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Research team support program (SE), 2017 fall competition

Summary

Competition year :	2018-2019
Deadline (notice or letter of intent) :	August 30th, 2017, 4 PM
Deadline (application) :	October 17th, 2017, 4 PM
Amount :	\$30,000 to \$80,000 per year
Duration :	2 to 4 years
Announcement of results :	April 2018

Do you have questions?

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DETAILED PROGRAM FOR THE 2017 COMPETITION

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The link to the FRQ electronic Portfolio (forms) is available under the **Portals Access**. More details are available in the **About FRQnet** section.

NOTE

This program refers to the **Common General Rules (CGR)**, which are applicable to all programs of the FRQSC. Only the special terms and conditions applicable to the Research Team support Program are indicated in this document, and these prevail over the **CGR**.

In the event of a discrepancy between the English and French versions of this program, the French version prevails.

The Fonds uses the Canadian Common CV and requires a PDF file of detailed contributions (available in the E-portfolio). Refer to "Preparing a CV for the Fonds" and "Detailed Contributions the Common Canadian CV" in the program toolbox.

Updates to contact information can be made directly in the FRQnet E-portfolio.

ANY APPLICATION THAT IS INCOMPLETE ON THE COMPETITION CLOSING DATE OF OCTOBER 17, 2017 at 4 p.m. WILL BE DEEMED INELIGIBLE BY THE FONDS.

ATTENTION:

A new grid detailing the status of participants is presented in the **CGR**, section « Definitions ».

FOREWORD

The Research Team Support Program is intended for teams working in fields of research covered by the FRQSC. It provides support for the implementation and deployment of scientific programs while respecting the diversity of research practices, configurations and stages of development that characterize Québec research teams. The program is open to emerging and established university teams seeking to structure, advance and disseminate knowledge on a specific theme and partnership teams conducting research in collaboration with a practice setting. All teams that submit a scientific program for funding must be committed to the mobilization, transfer and valorization of the research results (see document **Stratégie de mobilisation des connaissances**).

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1. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Support concerted efforts and collaboration to further develop research themes and increase research capabilities;

Provide research teams and their partners in practice settings, where applicable, with access to joint infrastructures;

Maximize theoretical, methodological (teaching and research) and practical (applications and innovation) benefits;

Create participation and integration opportunities for postdoctoral research fellows and new researchers;

Optimize graduate and postgraduate student training and mentoring;

Help train undergraduate students by involving them in research activities whenever possible;

Urge researchers to carry out knowledge transfer activities as outlined in the Fonds' knowledge **mobilization strategy** (Stratégie de mobilisation des connaissances).

Teams must meet these objectives by deploying a series of structuring activities based on a **scientific program**.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

A scientific program is different from a research project and must be based on a **research theme** developed through **specific thrusts** driven by research **projects funded through other sources**. The scientific program must be designed to evolve over time and foster the **significant and collective contribution** of members to the team's work and activities. **sources**. The scientific program must be designed to evolve over time and foster the **significant and collective contribution** of members to the team's work and activities.

2. TEAM CONFIGURATIONS

Operational and Renewal teams must select one of the two following configurations: "University" team or "Partnership" team. The configurations do not apply to Emerging teams.

University teams

The primary goal of a University team is to deploy a scientific program based on a broad scientific theme in an effort to make innovative contributions to knowledge structure and advancement. In order to do so, teams must give priority to collaborations between co-researchers, bring together relevant complementary expertise and include students and young researchers.

Partnership teams

In addition to meeting university team requirements, Partnership teams must foster collaborations between a practice setting and university or college settings. Partnership teams must take partners' needs into account when developing their scientific program and work towards meeting these needs. The participation of the practice setting is not limited to and does not necessarily require a financial contribution on its part.

The Partnership team must demonstrate that it has developed close collaborations between the university and college settings, where applicable, and the practice setting at all phases of the scientific program. The processes associated with the deployment of the partnership research program must create enduring ties between these settings. Practice settings may be public, community or private organizations or institutions involved in various sectors or in the development of goods or services.

