

Doctoral research scholarships for medical students 2026-2027 (B2M)

Competition year:

2026-2027

Announcement of results:

April 2026

Annual amount:

\$25,000

Duration of funding:

Maximum of 9 semesters

Deadline (application):

Wednesday October 1, 2025,
4:00 p.m. (EST)

Important reminders

It is the applicant's responsibility to familiarize themselves with the rules of this program and the [general common rules](#) (GCR) of the Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ). The program rules provide additional details and information to the GCR. In the event of any discrepancy with the GCR, the program rules shall prevail.

A PDF version and a Word version of the program rules are available in their entirety in the toolbox.

Applications for doctoral scholarships must be submitted in the Application Area [of the FRQnet portal](#), the transactional interface used by the FRQ for the submission of funding applications and the management of grants. To submit an application, applicants must first create an FRQnet account. **By the competition deadline, Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at 4:00 p.m., the status of the application in the Application Area of the FRQnet portal must be "submitted to the Fond".** Any application with a different status will be considered invalid. **Any application with a different status will be inadmissible.** It is not possible to submit an application or add a document to the application after the competition deadline.

The FRQ has been a signatory to the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) since 2020 and to the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) since 2023. This dual membership marked the starting point for a strategic project: the Evolution of Research Excellence Assessment (E3R). Through this project, the FRQ promotes a qualitative approach to research assessment supported by the responsible use of quantitative indicators. By aligning its policies with these principles, the FRQ is committed to a gradual process of adapting and transforming its assessment practices.

Questions about the program rules?

- boursesdoc.sante@frq.gouv.qc.ca, 514-873-2114 ext. 4254

Technical questions about the application form?

- Centre.Assistance@frq.gouv.qc.ca

Overview of the application evaluation process

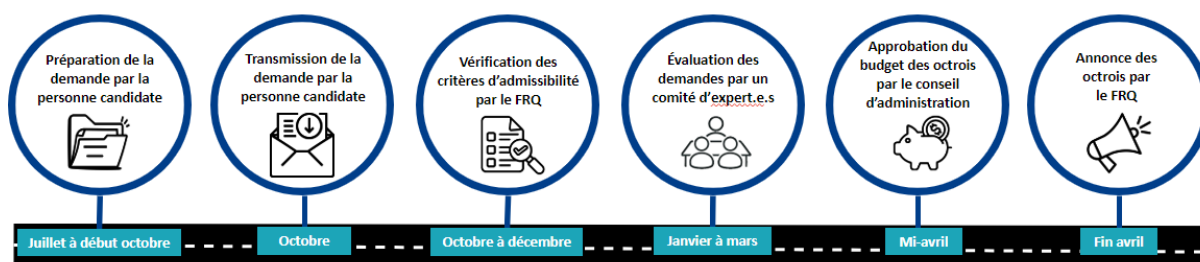


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1. Objectives

The objective of the Fonds de recherche du Québec's training grants is to help ensure a new generation of students in all research sectors: natural sciences, mathematics, and engineering (Nature and Technology); human health (Health); humanities and social sciences, arts, and literature (Society and Culture).

More specifically, the research doctoral scholarship for medical students aims to:

- Stimulate the interest of the next generation of students in research
- Support excellence in research by providing financial assistance to the best candidates to undertake or continue a doctoral research program
- This particular program aims to enable medical students to pursue, in parallel with their medical studies, research training leading to a doctoral degree.

2. Funding characteristics

2.1 Value and duration of the scholarship

The annual value of the doctoral scholarship is \$25,000.

The maximum amount that can be awarded is \$75,000, which corresponds to nine funding periods (nine payments).

Quotas

One new scholarship per year, per university.

Exceptionally, two if no applications for the 2026-2027 Master's Research Scholarships for Medical Students (B1M) program are submitted for a university.

2.2 Extension

The scholarship may be extended for three years, during which time the recipient completes their research project or pursues research activities (seminars, thesis writing) in parallel with their medical studies.

The annual value of the scholarship during this extension is \$10,000 for a maximum of 3 years.

3. Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements. If awarded, the conditions described in section 3.1 must be met throughout the duration of the scholarship.

3.1 Basic conditions

In accordance with section 2.1 of the GCR, to be eligible to apply for a doctoral scholarship, applicants must have:

- Canadian citizenship or permanent residence in Canada, and

- a Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) card valid on the competition deadline date, or proof that a card has been requested from the RAMQ and will be valid on the competition deadline date, or if the applicant is in the process of renewing their RAMQ card on the competition deadline date, proof that a new card has been requested from the RAMQ and a copy of their expired card.

