

Master's Research Scholarship 2027-2028 (B1) - Regular component and Re-Entering Research component

<u>Competition launch date:</u> July 2026	<u>Announcement of results:</u> End of April 2027	<u>Annual amount:</u> \$20,000
<u>Deadline (application):</u> October 1, 2026, 16:00 (EST)	<u>Scholarship start year:</u> 2027-2028	<u>Duration of funding:</u> Up to 6 semesters

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

Important reminders

It is the applicant's responsibility to read the rules of this program and the [Common General Rules](#) (CGR) of the Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ). The program rules provide additional details and information that supplement the CGR. In the event of any discrepancy with the CGR, the program rules shall prevail.

A PDF version and an accessible version of these rules are available in the Toolbox [in French only].

Master's scholarship applications must be submitted via the Application space of the [FRQnet portal](#), the transactional interface used by the FRQ for the submission of funding applications and the management of awards. To submit an application, the applicant must first create an FRQnet account. **At the competition deadline of October 1, 2026 at 16:00, the status of the application in the Application space of the FRQnet portal must be "Submitted to the Fonds". An application with any other status will be inadmissible.** It is impossible to submit an application, or add a document to the application, after the competition deadline.

Questions?

- Nature and Technologies sector: boursesmsc.nt@frq.gouv.qc.ca
- Health sector: boursesm.sante@frq.gouv.qc.ca
- Society and Culture sector: Megane.Brochu@frq.gouv.qc.ca

Technical questions about the application form?

- FRQnet IT Help Desk: centre.assistance@frq.gouv.qc.ca

The FRQ receives an extremely high volume of emails and calls in the weeks leading up to the competition deadline. This may result in longer than usual response times for support requests. Our teams do their utmost to handle each request with care. Thank you for your understanding.

The FRQ is a signatory to the [San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment](#) (DORA) and the [Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment](#) (CoARA). This dual membership marked the starting point for a strategic project: the Evolution of Research Excellence Assessment (E3R).

Through this project, the FRQ is promoting a qualitative approach to research assessment supported by the responsible use of quantitative indicators to recognize the diversity of research contributions including the diversity of knowledge, such as [Indigenous knowledge](#). By aligning its policies with these principles, the FRQ is committed to a gradual process of adapting and transforming assessment practices.

Overview of the application evaluation process

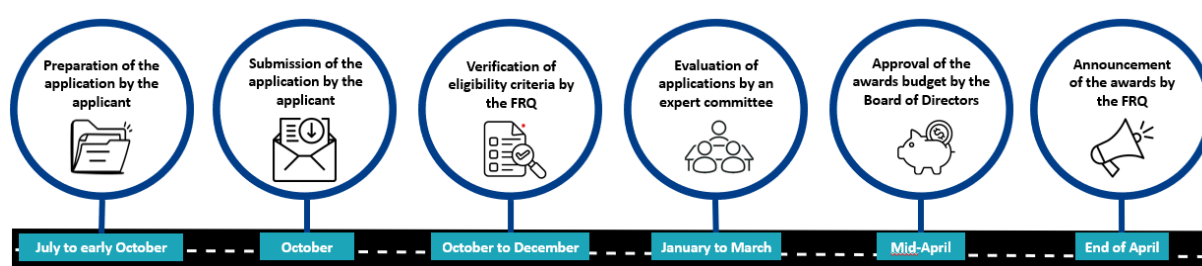


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1. Objectives

The objective of the training awards offered by the Fonds de recherche du Québec is to help support new generations of students in all sectors of research: natural sciences, mathematics and engineering (Nature and Technologies), human health (Health), humanities, social sciences, art and letters (Society and Culture).

More specifically, the Master's Research Scholarship aims to:

- Spark the interest of new generations of students in research;
- Support research excellence by providing top students with financial assistance as they undertake or pursue a master's research program.

2. Features

2.1 Value and duration of the scholarship

The annual value of the Master's Research Scholarship is **\$20,000**.

The maximum amount that can be awarded is \$40,000, corresponding to 6 semesters of funding (6 instalments).

2.2 Supplement for studies outside Québec

The supplement for students who pursue their studies outside Québec is intended to help awardees undertake or pursue a graduate program outside the province.

The supplement is **only** available to awardees who indicate a study location outside Québec in their application. Each sector of the FRQ may attribute the supplement to the ten applications that ranked first among all the applications evaluated by the review committees. Awardees must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents **and** have a valid RAMQ card (see Section 3.6). All applications that indicate a study location outside Québec will be automatically considered. Co-supervised programs are not eligible.