Organizations dedicated exclusively to scientific research do not constitute eligible practice settings. However, when partners whose work includes research (such as affiliated university centres and institutes) are chosen as practice settings, the Partnership team must **clearly describe the partner's specific contribution as a research partner and practice setting.**

Teams collaborating with practice settings on knowledge transfer activities, but that have not developed mechanisms to ensure the participation and integration of the practice setting at all program phases, should consider applying as a University team.

3. TEAM DEVELOPMENT STAGES

Teams must choose the development stage corresponding to their situation:

3.1 "Emerging"

This development stage is aimed at teams who have joined forces to establish a research team whose work will be focused on a specific theme. Teams must plan a program, and a schedule of activities that will enable them to develop a four-year scientific program by the end of the two-year emergence grant. Emerging teams must choose the "University" configuration. Teams seeking to

develop a program in collaboration with a practice setting in order to eventually constitute a partnership team must cement these ties during the emergence period. Emergence funding provides teams with the means to organize and implement activities to consolidate their scientific program and enhance the team's activities and collaborations in terms of publications, joint funding, event organization, student and young researcher integration, partnership consolidation, etc.

At the end of the grant period, Emerging teams must be fully operational. A team may then submit a grant application as an "Operational" team and select a configuration based on its research practices ("University" or "Partnership" team). However, Operational team funding is not conditional upon previous Emerging team funding.

3.2 "Operational"

Operational team funding is aimed at teams whose Emerging team funding has come to an end and at established teams that have never received Emerging team funding under this program. The Operational team must have a four-year scientific program that brings together a range of activities including current and future research projects. Operational teams must also be ready to generate and maintain a consistent level of activity and collaborations (e.g. through joint funding, research projects and publications, events organized in partnership, the integration of students and young researchers and the launch of new partnerships, if applicable).

Teams that have received a previous Operational team grant may only reapply as an Operational team if fewer than 50% of the co-researchers who were part of the team on April 1 of the last year in the previous grant period are still part of the team by the competition deadline.

A team that has received a previous "Operational" team grant may only reapply as an Operational team if it includes fewer than 50% of the co-researchers who were part of the team on April 1 of the last year of funding.

3.3 "Renewal"

Renewal team funding is aimed at teams that meet Operational team requirements and which have received at least one cycle of infrastructure funding as an Operational or a Renewal team. To apply as a Renewal team, the team's report must demonstrate a consistent level of activity and collaborations (e.g. through joint funding, research projects and publications, events organized in partnership, the integration of students and young researchers and the launch of new partnerships, if applicable) **attributable to the previously awarded grant.**

4. TEAM MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBER ELIGIBILITY

4.1 Composition

NOTE : For definitions of Principal Investigator, co-researchers and collaborators, and for researcher status definitions, refer to **CGR** , Section "Definitions".

4.1.1 Principal Investigator

Individuals with the status of "University Researcher" are qualified to be Principal Investigator of a research team except the retired researchers.

4.1.2 Co-researchers

Each team must include at least four (4) co-researchers (including the Principal Investigator) who hold a University Researcher, Clinical Researcher or College Researcher status.

In addition to the minimum four researchers mentioned above, teams may include as co-researchers researchers working in government or practice settings and researchers who are faculty members of a Québec university, but are not part of its regular staff, who meet the criteria for the status of "other researcher, practitioner or artist".

The Fonds recognizes that there are fields in which expertise is rare. In such cases, teams of three co-researchers may be eligible, with appropriate justification. Teams in this situation must contact the program officer at the FRQSC before submitting a notice of intent.

4.1.3 Collaborators

In addition to its co-researchers, a team may include collaborators with any of the statuses described in the **CGR** , Section "Definitions".

4.2 Member eligibility

The Principal Investigator must meet the general eligibility requirements set out in Section 2 of the **CGR** and all program requirements.

4.2.1 Intersectorality and memberships to different types of teams

Researchers who lead or who are co-researchers of major infrastructures funded by the FRQSC (university institute, affiliated university centre or strategic cluster), the FRQNT (strategic cluster) or the FRQS (research centre or group) may join a research team funded under the *Research Team Support Program* as co-researchers or Principal Investigator.