If either or both of the above conditions are not met, the applicant remains eligible provided they submit proof of admission to a program of study at a Quebec university or the consent form from their research supervisor (see section 4.2.1). In addition, they must complete their training in Quebec (see section 3.5).

3.2 Eligible individuals

This program is intended for candidates who:

- hold or plan to obtain a first or second cycle university degree

OR

- have accumulated at least 90 credits in a university program
- Individuals who have not accumulated 90 course credits in a university program must provide a letter of recommendation from the dean of the faculty of medicine
- are enrolled in a regular undergraduate medical program at a Quebec university. (The 90 required university credits may have been completed as part of an undergraduate medical degree or any other bachelor's degree.)

AND

- are enrolled or plan to enroll (before January 15, 2027) in a regular research-based doctoral program (Ph.D.) as part of a structured M.D.-Ph.D. program at the same university that is recognized by the FRQ. To be considered "research-based," the program must lead to the writing of a research thesis. The following are not accepted: essays, research reports, dissertations, or articles, for example. Professional doctoral programs are not eligible.
- Submit a health research project that directly affects human health and can be completed within a maximum period of three years. The awardee must temporarily interrupt their regular medical training for a maximum period of three years.
- have completed 14 semesters or less of their research doctorate as of April 30, 2026. The number of semesters of enrollment is calculated from the first date of enrollment in a research-based doctoral program in human health.

3.3 Eligibility period

3.3.1 Doctoral Research Scholarships

To apply, candidates **must have been enrolled in a doctoral program for a maximum of 14 full-time semesters prior to May ¹, 2026.**

If awarded, they may receive a maximum of 9 payments within the first 15 semesters of doctoral studies (or equivalent). To determine the maximum number of eligible payments, the FRQ subtracts the semesters already completed in the doctoral program at the time the

scholarship takes effect from the number of semesters within which the scholarship can be paid (15 semesters).

The following factors **are taken into account** when calculating the eligibility period and the maximum number of eligible payments:

- Semesters completed full-time at the time the scholarship takes effect
- Part-time semesters, as specified in the [equivalency table for part-time semesters](#)
- The number of semesters during which the candidate received financial support from any recognized federal or Quebec provincial funding agency (NSERC, CIHR, SSHRC, FRQ, CAC, CALQ, CORPAQ), so that the total financial support received does not exceed 9 semesters

Conversely, the following elements **are not taken into account**:

- Semesters without registration
- Semesters completed as part of a professional doctorate
- Semesters completed as part of a research doctorate in another discipline

If the applicant is not enrolled in a doctoral program but plans to undertake such studies, they are eligible to apply on the condition that they begin their program between May¹, 2026, and January 15, 2027.

Applicants who have obtained a first research doctorate but wish to undertake a second one in another discipline may apply if their first doctorate was not funded by the FRQ through its training grant competitions. Applicants must demonstrate that the doctoral project covered by their application is in a different discipline, i.e., that it will be evaluated by a different evaluation committee than the one that would have evaluated the previous project. This demonstration must be included in the “Titre et domaine de recherche [Title and research field]” section of the form. The list of evaluation committees is available in the toolbox. In the absence of this demonstration, the Fonds reserves the right to refuse an application if it considers that there are too many similarities between the two doctoral projects.

3.3.2 Exceptions

- **Extension.** A candidate who has interrupted or delayed their studies due to parental leave, major family obligations, or health reasons may have their eligibility period extended. The Fonds determines the extension to be granted based on the supporting documents provided with the application.
- **Exemption.** A person may be exempted from the rules relating to the eligibility period if they have interrupted or delayed their studies due to a disability that meets the definition contained in the [Act to secure the rights of persons with disabilities with a view to their educational, professional, and social integration](#) (RLRQ, c. E-20.1). The maximum duration of the scholarship remains 9 semesters at the doctoral level.

The request for an exception, along with supporting documents attesting to the date, duration of the interruption, and rate of slowdown in activities, if applicable, must be submitted with the application (see section 4.2.5). If such an exception is requested, it is recommended that you contact the program coordinator before submitting the application form. The Fonds reserves the right to refuse any request for the application of exception measures that is insufficiently justified.

