



**2025-2026 program
Competition rules
Cohort #6**

DIALOGUE – Student Component - 2025-2026

Competition year: **2025-2026**

Deadline (pre-application): **November 7, 2024 at 16:00 (EST)**

Deadline (application): **February 13, 2025 at 16:00 (EST)**

Announcement of results: **April 2025**

Amount: **\$10,000**

Duration: **1 year (not renewable)**

Program manager

Josée Aubin

(418) 643-8560, ext. 3342

josee.aubin@frq.gouv.qc.ca

IMPORTANT NOTES

The electronic form is available in the [FRQnet Electronic Portfolio \(ePortfolio\)](#). To access the forms, **you must select Santé (managing agency)**, regardless of the applicant's research sector. The forms are available under "Available competitions, Program: Dissemination grants".

Introduction

This page describes the Student component of the program. For the Researcher component, please use [this link](#).



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In addition to these program rules, it is the responsibility of funding applicants to read the [Common General Rules \(CGR\)](#), which apply to all Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ) programs. Any specific conditions that apply to this program are set out below and prevail over the CGR.

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

Interested in this program? You are invited to view the informative webinar (in French) available in the toolbox of the program webpage.

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1. BACKGROUND



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For years, the Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ) have been promoting dialogue between science and society. They have supported a number of initiatives over the years, while others have been developed by the FRQ themselves, including the DIALOGUE program.

Through DIALOGUE, the FRQ wish to recognize and encourage the research community's involvement in outreach activities for **the general public***. Over the years, this dialogue has taken many forms in an effort to boost the public's interest in research and confidence in science, as evidenced by the outputs and spin-offs of the funding provided.

Read about [funded DIALOGUE projects](#) and discover [the achievements of the program's recipients](#) (in French).

***Definition of “general public”**

For the purposes of this grant program, the FRQ use the term “general public” to refer to citizens, individuals and families from different segments of the population (age groups, socio-economic backgrounds, ethnocultural origins, interests, etc.) who are interested in various questions and issues related to science, research and the scientific process.

Bridging the gap between science and society

As increasing numbers of Quebecers are showing greater interest in research and taking part in scientific activities, the scientific community is publicizing its work and the innovations that stem from it, while seeing the impact of its research on society. The bridges being built help to strengthen public confidence in science while raising the profile of Québec research.

The involvement of students in the public sphere contributes to the emergence of a generation of young researchers who are familiar with science communication and aware of the importance of science-society dialogue. The FRQ wish to support this growing community and the enthusiasm it generates among the general public.



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The experience acquired by the research community translates into opportunities for mutual learning and the exploration of new horizons through the development of a common language. The skills acquired open up new avenues of research and may even lead to unexpected career opportunities.

2. OBJECTIVES

The Student component of this program aims to:

- Recognize the commitment of university students from all sectors of research to science communication and dialogue activities with the general public;
- Encourage student researchers to hold science communication activities with the greater public;
- Enable university students to showcase their research work and its impacts.

3. ELIGIBILITY

3.1 Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be enrolled in a master's, doctoral, postdoctoral or post-professional research training program;
- Attend a Québec educational institution, university-affiliated institution or research institution at the competition deadline;
- Be supervised by a researcher with status 1, 2 or 3 (identified in the “Supervisor” section of the FRQnet form) as defined in the [CGR of the FRQ](#):
 - Status 1: university researcher;
 - Status 2: clinical university researcher;
 - Status 3: college researcher.



3.2 Project location:

- Grant recipients must carry out the entire project in Québec.