The maximum annual value of the supplement is **\$1,500**, i.e. **\$500** per semester.

3. Eligibility requirements

Applicants must comply with the following eligibility requirements. If the scholarship is awarded, awardees must meet the conditions described in Sections 3.1 and 3.6 throughout the duration of the scholarship.

3.1 Basic requirements

In accordance with Section 2.1 of the CGR, to be eligible to apply for a master's scholarship, applicants must:

- be a Canadian citizen or Canadian permanent resident, **and**
- have a Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) card that is valid at the competition deadline, or proof of application for a RAMQ card and that the card will be

valid at the competition deadline or, if they are in the process of renewing their RAMQ card at the competition deadline, proof that a new card has been requested from RAMQ and a copy of the old (expired) card.

Applicants who do not meet one or both of the above conditions are still eligible to apply, provided they submit proof of admission to a program of study at a Québec university or a consent form from their research supervisor (see Section 4.3). In addition, they must carry out their studies in Québec and are not eligible to apply for or to use the scholarship to undertake a cotutelle program with a university outside Québec (see Section 3.6).

3.2 Target group

Master's Research Scholarship – Regular component: the Regular component is open to applicants who have or plan to obtain an undergraduate degree, and who wish to undertake or pursue a master's research program* in one of the areas covered by the FRQ.

Master's Research Scholarship – Re-Entering Research component: the Re-Entering Research component is open to applicants who wish to re-enter the research community by pursuing master's-level research studies* in one of the areas covered by the FRQ.

To be considered a “research” program, the master's program must lead to the writing of a research thesis. Essays, research reports, dissertations and articles do not qualify. Professional master's programs and master's programs offered only part time are not eligible.

* In the case of direct entry from a bachelor's to doctoral studies or fast-tracking from a master's to doctoral studies, the program undertaken or pursued may be a doctoral research program (see Section 3.4).

Important note for applicants to the Health sector: health professionals who are members of a Québec professional body, association or federation relating to human health are encouraged to apply for this award program, if they are eligible:

- [Master's Research Scholarships for People with a Professional Health Degree \(B1DP\)](#)

3.3 Minimum overall average

Master's scholarship applicants must have obtained:

- an unrounded cumulative average in their undergraduate university program equal to or greater than:
 - **3.55 for the Nature and Technologies sector, or**
 - **B+ for the Health sector, or**
 - **A- for the Society and Culture sector, or**
- the equivalent for their undergraduate university studies.

Applications with a lower cumulative average are not eligible. To learn more about the FRQ's equivalency requirements, applicants should consult the [equivalency table for the minimum cumulative average required](#) for the sector to which they are applying. If the average is expressed as a value not listed in this table, the applicant must demonstrate that the cumulative average obtained is at least equivalent to the required minimum. The FRQ reserves the right to refuse an application based on the explanations provided or in the absence of the requested demonstration.

If the applicant has, or expects to have, only one undergraduate degree, the grades obtained for that degree will be considered in calculating the average. If the applicant has or has begun more than one undergraduate degree, grades for programs unrelated to the program of study for which the scholarship is being sought may not be considered in calculating the average.

3.4 Eligibility Period

3.4.1 Master's Research Scholarship – Regular component

To apply for the regular component, applicants **must have been enrolled in a master's program for no more than 3 full-time semesters before May 1, 2027.**

Direct entry from a bachelor's to doctoral studies or fast-tracking from a master's to doctoral studies: students admitted directly to a doctoral program from a bachelor's degree or fast-tracking to a doctoral program without submitting a master's thesis may first apply for a master's research scholarship, if eligible. The applicant must have been enrolled in the postgraduate program(s) concerned by the direct or fast-tracked entry for no more than 3 full-time semesters before May 1, 2027.

If the scholarship is awarded, **Nature and Technologies sector** awardees may receive a maximum of 6 payments during the first 6 semesters of their master's studies (or equivalent). Any semesters already completed in a master's program at the time the scholarship comes into effect are subtracted from the maximum number of payments allowed. **Health or Society and Culture sector** awardees may receive a maximum of 6 payments during the first 9 semesters of their master's studies (or equivalent).