4.2.2 Membership in two teams funded by the FRQSC

A researcher may not lead more than one team funded by or in competition for the FRQSC Research Team Support Program. However, a Principal Investigator may be a co-researcher in another team funded by or in competition for the program. On the other hand, other co-

researchers may belong to up to two teams funded by or in competition for the program. Furthermore, no more than 20% of the co-researchers of a given team may belong to more than one team. This implies that, in order for a researcher to belong to more than one team, the team must have at least five co-researchers

5. TEAM APPLICATION

There are two distinct and mandatory steps to submitting a team application: 1) the notice of intent and 2) the grant application.

5.1 Notice of intent

5.1.1 Notice of intent: purpose and processing

The main purpose of the notice of intent is to provide the FRQSC with the information required to assemble peer committees that will assess the grant applications. The notice of intent will not be used to assess the eligibility or merit of a team or its scientific program.

It is the responsibility of the Principal Investigator to make sure that the notice of intent can be submitted to the FRQSC, on the basis of the research areas of the Fonds. For the rules that apply in the event that an application is sent to an inappropriate Fonds, refer to the **CGR**, Section 3.1.

5.1.2 Content and transmission of the notice of intent

The notice of intent must be completed and submitted via the E-Portfolio of the Principal Investigator, available in FRQnet.

The notice of intent must be completed and submitted no later than **4:00 p.m. on August 30, 2017**. All Principal Investigators who submit a notice of intent will receive confirmation by e-mail.

The filing of a notice of intent is necessary for submitting a grant application.

5.2 Grant application

5.2.1 Content of the grant application

Before submitting a funding application, the Principal Investigator must create a user account on the Fonds website, if this has not already been done. Individuals who already have a personal identification number (PIN) have direct access to a FRQnet account and must update their E-portfolio.

The grant application consists of the following required documents and may also include additional documents (see 5.2.2 Additional documents):

A. Grant application e-form and 4 attached files

Electronic transmission via the researcher's E-Portfolio Website of the Fonds.

SATISFACTION OF EVALUATION CRITERIA FILE : In the section "Description de la programmation", in a separate file attached to the application e-form, the team must explicitly address all evaluation criteria that apply to its stage of development and configuration. The information must be presented in separate sections, following the title and order of the evaluation criteria. The number of pages is based on the type of team, as specified in the table below:

CONFIGURATION	STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT	NUMBER OF PAGES
N/A	Emerging	10 pages
University	Operational	10 pages
Partnership	Operational	12 pages
University	Renewal	12 pages
Partnership	Renewal	14 pages

BIBLIOGRAPHY FILE (maximum 10 pages) : In the section "Bibliographie", in a separate file attached to the application e-form, the team must include a bibliography listing the texts cited as references, especially those pertaining to the state of the knowledge in the field.

"SYNTHÈSES DE LA PROGRAMMATION SCIENTIFIQUE, DES COLLABORATIONS ET DES ACTIVITÉS SCIENTIFIQUES" FILE : Available on the program web page, in the "Toolbox" section. Transmission in a separate file attached to the application e-form, in the section "Autres documents". This file contains several summary tables and is intended to provide evaluators with an overview of the collaborations and activities of co-researchers as they pertain to the proposed scientific program. It is essential for presenting the team's main collective achievements.

BUDGET PLAN JUSTIFICATION FILE (maximum 5 pages) : In the section « Budget », in a separate file attached to the application e-form, the team presents:

- Base grant (see **7.1.2** Base grant): Justify all requested amounts for each category of the base grant only, by listing the amounts and the types of expenses. This section should not be used to extend in any way the section dedicated to answer the evaluation criteria. (maximum 3 pages)

- Optional funding, if applicable (see **7.1.3** Optional funding): Justify the requested amounts for each optional funding requested. List each requested amount clearly. (maximum 2 pages)

B. CVs and detailed contributions attachments of the principal investigator and the co-researchers

Electronic transmission of the **Canadian Commun CV** via the Website.

All co-researchers have to attach to their CCV the "Fichier joint des contributions détaillées » (detailed contributions attachment) available on the program's web site, in the "Toolbox" section. Once completed, this document should be attached via the co-researcher E-portfolio in FRQnet.