3.4 Restrictions

Individuals enrolled in certain psychology programs are not eligible (see the [Eligibility of Psychology Programs](#) for FRQ Training Grants page to verify eligibility).

During the same year, it is **only** possible to submit **one scholarship application to one of the following programs, regardless of the targeted sector**:

- Master's Research Scholarships (B1)
- Master's Research Scholarships for Medical Students (B1M)
- Master's Research Scholarships for People with a Professional Health Degree (B1DP)
- Partnership Master's Research Scholarships (B1P)
- Doctoral Research Scholarships (B2)
- Doctoral Research Scholarships for Medical Students (B2M)
- Doctoral Research Scholarships for People with a Professional Health Degree (B2DP)
- Partnership Doctoral Research Scholarships (B2P)
- Postdoctoral Research Scholarships (B3)
- Postdoctoral Research-Creation Scholarships (B5)
- Professional Postgraduate Training in Research (fellowship) (B10)

In accordance with section 3.1 of the GCR, it is not possible to combine several FRQ training scholarships.

Applicants who have received or are currently receiving a research grant from a Quebec or Canadian funding agency (e.g., FRQ, CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC, CORPAQ, CAC, CALQ) for the program covered by the application and whose total value is equal to or greater than the total value of the Fonds grant are not eligible for this competition.

Applicants who are requesting a grant to undertake preparatory studies are not eligible.

4. Application

The electronic application form for doctoral research scholarships for medical students is available in the Application Area of [the FRQnet portal](#) at least one month before the competition deadline. Applicants can also consult the various guides about FRQnet available in the Documentation tab at the top right of the FRQnet portal.

It is the applicant's sole responsibility to choose:

- the correct funding program
- the correct form

In the event of an error, the Fonds will not transfer any program, form, program component, sector, or evaluation committee to another.

Applicants must prepare their files well in advance in order to obtain all the required documents and submit the form within the required time frame. They must also take into account the high volume of applications submitted to the Fonds at the end of the competition, if applicable.

In accordance with section 3.6 of the GTC, the funding application form must be completed in French. However, the documents attached to the form may be in French or English and must comply with the [standards for presenting attached files](#).

Any official document submitted in a language other than French or English must be accompanied by a certified professional translation. Any other document submitted in a language other than French or English must be accompanied by a simple translation.

Applicants are entirely responsible for their applications. Applications must be complete and meet all program requirements. If any of the required documents are missing, the application will be deemed ineligible. No documents received after the competition deadline will be considered. No documents that are not required will be submitted to the evaluation committee.

Submission of a funding application implies a commitment to read and comply with the [standards of ethics and integrity](#), the [Open Access Policy](#), and the [Policy on Responsible Conduct in Research](#).

4.1 Documents required from the applicant

A checklist of documents to be included can be found in the toolkit.

4.1.1 RAMQ card, proof of admission, or consent form

Applicants who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents must attach the following to the application form:

- a Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) card valid on the competition deadline date, or
- proof that a card has been requested from the RAMQ and will be valid by the competition deadline, or
- if they are in the process of renewing their RAMQ card by the contest deadline, proof that a new card has been requested from the RAMQ and a copy of their expired card.

Applicants who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada, or who do not have one of the above documents, remain eligible for this competition but must complete their training at a Quebec university. They must then submit one of the following two documents:

- proof of admission to a program of study at a Quebec university, or
- a consent form from the person supervising the research at a Quebec university, in accordance with the procedure described in section 4.2

4.1.2 History of part-time or non-enrolled semesters

Applicants who have been enrolled part-time or who have not been enrolled in one or more semesters since the beginning of the training program for which the scholarship is requested must provide:

- A certificate from the registrar's office indicating the history of semesters or any other official document issued by a competent authority of the university institution specifying the sessions completed on a part-time or non-enrolled basis.

