

# Research-Creation Support Program (Programming to (for) research- creation project

FONDS DE RECHERCHE DU QUÉBEC  
SOCIETY AND CULTURE

[Apply to this program](#)

Competition year :

**2025-2026**

Deadline (application) :

**October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 16:00 (EST)**

Announcement of results :

**End of April 2025**

Amount :

**\$15,000 to \$50,000/year, variable according to component, optional funding and supplements (see Sections 8.1, 8.2, 8.4 and 8.5)**

Duration :

**2 to 3 years, variable according to component**

## **! RAPPEL IMPORTANT**

This program refers to the Common General Rules (CGR) [↗](#) of the Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ), which are applicable to all FRQ programs. It is the responsibility of applicants and/or funding holders to read the CGR, which set out all rules governing competitions and managing awards. Only the special conditions applicable to the Research-Creation Support program are indicated in this document, and these prevail over the CGR.

The link to the FRQnet electronic Portfolio (ePortfolio) [↗](#) and the forms associated with this competition are available under Portals acces [↗](#) on the website. Further details are available in the "Documents" menu of the FRQnet E-portfolio.

At the competition deadline of **4 p.m. on October 17, 2024**, the status of the application in the FRQnet system must be "Submitted to the Fonds". An application that does not meet this condition will be considered inadmissible.

In addition, a creation portfolio must have been uploaded by the competition deadline as per the instructions in Section 6 of these rules. In the absence of the creation portfolio, the application will be deemed ineligible.

For any questions regarding the preparation of their application, applicants are invited to contact the program manager.

In the event of a discrepancy between the French and English versions of the Program Rules, the French version shall prevail.

The rules for this program are available in full and in PDF format in the Toolbox.

This version was updated on July 9, 2024, subject to the approval of the Ministre de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Énergie.

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## 1. OBJECTIVES

The following programs are intended for creators and artists working as postdoctoral researchers or university professors who are able to present both a portfolio of productions resulting from an artistic or creative practice and a record of theoretical or scientific contributions.

### **Postdoctoral Scholarship** —

- Contribute to the development of a new generation of researcher-creators within the academic and artistic communities;
- Help new doctoral graduates to strengthen their research-creation skills, enhance their creative processes and promote and disseminate their work. In this respect, the postdoctoral internship must constitute an added value to the applicant's doctoral research-creation work;
- Encourage mobility towards stimulating and dynamic academic and artistic environments for research-creation, both nationally and internationally;
- Attract and retain top talent in Québec.

### **New Academics** +

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**Individual Project/Team Project**



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## 2. DEFINITION

The Fonds uses the term research-creation to designate any research process or approach that fosters creation and aims to produce new aesthetic, theoretical, methodological, epistemological or technical knowledge. All of these processes and approaches must include, to varying degrees (depending on the practices and temporalities specific to each project):

1) Creative or artistic activities (design, experimentation, technology, prototype, etc.)

AND

2) The problematization of these activities (critical and theoretical analysis of the research-creation, creation or artistic process, conceptualization, etc.).

As there can be no research-creation without give and take between the work of art and the creation process by which it exists, the Fonds requires that the creative or artistic activities and their problematization be carried out by the same person or a group (project component).

For the purposes of the Fonds, a research-creation approach is based on:

- A sustained creative or artistic practice;
- The problematization of this creative or artistic practice;
- The transmission, presentation and dissemination of the experimentation and/or results of research-creation projects of all types to the research community, peers and the general public.

Specifically, the research-creation activities carried out under this program must contribute to the development of productions or works resulting from a creative or artistic practice, provided that they offer an element of renewal or innovation in terms of approach, process, technology, materials, form of presentation or experimentation, repertory or interpretative style. These productions must lend themselves to problematization leading to the development of new aesthetic, theoretical, methodological, epistemological or technical knowledge.

For the purposes of this program, performance in the context of a theatrical, choreographic or musical presentation is considered to be creation provided that it is innovative and gives rise to a problematization.

**The following do not qualify for this program:**

Performance as exegesis or as an analysis of a creator's artistic works or productions;

The development of productions resulting from an artistic or creative practice that are not accompanied by problematization leading to the development of new aesthetic, theoretical, methodological, epistemological or technical knowledge.

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### 3. COMPONENTS

Applicants must be recognized as working in research-creation and meet the eligibility requirements (see Section 4).