Exception

Co-researchers who work in a practice setting are exempt from submitting a CCV. However, they must submit an abridged resume (maximum two pages) that provides an overview of 1) their training; 2) their experience and 3) their publications and scientific output where applicable (in that order). "The abridged resumes must be created using word processing software, converted to PDF format and submitted to the Principal Investigator, who will attach them to the electronic application form in the "Autres documents" section.

5.2.2 Additional documents

Partnership teams and teams that include retired researchers or college researchers must submit additional documents. These documents must be transmitted to the Principal Investigator whom attach them to the application e-form.

PROOF(S) OF PARTNERSHIP: Attach to the "Other Documents" section.

Partnership teams must submit at least one document that constitutes a proof of partnership. This document may take different forms, from a letter of support from a partner to a signed formal partnership agreement between the researchers and partner(s). A team may include several relevant proofs of partnership to demonstrate the nature of its collaborations. The documents must be concise, contain information that pertains to the partnership evaluation criterion and describe the terms of the partnership that will foster the attainment of the joint objectives. When there is a pre-existing partnership agreement between the researchers and partners, the team must only submit the sections of the agreement that meet the aforementioned requirements and the partnership evaluation criterion, including the section pertaining to signatures. Whenever applicable, the Fonds recommends that grant applicants ensure that the terms of their partnership are in keeping with the regulations set out by their institutions. This or these documents will be used

exclusively to evaluate the quality of the partnership. **Teams must submit at least one document attesting to the partnership. Applications that do not include an attestation document will be deemed ineligible.**

LETTER FOR RETIRED UNIVERSITY RESEARCHER ACTING AS CO-RESEARCHERS: Attach to the "Other Documents" section.

Co-researchers who are retired university researcher must provide a letter from the university certifying attesting to this status. The letter must indicate that prior to his/her retirement, the retired researcher was a regular professor and that, for the term of the grant, he/she will have access to the facilities and logistical support required to carry out research activities and that he/she will continue to train students and young researchers in the field, where applicable.

SUMMARY FOR COLLEGE RESEARCHERS (maximum 1 page) : In the section "Dégagement ou soutien salarial - collèges", in a separate file attached to the application e-form, the team must identify each College researcher., specify the percentage of teaching leave requested and justify this demand by outlining the role of the College researcher in the achievement of the team's research program.

5.2.3 Grant application presentation standards

The grant application may be filled out in French or English. However, the title and summary must be in French, otherwise the application will be deemed invalid. (**CGR** , Section 3.5)

All documents submitted in a language other than French or English must include a certified translation.

Applications must be presented in a format that is clear and legible. Text exceeding the number of pages allowed will be discarded before evaluation. No protected PDF files will be accepted. Any document that is not required by the rules will be removed from the application.

Any application that is incomplete or does not contain sufficient information to establish its eligibility or to evaluate its scientific quality will be declared ineligible by the Fonds. No document that is not required will be submitted to the evaluation committee. Elements missing from the application will not be requested. No documents received after the application deadline date will be considered and applications cannot be updated.

5.2.4 Online references

Applicants may include URLs referring to information contained in the application as bibliographic references. URLs may also be listed in the bibliography. However, grant applications must not be based in whole or in part on online content to be consulted by the evaluators.

5.2.5 Deadline

All grant applications must be submitted electronically by **4 p.m. on October 17, 2017**. **All instructions regarding electronic transmission must be respected.**

The applicant bears full responsibility for the application package and must ensure that it is complete and meets all requirements of the desired program. No document transmitted after the deadline or document that is not required will be submitted to the evaluation committee (**CGR**, Section 3.)

6. EVALUATION

6.1 Peer evaluation process

Grant applications are evaluated by multidisciplinary committees. For more information concerning the composition and role of the evaluation committees, conflicts of interest and the integrity of the evaluation process, please refer to the **CGR**, Section 4.

The evaluation process is twofold. First, three members of the evaluation committee will assess each application. Then, the committee members will meet to share their comments on each application in order to reach a committee consensus. Like the Fonds, the evaluation committee may deem an application ineligible based on its non-compliance with program rules and objectives. Each committee then ranks the candidates based on the scores awarded to each application.