The following **are considered** in calculating the eligibility period and the maximum number of payments allowed:

- Semesters completed on a full-time basis at the time the scholarship comes into effect
- Semesters completed on a part-time basis, as indicated in the [equivalency table for part-time semesters](#)
- The number of semesters during which applicants received financial support from a recognized Canadian or Québec government funding agency (e.g., NSERC, CIHR, SSHRC, FRQ), in order to ensure that the total funding received does not exceed 6 semesters.

The following **are not considered**:

- Unregistered semesters
- Semesters completed in a professional master's degree program
- Semesters completed in a master's research program in another discipline.

Applicants who are not enrolled in a master's program at the competition deadline but who intend to undertake master's studies are eligible to apply provided that their program begins in the 2028 winter semester at the latest.

Applicants who obtained a first master's research degree and who wish to undertake a second one may apply, provided that this second master's degree is in a different discipline and that their first master's degree was not funded by the FRQ through its training award competitions. The applicant must demonstrate that the funding application for the second master's degree will be evaluated by a different review committee than the one that would

have evaluated the application for the first master's degree. This demonstration must be attached in the "Titre et domaine de recherche [Title and research field]" section of the form. The list of review committees is available in the Toolbox. Should this demonstration not be provided, the FRQ reserves the right to refuse the application if it deems there are too many similarities between the two master's degrees.

3.4.2 Master's Research Scholarship – Re-Entering Research component

To apply to the Re-Entering Research component, applicants must have held an undergraduate university degree for at least five years at the competition deadline.

Applicants **must not**:

- have been enrolled in a graduate program for at least five years. However, applicants may be enrolled for their first semester at the competition deadline;
- have earned university credits for at least five years at the competition deadline.

3.4.3 Exceptions

- **Extension.** Applicants who have interrupted or delayed their studies for parental leave, major family obligations or health reasons may be granted an eligibility period extension. The FRQ will determine the duration of the extension based on the supporting documents provided with the application.
- **Exemption.** Applicants who have interrupted or delayed their studies because of a handicap as defined in the [Act to secure handicapped persons in the exercise of their rights with a view to achieving social, school and workplace integration](#) (CQLR, c. E-20.1) may be granted an eligibility period exemption. The maximum duration of funding remains 6 semesters at the master's level.

Exception requests and supporting documents attesting to the date, the duration of the interruption and the rate of slowdown of activities, where applicable, must be submitted with the application form (see Section 4.2.5). Applicants wishing to request such an exception are advised to contact the program manager before submitting their application form. The FRQ reserves the right to refuse any exception request that is not adequately justified.

3.5 Restrictions

Students enrolled in certain psychology programs are not eligible (refer to the page [Eligibility of Psychology programs](#)).

Applicants may only submit an application to **one of the following programs, regardless of sector**, in any given year:

- 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)
- Doctoral Research Scholarships (B2)
- Doctoral Research Scholarships for Medical Students (B2M)
- Doctoral Research Scholarships for People with a Professional Health Degree (B2DP)

- Postdoctoral Research Scholarships (B3)
- Postdoctoral Research-Creation Scholarships (B5)

In accordance with Section 3.1 of the CGR, it is not possible to concurrently hold more than one FRQ training award.

Applicants who have received or are currently receiving a research award from a Québec or Canadian granting agency (e.g., FRQ, CIHR, NSERC, SSHRC) for the program for which they are applying for funding, or for any other master's program, the total value of which is equal to or greater than the total value of the FRQ scholarship, are not eligible for this competition.

Applicants who apply for a scholarship for their preparatory studies are not eligible.

3.6 Conditions for using the scholarship outside Québec

In accordance with Section 2.1 of the CGR, to use a training award outside Québec, awardees must:

- be a Canadian citizen or Canadian permanent resident, **and**
- have a Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) card that is valid at the competition deadline, or proof of application for a RAMQ card and that the card will be valid at the competition deadline or, if they are in the process of renewing their RAMQ card at the competition deadline, proof that a new card has been requested from RAMQ and a copy of the old (expired) card.

Applicants who meet both of these conditions and wish to study outside Québec must reach an agreement with the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ) before their departure, to ensure that their RAMQ card remains valid for the duration of the scholarship.

