration of other funding opportunities
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Additional Graduate Scholarship g applications (Fall 2024 applicants ONLY)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students should consider applying for additional external graduate scholarships for which they may be eligible (e.g. Canada Graduate Scholarship – NSERC, SSHRC, & CIHR). See #7 under Required Supplemental Documentation for more information and further instructions. Deadlines will vary by scholarship. Instructions on how to apply and eligibility are available through the provided weblinks.