Once the committees have completed their evaluation, the Fonds produce an overall ranking of all applications recommended for funding using standardized z-scores. The use of z-scores ensures maximum comparability across the different committees operating under the program.

6.2 Partnership team evaluation: Additional criterion

For partnership teams, a committee of experts in collaborative research with practice settings assess the partnership (*Partenariat*) criterion and award a partnership score. The partnership team applications are then sent to the multidisciplinary evaluation committee, which evaluates and grade the other criteria. The partnership score is added to establish an overall score. The evaluation of the partnership criteria is independent of the assessment of the other criteria by the multidisciplinary committee. The two committees are separate and their decisions do not influence each other. During the evaluation period, the Fonds reserves the right, through its evaluation or partnership expert committees, to contact partners to verify the information provided about them by the partnership team.

6.3 Evaluation criteria and indicators

All teams will be assessed according to three criteria that constitute the basis of the evaluation process:

Scientific program

Team members

The added value of the grant requested

In addition, criteria and indicators with specific weighting have been set out to ensure that the evaluation process is adapted to the teams' configurations and stages of development. In order to receive a recommendation for funding, a team must be awarded an overall score of 70% or more and obtain at least 70% for each eliminatory criteria.

The team's **budget estimates** must provide a clear indication of the team's intentions with regards to the structure of its activities. As such, the relevance of the budget to the application will be taken into account in the evaluation process.

Grant applications are evaluated solely on the basis of the information submitted in the application process. **Applicants must therefore ensure that the documents submitted contain all necessary information to be taken into account when assessing the grant application.**

The following criteria and indicators will apply based on the team's configuration and stage of development.

Emerging team		
Criteria	Indicators	Weighting
Scientific program (eliminatory criterion)	Quality of the presentation of the state of knowledge Scope of the theme	20
	Innovation in the thematic approach Complementarity of thrusts	20

	Relevance of the schedule and quality of the collaborative activities and means implemented to develop the program to its full deployment within a two-year period	10
Composition	Skills, leadership and experience of the principal investigator	15
	Experience and accomplishments of co-researchers Complementarity of co-researchers' expertise Quality of their collaborations	15
Added value of the grant	Added value of the funding to: 1. Team needs 2. Other resources (human, material, financial) to which the team has access	20
		100

Operational university team		
Criteria	Indicators	Weighting
Scientific program (eliminary criterion)	Quality of the presentation of the state of knowledge Scope of the theme Relevance of the theoretical and conceptual tools	25

	<p>Innovation in the thematic angles of approach</p> <p>Complementarity of thrusts</p> <p>Intensity of the scientific activity within the thrusts</p>	25
Composition and coordination	<p>Skills, leadership and experience of the Principal Investigator</p> <p>Relevance of the mechanisms to coordinate the team's work</p>	15
	<p>Experience and accomplishments of team members</p> <p>Complementarity of team members' expertise</p> <p>Quality of their collaborations</p>	15
Student integration	<p>Diversity and quality of the means to integrate students in an effort to enhance the research training programs for postdoctoral fellows and graduate and undergraduate students beyond standard study programs</p>	10
Added value of the grant	<p>Added value of the funding to:</p> <p>a. Team needs</p> <p>b. Other resources (human, material, financial) to which the team has access</p>	10
		100

Renewal university team

Criteria	Indicators	Weighting
Team progress report (eliminary criterion)	Number, variety and quality of team activities and accomplishments attributable to the grant	10%
	Contribution of the team's activities and accomplishments to: a) structuring the theme b) ensuring the evolution of the scientific program during the funding period	10%
Scientific program (eliminary criterion)	Quality of the presentation of the state of knowledge Scope of the theme Relevance of the theoretical and conceptual tools	20%
	Innovation in the thematic angles of approach Complementarity of thrusts Intensity of the scientific activity within the thrusts	20 %
Composition and coordination	Skills, leadership and experience of the principal investigator Relevance of the mechanisms to coordinate the team's work	10%
	Experience and accomplishments of co-researchers Complementarity of co-researchers' expertise Integration of the newly appointed academics	10%