4.1.3 Other documents to be attached to the form

Applicants must also attach the following documents to the appropriate sections of the application form:

- **Acknowledgments** (1 page maximum): Applicants must describe any scholarships, awards, and distinctions they have received, as well as the terms and conditions of their award.
- **Relevant experience and achievements** (maximum 4 pages): Applicants must present and describe their relevant experience and achievements (scientific, professional, social, etc.) in relation to their research project and background. They must also highlight their commitment and leadership skills (both inside and outside the academic community) and their ability to foster dialogue between science and society.
- **Research project** (maximum 2 pages): Applicants must describe their research project. They must demonstrate the originality of the project and its potential to contribute to the advancement of knowledge, the clarity and consistency of the research problem, the relevance of the conceptual framework and methodology, as well as the feasibility of the project and the realism of the timeline.
- **Bibliography** (maximum 1 page): Applicants must list the complete references for the works used in the description of the proposed research. In accordance with section 3.2 of the GCR, hyperlinks to web pages may be included as bibliographic references when relevant.
- **Document for a second doctorate in another discipline** (optional; maximum 1 page): Applicants who have obtained a first doctoral degree in research in another discipline must demonstrate that the project covered by the application will be evaluated by an evaluation committee different from the one that evaluated the previous project, in accordance with section 3.3.1. This demonstration must be attached to the "Title and field of research" section of the form.

4.1.4 Documents for exceptional measures

Applicants who wish to take advantage **of an exception to the eligibility period** (see section 3.3.2) must provide:

- **Justification for the request for an extension or exemption from the eligibility period** (1 page maximum): the applicant must explain the request for an exception and, in the case of a request for an extension, provide the dates and duration of the interruptions, as well as the rate of slowdown in activities, if applicable. This document must be attached to the "Préadmissibilité [Pre-eligibility]" section of the form and **will not be forwarded to the evaluation committee**.
- **Supporting documents for the exception request** (maximum 5 pages): e.g., medical certificate, disability certificate, child's birth certificate, caregiver tax credit application, official document or letter from employer, etc. These documents enable the Fonds to determine the length of the extension to be granted. They must be attached to the "Préadmissibilité [Pre-eligibility]" section of the form and **will not be forwarded to the evaluation committee**.

4.2 Documents required from the person supervising the research

This section is only for applicants who are required to complete their training at a Quebec university and are unable to provide proof of admission to a university program. For all other individuals, this document is not mandatory. If the grant is awarded, however, the grant recipient will be required to identify the person supervising their research in their FRQnet portal (see section 8.4.2).

Applicants must identify the person supervising their research in the “Encadrement [Supervision]” section of the form and send them a consent request by clicking on the “Envoyer une demande de consentement [Send consent request]” button (**this person must first create an FRQnet account, if they have not already done so**). An email is then sent to the identified person, and a consent form is automatically added to the Application Space of their FRQnet portal.

The consent of the person responsible for the research must be submitted **before the applicant submits the grant application form**. You can track the status of your application at any time in the Application Space of the FRQnet portal, in the Funding section, by clicking on the “Consent” button for the relevant grant application. The consent status in the FRQnet portal must indicate “Yes” and be accompanied by a date of consent. Otherwise, the applicant will not be able to submit their form and their application will be inadmissible. It is the applicant's responsibility to provide the research supervisor with the necessary instructions for creating an FRQnet account and to ensure that consent is submitted within the prescribed time frame.

Once consent has been submitted by the research supervisor, it will no longer be possible to make changes.

4.3 Notice of eligibility

After receiving the applications, the Fonds will verify their eligibility. A notice will be sent by email, no later than December following the competition deadline, to inform the applicant of the outcome of the eligibility review of their application and, if applicable, its submission to the evaluation committee. However, an application submitted to the evaluation committee may be declared ineligible at any time.

5. Evaluation

The process for evaluating funding applications is described in Section 4 of the GCR.

Evaluation criteria, sub-criteria, and weightings:

Academic record and achievements (45 points)

- Awards (prizes, distinctions, and scholarships obtained)
- Achievements (scientific, professional, social, etc.) and relevant experience (related to the research project or career path)
- Commitment and leadership skills (within and outside the academic environment)
- Ability to foster dialogue between science and society

Research project (55 points)


- Originality of the project and potential contribution to the advancement of knowledge
- Clarity and consistency of the research question
- Relevance of the conceptual framework and methodology
- Feasibility of the project and realism of the timetable

Total (100 points)

The process for evaluating funding applications is described in Section 4 of the GCR.

6. Partnerships

The grant may be offered in partnership. To do so, applicants must select one or more partners whose research areas correspond to their research theme in the “Partenariats [Partnerships]” section of the application form. If the grant is awarded, the Fonds will send the selected partners information enabling them to assess the relevance of the partnership in relation to their strategic and research priorities (project title, summary, and research areas). If the applicant's research project is deemed relevant by one or more partners, the grant will be offered in partnership.