Applicants who do not meet both of the above conditions:

- **must pursue their studies in Québec.** Their continuous physical presence in Québec is required throughout the duration of funding, excluding break periods listed in the university calendar. However, if the scholarship is awarded, travel outside Québec may be allowed if it is deemed essential for the proper implementation of activities related to the program of study and it does not exceed 180 days per year or 180 consecutive days. To avail themselves of this option, awardees must submit a [request for authorization to travel outside Québec](#), signed by their research supervisor, to the FRQ for approval.
- **are not eligible to apply for or to use the scholarship to undertake a cotutelle program with a university outside Québec.** Only applicants whose status allows them to use the scholarship outside Québec may apply for or use the scholarship under cotutelle with a university outside Québec.

Awardees who are not eligible to use their scholarship outside Québec or to undertake a cotutelle outside Québec based on the information and documents provided in the application will remain ineligible throughout the funding period, even if their citizenship or residency status changes.

4. Application

The electronic Master's Research Scholarship application form is available in the Application space of the [FRQnet portal](#) no later than one month before the competition deadline.

Applicants can also consult the various FRQnet guides available in the Documentation tab at the top right of the FRQnet portal. In particular, they can refer to the [FRQnet portal user guide](#).

Applicants are solely responsible for choosing:

- the right funding program
- the right application form
- within this form, the right program component, the appropriate sector of the FRQ, and the review committee they deem most appropriate for the evaluation of their application.

In the event of an error, the FRQ will not transfer the application from one program, application form, program component, sector or review committee to another.

Applicants must obtain all the required documents and submit the form within the required deadline. Applicants must also anticipate and consider the high volume of funding applications received by the FRQ near the competition deadline.

In accordance with Section 3.6 of the CGR, the application form must be completed in French. Documents attached to the form may be written in French or English. To ensure equitable evaluation for all applicants, submitted documents must also respect the [presentation standards for PDF attachments](#). Failure to meet these requirements may result in the application being disqualified without prior notice.

Official documents submitted in a language other than French or English must include a certified professional translation. Any other documents submitted in a language other than French or English must include a basic translation.

If an attached document is blank or contains only a QR code or other type of link, such that it consists solely of content accessible online and external to the application, the document will be considered inadmissible and the application may be ineligible. Similarly, if an attached document does not meet the requirements set out in the program rules, it will be considered inadmissible and the application may be ineligible.

Applicants are entirely responsible for their application, which must be complete and meet all program requirements. The absence of any required documents will render the application ineligible. No documents received after the competition deadline will be considered and applications cannot be updated. No document that was not requested will be sent to the review committee.

The submission of a funding application implies a commitment to read and abide by the [standards of ethics and integrity](#), the [Open Access Dissemination Policy](#) and the [Policy for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#).

4.1 Selecting the sector and review committee

Applicants select the sector and the review committee that will evaluate their application. To choose the sector, applicants should consult the list of FRQ research areas ([Nature and Technologies sector](#), [Health sector](#), [Society and Culture sector](#)) and the [guidelines for](#)

[applying for a training award](#). To choose a review committee, applicants should consult the [list of review committees](#) for the chosen sector.

4.2 Documents required from the applicant

A checklist of documents to be attached with the application can be found in the Toolbox.

4.2.1 RAMQ card, proof of admission or consent form

Applicants who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada must provide:

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

In accordance with Section 3.6 of these rules, applicants who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents, or do not have one of the documents listed above, are still eligible for this competition, but must carry out their studies at a Québec university. They must provide one of the following two documents:

- proof of admission to a program of study at a Québec university, or
- a consent form from their research supervisor at a Québec university as described in Section 4.3.

4.2.2 Transcripts

Transcripts that are missing, incomplete, illegible, unofficial, uncertified or not up to date shall render the application ineligible.

Copies of all transcripts are required for all university studies, whether completed or not, including transcripts for exchange programs and courses for which transfer credits were received, where applicable. Transcripts must show all grades obtained in all university studies undertaken.

The transcript for an applicant's **current program of study** must:

- be up to date, i.e. it must **have been issued no earlier than July** of the year in which the competition opens, even if it contains no grades or credits, **and**
- show all grades obtained in the last semester completed prior to the competition deadline, including the summer semester, if applicable.

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 FRQ, each transcript must:

- be issued by the relevant academic institution, **and**
- include elements that prove it is an official transcript from the academic institution, including the university seal or the registrar's signature or both, wording such as "official transcript", etc.