Student integration	Diversity and quality of the means to integrate students in an effort to enhance the research training programs for postdoctoral fellows and graduate and undergraduate students beyond standard study programs	10
Added value of the grant	Added value of the funding to: a. Team needs b. Other resources (human, material, financial) to which the team has access	10
		100

Operational partnership team		
Criteria	Indicators	Weighting
Scientific program	Quality of the presentation of the state of knowledge Scope of the theme Relevance of the theoretical and conceptual means	15
(eliminary criterion)	Innovation in the thematic angles of approach Complementarity of thrusts Intensity of the scientific activity within the thrusts	15

Composition and coordination	Skills, leadership and experience of the Principal Investigator Relevance of the mechanisms to coordinate the team's work	15
	Experience and accomplishments of co-researchers Complementarity of co-researchers' expertise Quality of their collaborations	15
Student integration	Diversity and quality of the means to integrate students in an effort to enhance the research training programs for postdoctoral fellows and graduate and undergraduate students beyond standard study programs	10
Added value of the grant	Added value of the funding to: a. Team needs b. Other resources (human, material, financial) to which the team has access	10
Partnership (eliminary criterion)	Relevance of the choice of partner setting(s) and collaboration terms; effective commitment of partner setting(s)	10
	Relevance of the scientific program as it pertains to the partner's needs and objectives and quality and expected mutual benefits	10
		100

Renewal partnership team		
Criterion	Indicator	Weighting
Team progress report (eliminary criterion)	Number, variety and quality of team activities and accomplishments attributable to the grant	10
	Contribution of the team's activities and accomplishments to: a) structuring the theme b) ensuring the evolution of the scientific program during the funding period	10
Scientific program (eliminary criterion)	Quality of the presentation of the state of knowledge Scope of the theme Relevance of the theoretical and conceptual means	10
	Innovation in the thematic angle of approach Complementarity of thrusts Intensity of the scientific activity within the thrusts	10
Composition and coordination	Skills, leadership and experience of the Principal Investigator Relevance of the mechanisms to coordinate the team's work	10

	<p>Experience and accomplishments of co-researchers</p> <p>Complementarity of co-researchers' expertise</p> <p>Integration of the newly appointed academics</p>	10
Student integration	Diversity and quality of the means to integrate students in an effort to enhance the research training programs for postdoctoral fellows and graduate and undergraduate students beyond standard study programs	10
Added value of the grant	<p>Added value of the funding to:</p> <p>a. Team needs</p> <p>b. Other resources (human, material, financial) to which the team has access</p>	10
Partnership	Relevance of the choice of partner setting(s) and collaboration terms; effective commitment of partner setting(s)	10
(eliminary criterion)	Relevance of the scientific program as it pertains to the partner's needs and objectives and quality and expected mutual benefits	10
		100

6.4 Announcement of the results

In addition to the provisions in Section 4.4 of the **CGR** , the names of the winners are usually announced in April of the year following the submission of the grant application. The decisions of the Board of Directors of the FRQSC are sent to the selected institutions and grant applicants in

accordance with the procedure set forth in the **CGR** (Section 5.1). For further information concerning the results, applicants should contact the research office of their institution, consult the Web site of the Fonds or contact the program officer.

As stipulated in the **CGR** , all decisions by the Board of Directors of the FRQSC are final and without appeal.

7. FUNDING OFFERED

7.1 Nature of the funding, base grant, optional and supplementary funding

7.1.1 Nature of the funding

The grants awarded under this program are infrastructure-type allocations to cover operating costs and other expenses that are not included in the infrastructure allocations from other funding sources (such as strategic cluster, institute or affiliated university centre funding, if applicable). The relevance of the requested funding will be assessed as part of the team evaluation, especially as it pertains to the added value criterion.

Operational and renewal teams must receive external funding in order to carry out the research projects undertaken as part of their scientific program.

The expenses incurred to complete the various phases of a research project, including salaries for data collection/analysis, are not eligible. Teams that allocate funds to such expenses in their budget may be deemed ineligible.