Partner	Description
Pediatric Research Foundation	Childhood diseases Training grants in pediatric research, primarily in the field of childhood disease diagnosis. Grant amount: \$29,000 per year
Quebec Learning Health System Support Unit (LSSU) (the national training entity of the SRAP) 	Research focused on and for patients using a learning health system approach The Quebec Learning Health System Support Unit (SSA) is a provincial unit of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Patient-Oriented Research Strategy (PORS). The Unit works to continuously improve the Quebec health care system and make it a learning system. It mobilizes and equips the network to do things differently and achieve the fivefold objective by promoting partnership, integrating science and innovation, and facilitating change. Its Quebec-wide team deploys its expertise by offering training, consultation, tools, facilitation, and networking: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It builds scientific and experiential knowledge• It offers à la carte support to project managers in the network• It orchestrates continuous quality improvement The National Training Entity (NTE), also part of CIHR's SRAP, is a Canada-wide organization that aims to increase, support, and maintain the capacity for a collaborative, interdisciplinary research environment focused on partnerships with and for patients. The

	<p>NTE provides answers to changing healthcare questions, thereby helping to improve the patient experience.</p> <p>The scholarships offered by the FRQ in partnership with the Unit and the National Training Entity allow awardees to hone their skills and gain experience in research with and for patients, network, and work in an interdisciplinary manner with individuals and organizations working in health care using a learning health system approach.</p>
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7. Announcement of results

The results of the competition will be announced at the end of April. In accordance with section 5.2 of the GCR, individuals who receive a funding offer must indicate their acceptance or refusal no later than 30 days after the notice is posted on the FRQnet portal. A grant offer that is refused by the applicant cannot be reactivated.

8. Rules for using the grant

The rules presented in section 8 apply in the event of a grant. However, applicants are encouraged to read them when applying for the grant and to keep them for future reference in the event of a grant. **Technical details can be found in a grant usage guide**, which will be made available when the results are announced.

To retain the scholarship, the recipient must comply fully with the eligibility requirements and rules in effect at the time of application. In addition, the recipient must comply with the following conditions throughout the duration of the funding:

- Be enrolled full-time in the training program for which the scholarship is awarded, subject to the exceptions described in section 8.2
- Comply with the rules on combining awards described in section 8.3.

The awardee must notify the Fonds as soon as any of these conditions are no longer met and of any change in their situation that could affect their compliance with the conditions for awarding the scholarship. Failure to comply with these conditions (or failure to inform the Fund) could result in the cancellation of the scholarship and a request for reimbursement of the amounts received.

8.1 Effective date of the scholarship

The scholarship must begin **between May 1 of the year of the offer and January 15 of the following year** (see section 8.4.1 for more information). The duration of funding is determined based on the information provided in the scholarship application. No increase in the duration of funding is permitted.

8.2 Part-time enrollment

Part-time training is permitted only in the cases mentioned below, provided that the person supervising the research authorizes it and supporting documentation is provided.

Family obligations or medical condition: family obligations (e.g., caregiving, primary caregiver for a young child) or medical condition preventing the awardee from continuing their training on a full-time basis. During periods of part-time study, the awardee may receive 50% of the value of their scholarship payments.

Disability: disability as defined in the [Act to secure the rights of persons with disabilities with a view to their educational, professional, and social integration](#) (RLRQ, c. E-20.1) preventing the awardee from continuing their full-time education. The awardee may receive the full amount of their scholarship payments.

In both cases, the total value of the scholarship will not be affected.

8.3 Rules for combining scholarships, work, and internships

8.3.1 Combining scholarships

The following table shows permitted combinations, partial combinations, and prohibited combinations.

Type of scholarships / Scholarship program	Combination rule
Training scholarships (master's, doctoral, and postdoctoral) from federal government funding agencies: Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), and Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)	Combination prohibited or partial combination* permitted, under certain conditions
Training grants (master's, doctoral, postdoctoral, in partnership) from Quebec government funding agencies such as the Fonds de recherche du Québec and the Conseil de recherches en pêche et agroalimentaire du Québec (CORPAQ)	Combination prohibited
Grants from Canadian and Quebec government departments and agencies other than those mentioned above	Combination permitted
Scholarships supporting international mobility in joint supervision or for internships in Quebec or outside Quebec	Combination permitted