Not eligible:

- *Projects that are directly linked to another source of funding, unless the support awarded under the DIALOGUE program would be used to achieve complementary objectives.*
- *Projects that are directly related to a project funded by an FRQ Postdoctoral Scholarship – Knowledge Mobilization Plan (Société et culture sector), and projects funded under the DIALOGUE program (Researcher component).*

4. APPLICATION PROCESS

4.1 REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The electronic forms are available in the [FRQnet ePortfolio](#) at each stage of the application process under “Available competitions, Program: Dissemination grants”. **To access the forms, you must select Santé (managing agency), regardless of the applicant’s research sector.**

PRE-APPLICATION

1. The **electronic form** including:
 - A text of no more than three pages containing:
 - Summary description of the project and communication plan (max. two pages) in light of the objectives and evaluation criteria of this program. The



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communication plan should focus on promoting research work (process, results), research results, and innovations resulting from research, and not simply on promoting science;

- Applicant’s motivation to undertake a science communication project aimed at the general public (max. 1 page).
 - Identification of the researcher supervising the project in the “Supervisor” section. **The supervisor will receive an email to complete and submit a consent form. This step must be completed before the pre-application deadline.**
2. The applicant’s **Abridged CV** prepared using the [presentation template](#) (max. two pages).
 3. The **Abridged CV of the researcher supervising the project**, prepared using the [presentation template](#) (max. two pages).

APPLICATION

1. The **online form including:**
 - A text of no more than four pages containing:
 - Detailed description of the project and communication plan and dissemination strategy, including measurable objectives and specific methods to reach the general public and foster dialogue between science and society. The research topics or themes at the heart of the project should be clearly defined as well as the target audience (who, how, how many people will take part in the dialogue?); the dissemination strategy is expected to be innovative and ambitious, inciting dialogue between science and society. Dissemination



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exclusively through social media is likely to be considered insufficient by committee members.

- If the project is directly related to one or more science communication projects already receiving funding from another source, explain how it is complementary.
 - Supervising researcher's supervision plan.
 - Identification of the researcher supervising the project in the "Supervisor" section. **The supervisor will receive an email to complete and submit a consent form. This step must be completed before the application deadline.**
2. **The official transcript** for the applicant's current program (see notes in Section 4.2 for details). Postdoctoral students and post-professional research trainees are not required to provide a transcript.
 3. The applicant's **Abridged CV** prepared using the [presentation template](#) (max. two pages).
 4. A **detailed budget** (max. one page; see the eligible expense categories in Section 6). The budget will be carefully analyzed by the committee. A budget devoted mainly to student salaries or the purchase of equipment could be viewed unfavourably. If necessary, the committee will make recommendations.
 5. A **letter of support** from the researcher who will supervise the applicant, **outlining the support that will be provided** (max. one page).
 4. The **Abridged CV of the researcher supervising the project**, prepared using the [presentation template](#) (max. two pages).

IMPORTANT NOTE RELATED TO THE PROJECT



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- Given the project’s potential for outreach not only in Québec but internationally, and the objective of disseminating scientific knowledge to a wide audience, **the communication tools related to the project may be in a language other than French, provided that a French translation is provided (e.g., video subtitles).**

4.2 IMPORTANT DETAILS RELATED TO OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

Un relevé de notes manquant, non officiel, ne présentant pas de mention de conformité ou n’étant pas à jour rend la demande non admissible.

A copy of all transcripts is required for all the applicant’s academic studies, whether completed or not, **including transcripts from exchange programs and courses (equivalencies), if applicable.**

When no transcript is issued, attach:

- an explanatory letter from the institution (registrar’s office or equivalent administrative body) detailing the reason(s) for the missing transcripts. The Fonds reserves the right to verify the admissibility of the reasons given;

Or

- When no transcript is issued and the applicant is unable to obtain a letter from the university, an explanatory letter from the applicant, signed by the department head of the host institution, justifying the absence of transcripts.

The transcripts and, if applicable, the explanatory letter explaining the grading system in



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effect, must be consolidated into a single scanned document in PDF format. They should be in vertical orientation and arranged in chronological order, starting with the most recent. Your document must not have any read protection or special configurations.

The elements that make a transcript official may differ from one academic institution to the other. Nevertheless, in order to be considered official by the Fonds, each transcript must:

- be issued by the relevant academic institution;

ET

- include elements that prove it is an official transcript from the academic institution, including the university seal and/or signature of the registrar and/or wording such as “official transcript”, etc.

A WATERMARK does not render a transcript unofficial as long as the requirements specified above are met.

If there is any doubt as to the authenticity of a transcript, the Fonds reserves the right to confirm the information with the applicant and with the academic institution.