However, despite the preceding paragraph, to enhance the leverage effect of the grant and the dissemination of the knowledge generated by the scientific program, up to 20% of the base grant may be allocated to launching (e.g. carrying out a preliminary study, filling out grant applications) or finalizing (e.g. drafting and editing findings for dissemination) projects carried out as part of the team's program and which **constitute collaborations between at least two co-researchers.**

7.1.2 Base grant

The base grant is attributed based on the team's configuration and, in the case of operational and renewal teams, on the number of co-researchers. The table below outlines the maximum grants available to teams according to team characteristics.

Stage of development	Number of co-researchers	Maximum base grant	Grant period
Emergence	4 or more	\$30,000	2 years
Operational or renewal	4 to 6	\$50,000	4 years
	7 or 8	\$60,000	
	9 to 12	\$70,000	
	13 and over	\$80,000	

The base grant is attributed based on the program and budget presented by the team. An evaluation committee may exceptionally recommend that a grant be awarded to an operational or renewal team for a period of less than the standard grant period.

Each amount in the base budget must be justified in the section of the application form provided for that purpose.

7.1.3 Optional funding

Optional funding may be granted in addition to the base amount according to a team's configuration and stage of development, based on need.

Any optional funding must be justified in the section of the application form provided for that purpose. Any item not deemed sufficiently justified will not be accepted.

Optional funding will be offered where applicable for equipment, interregional teams, knowledge mobilization and partnerships.

EQUIPMENT

Funds to purchase or rent the equipment required to carry out the research program. The equipment must be intended for use in more than one research project. The optional amounts requested to rent or purchase equipment will be granted based on the following indicators:

Justification of the need for the equipment in order to carry out research activities planned in the program;

Availability of similar equipment in the lead researcher's host institution, other university institutions or partner facilities.

INTERREGIONAL TEAMS

Funds to cover the costs incurred due to the geographic distance between co-researchers (travel, videoconferencing, etc.). To qualify as interregional, the team must include researchers based at institutions other than that of the Principal Investigator and in different administrative regions, as defined by the government of Québec. In justifying these costs, the team must specify how it intends to ensure the full participation of all co-researchers, whatever their distance from the lead researcher's host institution.

KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION

Funds to support activities for the exchange, sharing and valorization the research results of the activities and projects carried out as part of the scientific program. The optional amounts requested for transfer and development must be part of a transfer plan that is coherent with the activities carried out as part of the scientific program.

PARTNERSHIP

Funds for partnership teams to manage and coordinate joint activities involving the practice setting. The optional amounts requested for partnership activities must facilitate full and enhanced collaborations between the university and college researchers, where applicable, and the partner practice setting.

Maximum optional annual grants based on team configuration

Stage of development	Configuration	Equipment	Interregional	Knowledge mobilization	Partnership

Emerging	N/A	\$4,000	Up to \$3,000 per university, excluding the managing institution, to a total of \$10,000	\$10,000	N/A
Operational or renewal	University	\$9,000		\$20,000	N/A
	Partnership	\$9,000		\$20,000	\$40,000

7.1.4 Additional funding for college researchers*

Statutory amount for a college researcher	The funding is to be used exclusively by the college researcher who is a co-researchers, to cover the costs of his/her research activities (this funding is distinct from the sums granted for a release from teaching duties). Fixed amount: \$7,000/year
Release from teaching duties for a college researcher	Release of up to 50% of a full course load, up to \$40,000 per year.

*This additional funding is subject to budget availability under the *Program to release college researchers from their teaching duties*. Researchers interested in obtaining this additional funding are invited to contact the FRQSC to verify the availability of funding before submitting their application.

7.2 Eligible budget items

For more information concerning admissible and non-admissible expenses, please refer to the **CGR**, section 8.

The release from teaching duties (principal investigator) is authorized.

The release from duties (partners) is authorized for partnership teams only.

Scholarships and scholarships supplements may not be used as salary.

Reminder: to enhance the leverage effect of the grant and the dissemination of the knowledge generated by the scientific program, up to 20% of the base grant may be allocated to launching (e.g. carrying out a preliminary study, filling out grant applications) or finalizing (e.g. drafting and editing findings for dissemination) projects carried out as part of the team's program and which constitute collaborations between at least two co-researchers.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE

These rules apply to the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

UPDATED July 7th 2017

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