Grants from the Canada Council for the Arts (CCA) or the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (CALQ)	Combination not permitted if the funding is for the same project
Private sector scholarships, internal scholarships from universities and affiliated centers, and additional scholarships from the person supervising the research	Combination permitted

***Partial combination with a grant from one of the federal councils**

Applicants who receive a grant offer from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), or the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) **must accept it as soon as it is offered**. However, they are invited to accept the FRQ scholarship at the same time when partial accumulation is permitted, i.e., when the Fonds offers a scholarship with an **annual value** or **duration** greater than those of the federal councils, under the following terms:

- When the **annual value** of the Fund's grant is greater than that of the other grant offered, its amount is adjusted to make up the difference between the two awards.
- When the **duration** of the Fund's scholarship is greater than that of the other scholarship offered, the Fonds extends the duration of the funding by the same amount once the other scholarship has ended, unless the total value of the other organization's scholarship is greater than or equal to the total value of that offered by the Fund.

Payments cannot be deferred or the effective date of the scholarship delayed in order to receive a scholarship that cannot be combined with another scholarship.

Reimbursement will be required for any payment received in a situation where cumulation is prohibited.

8.3.2 Paid work and internships

Any paid work or internship undertaken in addition to the training **that does not interfere with research activities** is permitted, without time limits, provided that it is approved by the person supervising or co-supervising the research.

In addition, the person supervising or co-supervising the research may pay the candidate a salary in addition to the scholarship to work on the research project funded by the Fund. The scholarship paid by the Fonds does not constitute a salary.

8.4 Payments and management

8.4.1 Payment schedule

The annual amount of the scholarship is awarded to the recipient in three installments. Each installment covers a period of four months.

The first installment of the scholarship must be claimed **between May 1 of the year of the offer and March 1 of the following year**, otherwise the scholarship will be immediately canceled (see section 8.4.3).

For individuals whose training program is ongoing at the time the award letter is issued, the first installment will be made on or after:

- May 30 following the award (summer session)

For individuals whose training program has not begun when the award letter is issued, the first payment will be made at the first session of enrollment in the program, on one of the following dates:

- May 30 following the grant (summer session)
- September 30 following the grant (fall session)
- January 30 following the award (winter session)

The detailed payment schedule, including the periods during which payments can be claimed, can be found in the scholarship user guide. If awarded, awardees can view their payment schedule on their FRQnet portal.

8.4.2 Conditions for payments

The awardee must meet all the conditions associated with their payments, which are described in the following table.

Payments	Conditions for payments
All payments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirmation of enrollment (provided by the university)• Declaration of status and any scholarships
3^e	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Declaration of the name of the research supervisor
4^e	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certificates of completion for Levels 1 and 3 of the Ministry of Health and Social Services' research ethics tutorial, if applicable

8.4.3 Cancellation of a payment or scholarship

The first installment of the scholarship must be claimed no later than March 1 following the year of award, otherwise the scholarship will be immediately canceled. Starting with the second installment, an installment will be canceled, after prior notice, if it is not claimed or deferred, or if the required documents are not received within two months of the start of the semester.

The Fonds will terminate the scholarship, after prior notice, if the recipient takes no action in their FRQnet portal for two consecutive payment periods.

The Fonds will also terminate the scholarship, after giving notice, if two consecutive payments must be canceled due to non-compliance with eligibility requirements or the absence of required documents at the end of the two-month period following the start of the periods in question.

In addition, the Fonds reserves the right to cancel one or more payments, or the scholarship, in accordance with the [Policy on Responsible Conduct in Research](#).

8.5 Deferral of payments

8.5.1 Acquisition of relevant experience

The Fonds may authorize the suspension of training for the acquisition of relevant experience (experience within a research team, teaching experience related to the field of training, language study abroad, etc.) for a period of four months **for each full year of funding granted**. The payment of the scholarship for this period is then deferred to the end of the funding period. The Fonds reserves the right to reject any request that is insufficiently justified or irrelevant.

The deferral periods authorized for the entire duration of the scholarship may be consecutive if approved by the research supervisor.

This provision cannot be used for the first payment. In addition, the awardee cannot take advantage of this provision to accept another scholarship that cannot be combined with this one or to return to paid employment.

8.5.2 Leave for illness or family obligations

In accordance with section 6.14 of the GCR, the awardee may obtain a deferral of payment when training is suspended due to illness or family obligations, for as long as the university allows.