Depending on career advancement and researcher status as defined in the CGR, the applicant must choose the appropriate program component from among the following four options:

**Postdoctoral Scholarship (B5)**

This component is intended for applicants who wish to undertake or pursue a postdoctoral program in research-creation.

**New Academics (CCZ)**



**Individual Project (RC1)**



**Team Project (RC2)**



Note: Each component is followed by the code of the corresponding FRQnet electronic form.

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## 4. ELIGIBILITY

**Postdoctoral Scholarship (B5)**



Applicants must comply with the following eligibility requirements at the competition deadline. If the scholarship is awarded, awardees must meet the conditions described in Sections 4.1

and 4.4 to 4.6 throughout the duration of the scholarship.

#### **4.1 Basic requirements**

In accordance with Section 2.1 of the CGR, to be eligible to apply for a postdoctoral scholarship, an applicant 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.

Applicants who do not meet one or both of the above conditions are still eligible to apply, provided they submit an electronic Supervisor Acceptance Form from their supervisor (see Section 5.2). In addition, they must carry out their postdoctoral internship in Québec (see Section 4.4).

#### **4.2 Eligibility period**

To be eligible for a postdoctoral scholarship, applicants must, at the competition deadline:

- Have obtained a doctoral degree within the last five years,

OR

- Plan to submit their doctoral thesis no later than **March 1, 2026**.


If the applicant holds more than one research doctorate, the date of the most recent doctorate will be used to determine eligibility.

Exceptions:

**Extension:** Applicants who have interrupted or delayed their research training after obtaining their doctorate for reasons such as parental leave, major family obligations, bereavement, a



career period outside the research community or health reasons may be granted an eligibility period extension. In the case of an interruption for parental leave, family, bereavement or health reasons, the extension granted is equivalent to **twice the duration of the leave of absence**. In the case of an interruption for a career period outside the research community, the extension granted corresponds to **the duration of the interruption**. In the case of a slowdown, the Fonds will determine the duration of the extension based on the supporting documents provided with the application.

**Exemption:** Applicants who have interrupted or delayed their research training because of a disability may be granted an eligibility period exemption. However, a given individual may not apply for a postdoctoral scholarship more than twice after obtaining a doctorate. This exemption is only available to applicant who meet the definition of “handicapped person” 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](#) )

The exception request and supporting documents must be submitted with the application form (see Section 5.4). Applicants wishing to request such an exception are advised to verify the admissibility of the exception with the program manager before submitting their application. The Fonds reserves the right to refuse any exception request that is not adequately justified.

### **4.3 Restrictions**

Only one scholarship application (master’s, doctoral, postdoctoral or re-entering research) may be submitted per Fonds in any given year. In accordance with Section 3.1 of the CGR, an awardee may hold a training award from only one Fonds.

Applicants who have received or are currently receiving a postdoctoral award from a Québec or Canadian granting agency (e.g., SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR, FRQNT, FRQS, FRQSC) are not eligible for this competition.

In accordance with Section 2.2 of the CGR , applicants who hold a regular professorial position at a university are ineligible for this program.

#### **4.4 Conditions for using the scholarship outside Québec**

In accordance with Section 2.1 of the CGR, to use a postdoctoral training award outside Québec, the applicant 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.

**Applicant who do not meet one or both of the above conditions are required to carry out their postdoctoral internship in Québec.** In this case, their continuous physical presence in Québec is required throughout the duration of funding, excluding break periods listed in the university calendar. However, travel outside Québec deemed necessary for the proper implementation of activities related to the postdoctoral internship may be allowed if it is approved by the affiliated institution and does not exceed 180 days per year.

**Applicant who are not eligible to use their postdoctoral scholarship outside Québec at the time of application will remain ineligible throughout during the funding period, even if their citizenship status changes.**

#### **4.5 Choice of host environment(s)**

The proposed host environment(s) must enable applicants to join new networks in order to enhance their research-creation prospects and expose them to new approaches in a quality research and creation environment. The Fonds encourages mobility, whether within Québec, outside Québec or internationally, when permitted by the program's eligibility requirements.

The postdoctoral research-creation internship may be carried out in an academic and/or artistic environment. It may take place in a variety of settings: artists' centre, cultural outreach agency, cultural journal, university research centre with programs that include and support

research-creation, etc. The postdoctoral research-creation internship may also take the form of a collaboration with an artist or a group of artists.