A watermark does not render a transcript unofficial as long as the requirements specified above are met. A sealed envelope from the registrar's office containing an official transcript may be opened and its contents scanned. Transcripts that can be consulted online must be converted to PDF and attached to the application in the appropriate section of the form. If there is any doubt as to the authenticity of a transcript, the FRQ reserves the right to confirm the information with the applicant and with the academic institution.

Other documents to be attached with the transcripts, where applicable:

- For transcripts in a language other than French or English, the original transcript AND a certified professional translation.
- For transcripts obtained outside Canada and the US, or when the average is expressed as a value not listed in the [equivalency table](#), a document explaining the grading system in effect and/or demonstrating that the cumulative average obtained is at least equivalent to the required minimum. The document must clearly explain the grading system so that the transcripts can be easily understood by the FRQ and the review committee.
- When no transcript is issued, an explanatory document from the institution (registrar's office or equivalent administrative body) detailing the reason(s) for the missing transcripts. The FRQ reserves the right to verify the admissibility of the reasons given.
- When no transcript is issued and the applicant is unable to obtain an explanatory document from the university, an explanatory document from the applicant, signed by the appropriate authority at the host institution, justifying the absence of transcripts. The FRQ reserves the right to verify the admissibility of the reasons given.

4.2.3 List of part-time and unregistered semesters and other specific enrolment situations

Applicants who were enrolled part-time or were not enrolled for one or more semesters since the start of the program of study for which the scholarship is being sought, must provide:

- An official notice from the registrar's office listing all semesters or other official document issued by an appropriate authority at the university specifying the semesters completed on a part-time basis or without registration.

Any other specific circumstances relating to enrolment in the study program for which the scholarship is being sought, and which may affect the eligibility period or the maximum number of instalments allowed, must also be certified by an official document issued by an appropriate authority at the university. The FRQ reserves the right to determine the validity of the document provided.

4.2.4 Other documents to attach to the form

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

- **Program of study** (maximum 1 page): a description of the master's program of study, including objectives, duration, number of course credits, number of research credits, and whether the program requires the writing of a thesis, essay or other.
- **Honours** (maximum 1 page): a list of any scholarships, prizes and distinctions received and how they were awarded, including whether they were awarded following an excellence-based competition process or by other means.

- **Integrated background presentation** (maximum 1 page): a description of the links between the applicant's experiences and interests on the one hand, and career choices, training, and academic and professional background on the other. While there are no evaluation criteria for this, the integrated background presentation can help the review committee to better understand, contextualize and assess the applicant's academic record, background and contributions. Applicants are not expected to disclose any sensitive personal information.
- **Relevant experience and achievements** (maximum 2 pages): a presentation and description of experience and achievements (scientific, professional, social, etc.) relevant to the proposed research and the applicant's background.
- **Proposed research** (maximum 1 page): a description of the proposed research (originality, clarity and coherence) including an outline of the conceptual framework and methodological elements, demonstrating their appropriateness. It is recommended that the research be presented in a clear and simple manner, without jargon or undefined acronyms.
- **Bibliography** (maximum 1 page): list of the full references of the works used in the description of the proposed research. In accordance with Section 3.2 of the CGR, links to web pages may be included as bibliographic references where relevant.
- **Document for a second master's in a different discipline** (maximum 1 page): Applicants who obtained a first master's research degree in another discipline must demonstrate that the project presented in the application will be evaluated by a different review committee than the one that would have evaluated the previous project, in accordance with Section 3.4.1. This demonstration must be attached in the "Titre et domaine de recherche [Title and research field]" section of the form.

4.2.5 Documents for eligibility period exception

Applicants seeking an **eligibility period exception** (see Section 3.4.3) must provide:

- **Justification of request for an eligibility period extension or exemption** (1 page maximum): the applicant must explain the exception request and provide, in the case of a request for extension, the dates and duration of the interruptions, as well as the rate of slowdown of activities, if applicable. This document must be attached in the "Préadmissibilité [Pre-eligibility]" section of the form and **will not be sent to the review 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 allow the FRQ to determine the duration of the extension to be granted. They must be attached in the "Préadmissibilité [Pre-eligibility]" section of the form and **will not be sent to the review committee**.

4.3 Documents required from the research supervisor

This section is intended only for applicants who are required to pursue their studies in Québec and are unable to provide proof of admission to a program of study at a Québec university. For all other applicants, this document is not required. If the scholarship is awarded, however, awardees must identify their research supervisor in their FRQnet portal (see Section 4.2 of the [rules for the use of FRQ master's and doctoral scholarships](#)).