8.5.3 Parental leave

In accordance with section 6.13 of the GCR, awardees may obtain a deferral of payment for the birth or adoption of a child for a **maximum period of 12 months**.

8.6 Scholarship supplement for parental leave

In accordance with section 6.13 of the GCR, during the authorized suspension of research training for parental leave (see section 8.5.3), the recipient may request a **scholarship supplement for a continuous period of eight months** (i.e., for a maximum of two payments).

To be eligible for this supplement, the recipient must have already received a first scholarship payment and must not be enrolled in their research training program. In addition, they must not be in paid employment for the entire duration of the suspension.

In the case of partial accumulation with a scholarship received from a federal agency, the recipient must take the parental leave allowance offered by the federal government.

8.7 Changes currently being granted

8.7.1 Request for change

Any change in the scholarship recipient's situation must be reported. In accordance with section 6.5 of the GTC, the Fonds will ensure that the requested change does not call into question the initial assessment of the application and that it complies with the eligibility requirements and program rules. The request for modification is reviewed by the Fonds for approval. The Fonds may decide to continue, reduce, suspend, or terminate payments. The Fonds may also require reimbursement of amounts paid.

The decision to accept or reject the requested change is communicated by email.

8.7.2 Change in the start date of the scholarship

This type of change must be made before the first payment. It is strongly recommended that you submit your change request at the same time as you accept the scholarship offer.

8.7.3 Change in level of study

Holders of a master's research scholarship who plan to pursue a doctorate may use the remaining payments of the master's scholarship to begin a doctoral program, provided that the program begins in the following semester. These payments must be made within the duration of the scholarship initially offered. In addition, the person must have received at least one payment of the master's scholarship for at least one full-time semester in the program for which the scholarship was awarded, except in the case of a direct or accelerated transition to a doctoral program.

8.7.4 Change in the training program

Any change of program during the award period must comply with the research areas of the sector concerned and the choice of the initial application evaluation committee, in particular. However, if the recipient of the award plans to change programs for administrative reasons only and thereby retains the same field of study and research, the Fonds will conduct an analysis and the scholarship may be maintained.

8.7.5 Change of training and research location

A change of training and research location is permitted provided that it complies with Article 2.1 "Citizenship and Residence" of the GCR.

8.7.6 Change in research supervisor

If the awardee is still studying in the same training program and the research project remains the same, a change in the person supervising the research is automatically authorized.

8.7.7 Change in research project

To change the research project, the awardee must:

- demonstrate that the new project remains in the same field of research, i.e., that it would be evaluated by the same evaluation committee that evaluated the initial project;
- demonstrate that the scientific quality of the new project is equivalent to that of the initial project.

They must also specify whether they will remain with the same research supervisor, at the same university and in the same department.

The person supervising the research must also give their approval, justifying the proposed change.

The Fund's analysis will take into account the evaluation criteria used for the initial project.

8.7.8 Withdrawal or part-time continuation of the training program

Awardee who abandons their studies during the semester or decides to continue their training on a part-time basis, except in the cases described in section 8.2, is no longer eligible for the scholarship and must notify the Fonds in order to terminate it. Depending on the case, a refund of the current payment may be required.

8.7.9 Completion of studies and graduation

Awardees are eligible to receive payments until the final thesis submission. No registration is required after the initial submission.

8.8 Final report

In accordance with section 7.2 of the GTC, a final report is required within three months after the end of the semester covered by the last payment. The final report allows the Fonds to document the impact of the scholarship. The awarding of further FRQ funding in another program will be conditional upon receipt of this report.

9. Open access dissemination policy

The doctoral thesis resulting from this scholarship must be made available in open access, without embargo, in an institutional or disciplinary repository, in accordance with the [Open Access Policy](#) (revised in 2022). In addition, peer-reviewed publications resulting from research made possible by this grant must be made available in immediate open access (without embargo) and under an open license.

10. Promotion of FRQ-funded research

Awardees must mention the FRQ's financial support in any report, article, work, peer-reviewed publication, master's thesis, doctoral thesis, written communication, or any other written or other work resulting from the grant, in accordance with the models established by the FRQ.

Awardees are solely responsible for the content of their work. The fact that the FRQ's financial support is acknowledged in a production resulting from an FRQ scholarship does not mean that the FRQ endorses the statements made therein.

11. Effective date of the rules

These rules apply to the 2026-2027 fiscal year.