A transcript received in a sealed envelope from a registrar’s office may be opened and scanned.

4.3 IMPORTANT NOTES RELATED TO SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS



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- All required documents must be included with the application for it to be considered eligible. Documents that are illegible or low-resolution and those that do not make it possible to determine eligibility will not be accepted.
- Official documents submitted in a language other than French or English must include a certified translation. Other documents submitted in a language other than French or English must be accompanied by a basic translation.
- No appendices or documents other than those required will be shared with the evaluation committee. Applications cannot be updated after the competition deadline.

5. EVALUATION

5.1 EVALUATION COMMITTEE

A mixed committee made up of researchers, research students and science communication specialists will evaluate the applications received. Given the diverse profiles of committee members, applicants are encouraged to present the project in such a way as to be easily understood.

To be recommended for funding, the pre-application must be selected by the evaluation committee and the application must obtain a minimum score of 70%.

5.2 EVALUATION CRITERIA

PRE-APPLICATION



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In line with the program’s objectives, pre-applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Potential for dialogue with the general public:
 - Approaches or strategy(ies) described;
- Project that focuses on promoting research work (process, results), research results, or innovation resulting from research (and not only promoting science):
 - Scope of the project in the Québec public sphere;
- Motivation of the applicant:
 - Applicant’s skills and interest in engaging in communication and dialogue activities with the general public.

APPLICATION

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

Science communication action plan for the general public - 50 points

- Relevance and originality of the science communication action plan;
- Quality of the proposed strategies;
- Realism of the timeframe and budget, and capacity to implement the action plan.

Anticipated impacts - 25 points

- Scope of the project in the Québec public sphere, particularly with regard to the approaches or strategy(ies) for ensuring the dissemination and discoverability of the activities and content produced;
- Scale of the anticipated impact of the activities;



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- Demonstration that the project would not have gone ahead without the funding provided under this program, or that it goes beyond existing or established communication activities.

Skills and motivation – 10 points

- Applicant's interest and motivation for science communication;
- Engagement and motivation.

Planned supervision – 15 points

- Quality of the planned supervision;
- Integration of the communication project into the activities of the supervising researcher's research team.

6. DESCRIPTION AND NATURE OF FUNDING

6.1 Amount

- Successful applicants will receive a grant of \$10,000 for a maximum of one year.
- This grant may be held concurrently with a training award (master's, doctoral, postdoctoral, etc.), but it **may not be held concurrently** with a DIALOGUE grant (Researcher component), a REGARDS – Sustainable Development Goals grant or a FRQ Postdoctoral Scholarship – Knowledge Mobilization Plan (Société et culture sector).
- The grant is paid directly to the funded students, who are responsible for the financial management of their project. The grant must be used to finance expenses that are directly related to the implementation of the project.

6.2 Eligible expense categories



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Dissemination and knowledge transfer costs

- Costs of setting up, maintaining and promoting a digital platform (website, blog, YouTube channel, etc.).
- Costs related to the production and dissemination of videos (filming, editing, materials, etc.).
- Costs related to the organization and promotion of science communication events or activities.
- Costs related to the production and promotion of popularized content (including social media advertising, partnerships with influencers, etc.).
- Costs related to the printing of promotional material.
- Science communication training.

Professional fees and compensation

- Science communication resource persons or service providers essential to the project.

Travel and subsistence costs

- Travel expenses of the applicant (maximum \$500). It should be noted that the FRQ may decide to approve a higher amount for this category of expense, provided that this is adequately justified in the application. However, applicants are advised to contact the program manager beforehand.

Not eligible:

- *Indirect costs of research for managing institutions affiliated with the applicant or supervisor.*
- *Remuneration of the researcher supervising the project.*



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7. REPORTING

- Successful applicants will be required to participate in a follow-up meeting with all grant holders under this program.
- This meeting should take place within three to six months of the announcement of the results.
- Financial and activity reports, the format of which will be communicated in due course, must be submitted to the FRQ at the end of the grant period.

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

The results will be published in April 2025.

For the conditions governing the announcement and acceptance of awards, please refer to Section 5 of the CGR.