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

The research supervisor’s consent form must be submitted **before the applicant submits the scholarship application form**. This can be checked at any time in the Funding section of the Application space of the FRQnet portal, by clicking on the “Consent” button of the application in question. The consent status in the FRQnet portal must be “Yes”, accompanied by a consent date. If not, the applicant will not be able to submit the form and the 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 the form is submitted within the prescribed deadline.

No further changes can be made to the consent form once it has been submitted by the research supervisor.

4.4 Eligibility notice

All applications received by the FRQ are assessed for eligibility. Applicants will receive an email notification no later than December following the competition deadline, informing them of the result of the eligibility assessment of their application and, where applicable, its transmission to the review committee. Applications sent to the review committee may nevertheless be determined to be ineligible at any time.

5. Evaluation

The evaluation process for funding applications is described in Section 4 of the CGR.

Evaluation criteria, sub-criteria and weighting:

Academic record and achievements (50 points)

- Transcripts
- Honours (awards, distinctions, scholarships)
- Achievements (scientific, professional, social, etc.) and relevant experience (related to the project or the applicant’s background)

Interest and potential of the proposed research (45 points)

- Originality, clarity and coherence of the proposed research
- Appropriateness of the outline of the conceptual framework and methodological elements

Overall presentation (5 points)

Total (100 points)

Only applications with a score of 70% or higher may be recommended for a training award. However, achieving a score of 70% does not guarantee that a scholarship will be awarded, as the number of scholarships awarded depends on the available budget.

6. Partnership scholarships

The scholarship may be offered in partnership. For this, applicants must select, in the “Partenariats [Partnerships]” section of the application form, one or more partners whose research areas are in line with their research theme. Applicants must also ensure that they meet the requirements listed in the partner description, where applicable. If the scholarship is awarded, the FRQ sends the selected partners the information needed to assess the relevance of the partnership to their strategic and research priorities (project title, abstract, areas of research, bibliography). If the applicant’s research project is deemed relevant and selected by one or more partners, the scholarship will be offered in partnership.

6.1 Partner – Nature and Technologies sector

Partner	Description
SSA Québec Support Unit (SPOR National Training Entity)	Research with and for patients in a learning health system approach The SSA Québec Support Unit is a provincial unit of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)’s national Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) network. The Unit works to continuously improve Québec’s healthcare system and make it a learning system. It mobilizes and equips the network to do things differently and achieve the Quintuple Aim by promoting partnership work, the integration of science and innovation, and the facilitation of change. Its pan-Québec team deploys its expertise in training, consulting, tools, facilitation and networking to: • Build scientific and experiential knowledge • Offer à la carte support to project leaders in the network • Orchestrate continuous quality improvement. The National Training Entity (NTE), also part of CIHR’s SPOR, is a pan-Canadian organization that aims to increase, support and sustain the capacity of a collaborative, interdisciplinary research environment focused on partnering with and for patients. NTE provides answers to changing healthcare questions, helping to improve the patient experience. The scholarships offered by the FRQ in partnership with the Unit and the SPOR National Training Entity enable scholarship holders to hone their skills and gain experience in research with and for patients, to network, and to work across disciplines with different healthcare professionals and organizations in a learning health system approach.
Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS)	Research scholarships on issues surrounding the legalization of cannabis for non-medical purposes These scholarships offered by the FRQ in partnership with the MSSS support scholarship holders who are conducting research into issues surrounding the legalization and use of cannabis for

	non-medical purposes. “Non-medical purposes” is understood to mean any consumption of cannabis that is not authorized and supervised by a healthcare professional. As such, the dynamics of cannabis use for self-care constitutes an eligible research topic. However, research pursuing the following objectives is not eligible under this program: 1) Assessing potential therapeutic effects, outcomes or indications; 2) Assessing efficacy in the treatment of a pathological condition, symptoms or ailment. Through this scholarship offer, the MSSS wishes to support the development of the next generation of researchers who will contribute to advancing knowledge on at least one of the following aspects within the Québec population: • the impacts of cannabis on health; • support for the development of public policy; • support for the implementation of interventions for risk prevention, health protection, harm reduction and the reduction of social inequalities in health, in relation to the non-medical use of cannabis. The scholarships also aim to encourage knowledge sharing through knowledge mobilization and scientific dissemination activities. Applicants whose applications are recommended for funding by the FRQ and deemed relevant by the partner – following a relevance assessment managed by the FRQ – may be awarded a scholarship offered in partnership with the MSSS. They may also be invited, for networking purposes, to attend activities arising from the various initiatives carried out as part of the MSSS/FRQ cannabis research program (e.g. the Réseau-observatoire sur les enjeux liés à la légalisation du cannabis à des fins non médicales et son usage). Scholarship holders will be required to provide an annual progress report (1 page) as well as a final report at the end of the funding period. Amount of the master’s scholarship: \$27,500 per year
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6.2 Partners – Health sector

Partner	Description
Pediatric Research Foundation  Fondation de la recherche pédiatrique	Early childhood diseases Training scholarships in pediatrics research, with a focus on the diagnosis of childhood diseases. Amount of the scholarship: \$22,500 per year

Parkinson Québec 	Parkinson's disease Training scholarships in Parkinson's disease research. Amount of the scholarship: \$22,500 per year
Mental health Research Canada 	Training scholarship in the mental health field. The following themes will be prioritized: 1) Enhancing Workplace Mental Health: Research supporting employee mental health in the workplace and the development of programs to help mitigate work-related stress. People spend a large portion of their lives in workplaces, and poor mental health has been shown to lead to increased absenteeism, decreased productivity and increased employer healthcare costs. COVID-19 has both augmented and spotlighted the importance of supporting mental health in workplaces, and at least 70% of Canadian businesses do not have a workplace mental health strategy (Deloitte, 2019). 2) Supporting Diverse Populations: Research supporting specific groups of people with unique needs. These may include, but are not restricted to: Indigenous populations, BIPOC populations, refugees and recent immigrants, LGBTQ+ communities, and/or women, for example. 3) Advancing virtual service delivery: Research focusing on assessment and efficacy of existing – not new – digital products and services. There is an ever-increasing number of apps and digital platforms aimed at offering mental health supports, many of which need validation to prove their effectiveness in their target populations, and to continue to refine and improve their delivery.
SSA Québec Support Unit (SPOR National Training Entity) 	Research with and for patients in a learning health system approach The SSA Québec Support Unit is a provincial unit of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)'s national Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) network. The Unit works to continuously improve Québec's healthcare system and make it a learning system. It mobilizes and equips the network to do things differently and achieve the Quintuple Aim by promoting partnership work, the integration of science and innovation, and the facilitation of change. Its pan-Québec team deploys its expertise in training, consulting, tools, facilitation and networking to: • Build scientific and experiential knowledge • Offer à la carte support to project leaders in the network

	Orchestrate continuous quality improvement The National Training Entity (NTE), also part of CIHR's SPOR, is a pan-Canadian organization that aims to increase, support and sustain the capacity of a collaborative, interdisciplinary research environment focused on partnering with and for patients. NTE provides answers to changing healthcare questions, helping to improve the patient experience. The scholarships offered by the FRQ in partnership with the Unit and the SPOR National Training Entity enable scholarship holders to hone their skills and gain experience in research with and for patients, to network, and to work across disciplines with different healthcare professionals and organizations in a learning health system approach.
Canadian Network on Hepatitis C  CanHepC Canadian Network on Hepatitis C Réseau Canadien sur l'Hépatite C	Research on the Hepatitis C virus Training scholarships in Hepatitis C virus research. Amount of the scholarship: \$32,000 per year
Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS)	Research scholarships on issues surrounding the legalization of cannabis for non-medical purposes These scholarships offered by the FRQ in partnership with the MSSS support scholarship holders who are conducting research into issues surrounding the legalization and use of cannabis for non-medical purposes. "Non-medical purposes" is understood to mean any consumption of cannabis that is not authorized and supervised by a healthcare professional. As such, the dynamics of cannabis use for self-care constitutes an eligible research topic. However, research pursuing the following objectives is not eligible under this program: 1) Assessing potential therapeutic effects, outcomes or indications; 2) Assessing efficacy in the treatment of a pathological condition, symptoms or ailment. Through this scholarship offer, the MSSS wishes to support the development of the next generation of researchers who will contribute to advancing knowledge on at least one of the following aspects within the Québec population: - the impacts of cannabis on health; - support for the development of public policy; - support for the implementation of interventions for risk prevention, health protection, harm reduction and the reduction of social inequalities in health, in relation to the non-medical use of cannabis. The scholarships also aim to encourage knowledge sharing through knowledge mobilization and scientific dissemination activities.

	Applicants whose applications are recommended for funding by the FRQ and deemed relevant by the partner – following a relevance assessment managed by the FRQ – may be awarded a scholarship offered in partnership with the MSSS. They may also be invited, for networking purposes, to attend activities arising from the various initiatives carried out as part of the MSSS/FRQ cannabis research program (e.g. the Réseau-observatoire sur les enjeux liés à la légalisation du cannabis à des fins non médicales et son usage). Scholarship holders will be required to provide an annual progress report (1 page) as well as a final report at the end of the funding period. Amount of the master's scholarship: \$27,500 per year
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6.3 Partner – Society and Culture sector

Partner	Description
SSA Québec Support Unit SPOR National Training Entity	Research with and for patients in a learning health system approach The SSA Québec Support Unit is a provincial unit of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)'s national Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) network. The Unit works to continuously improve Québec's healthcare system and make it a learning system. It mobilizes and equips the network to do things differently and achieve the Quintuple Aim by promoting partnership work, the integration of science and innovation, and the facilitation of change. Its pan-Québec team deploys its expertise in training, consulting, tools, facilitation and networking to: • Build scientific and experiential knowledge • Offer à la carte support to project leaders in the network • Orchestrate continuous quality improvement The National Training Entity (NTE), also part of CIHR's SPOR, is a pan-Canadian organization that aims to increase, support and sustain the capacity of a collaborative, interdisciplinary research environment focused on partnering with and for patients. NTE provides answers to changing healthcare questions, helping to improve the patient experience. The scholarships offered by the FRQ in partnership with the Unit and the SPOR National Training Entity enable scholarship holders to hone their skills and gain experience in research with and for patients, to network, and to work across disciplines with different healthcare professionals and organizations in a learning health system approach.

Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS)	Research scholarships on issues surrounding the legalization of cannabis for non-medical purposes These scholarships offered by the FRQ in partnership with the MSSS support scholarship holders who are conducting research into issues surrounding the legalization and use of cannabis for non-medical purposes. “Non-medical purposes” is understood to mean any consumption of cannabis that is not authorized and supervised by a healthcare professional. As such, the dynamics of cannabis use for self-care constitutes an eligible research topic. However, research pursuing the following objectives is not eligible under this program: 1) Assessing potential therapeutic effects, outcomes or indications; 2) Assessing efficacy in the treatment of a pathological condition, symptoms or ailment. Through this scholarship offer, the MSSS wishes to support the development of the next generation of researchers who will contribute to advancing knowledge on at least one of the following aspects within the Québec population: • the impacts of cannabis on health; • support for the development of public policy; • support for the implementation of interventions for risk prevention, health protection, harm reduction and the reduction of social inequalities in health, in relation to the non-medical use of cannabis. The scholarships also aim to encourage knowledge sharing through knowledge mobilization and scientific dissemination activities. Applicants whose applications are recommended for funding by the FRQ and deemed relevant by the partner – following a relevance assessment managed by the FRQ – may be awarded a scholarship offered in partnership with the MSSS. They may also be invited, for networking purposes, to attend activities arising from the various initiatives carried out as part of the MSSS/FRQ cannabis research program (e.g. the Réseau-observatoire sur les enjeux liés à la légalisation du cannabis à des fins non médicales et son usage). Scholarship holders will be required to provide an annual progress report (1 page) as well as a final report at the end of the funding period. Amount of the master’s scholarship: \$27,500 per year
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7. Announcement of results

The competition results are announced at the end of April. In accordance with Section 5.2 of the CGR, applicants who are offered funding are required to indicate their acceptance or refusal within 30 days after the notice is posted to the FRQnet portal. Once a funding offer has been refused by the applicant it cannot be reactivated.

8. Scholarship start date

The scholarship must begin **between May 1 of the year of the offer and January 1 of the following year**. The duration of funding is determined based on information provided in the scholarship application. It is not possible to increase the duration of funding.

9. Rules for using the scholarship

The rules that apply once a scholarship has been awarded are set out in the [rules for the use of FRQ scholarships](#). Applicants should read these rules before applying, and keep them for future reference should they be awarded a scholarship. To retain the scholarship, awardees must meet all eligibility requirements and the program rules in effect at the time of application.

Technical procedures relating to the management of the scholarship are provided in the [scholarship user guide](#), which will be made available when the results are announced.