The host environment should be committed to providing the postdoctoral researcher with conditions that are conducive to artistic creation, production and dissemination. In certain cases, workspaces (e.g. studios) and other material resources needed for the internship will be requested. The host environment must also ensure ample opportunity for artistic and theoretical exchanges between creators and collaborators.

**The supervising and co-supervising institutions must be different from the awarding institution or the co-supervising/cotutelle institution (if applicable) of the applicant's doctoral degree.**

Co-supervision of the postdoctoral internship in different academic and artistic environments is encouraged.

**The applicant must plan to be present at the supervising institution or co-supervising institution throughout the duration of the internship.** However, field research and data collection trips are permitted, subject to the eligibility requirements for the use of the scholarship outside Québec. When field research or data collection trips exceed six months, a co-supervision agreement must be formalized in the application (see Section 5.5).

Exception:

An applicant whose mobility is considerably restricted for medical reasons or because of a disability or major family obligations may be permitted to carry out the postdoctoral internship at the same institution that awarded the doctoral degree. The exception request and supporting documents must be submitted with the application form (see Section 5.4). Applicants wishing to request such an exception are advised to verify the admissibility of the exception with the program manager before submitting their application. The Fonds reserves the right to refuse any exception request that is not adequately justified.

#### **4.6 Supervision and co-supervision**

The postdoctoral internship must be supervised by a person whose position or university affiliation qualifies them to act as the sole supervisor of graduate students and independently lead research projects.

The internship may also be co-supervised. If so, the applicant must indicate this on the application form. Co-supervision must be provided by a person whose expertise is considered relevant to the postdoctoral internship, and who holds a regular university position or a full-time paid position in a public, parapublic, community, private, or practice sector organization, or other setting deemed appropriate.

**Furthermore, supervision and co-supervision may not be provided by the applicant's doctoral research supervisor, or by a person affiliated with the institution where the applicant's doctoral studies were carried out.**

Supervision and co-supervision of the postdoctoral internship come with a commitment to responsible research conduct, to upholding ethics and integrity standards, and to encouraging the applicant's own commitment to ethical and responsible research conduct.

Exception:

In exceptional circumstances, supervision or co-supervision of the postdoctoral internship by the supervisor or co-supervisor of the applicant's doctoral studies may be permitted. In such cases, the applicant must demonstrate that it is impossible for the postdoctoral internship to be supervised or co-supervised by another person, notably because of considerable mobility restrictions due to medical reasons, a disability or major family obligations. The exception request and supporting documents must be submitted with the application form (see Section 5.4). Applicants wishing to request such an exception are advised to verify the admissibility of the exception with the program manager before submitting their application. The Fonds reserves the right to refuse any exception request that is not adequately justified.

**New Academics (CCZ)**



**Individual Project (RC1)**



**Team Project (RC2)**



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## 5. DEMANDE

Applicants are asked to refer to Section 3 of the CGR.

A PDF version of the application form for each component is available in the Toolbox for information purposes.

Applications must be submitted via the FRQnet electronic Portfolio (ePortfolio), the transactional interface used by the FRQ for the submission of funding applications and the management of funding.

See Section 3.6 of the CGR for the language requirements of submitted forms and documents.

Please refer to the [Presentation standards for PDF attachments](#)  document to properly format any documents to be attached to the application. Further details on completing and submitting applications can be found in Section 3.2 of the CGR.


It is the applicant's sole responsibility to select the right form for the appropriate Fonds and according to the applicant's status as a student or professor. In the event of an error, the Fonds will not transfer the application from one program to another, and the application will be ineligible.

Applicants must prepare their application sufficiently in advance to ensure that they are able to 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 Fonds near the competition deadline.

A funding application consists of the following forms and documents, according to component:

## Postdoctoral Scholarship (B5) —

- POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH-CREATION FELLOWSHIP (B5) application form, available in the FRQnet ePortfolio

A PDF version of the form is available in the Toolbox for information purposes. Applicants can also refer to the [FRQnet ePortfolio technical users' guide](#) .

- CREATION PORTFOLIO (see Section 6)

Attention: In the absence of the creation portfolio, the application will be deemed ineligible.

- CURRICULUM VITAE (see Section 5.3.1)
- SUPERVISOR'S ACCEPTANCE FORM(S) AND LETTER(S) (see Section 5.5)



### Required documents

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

To streamline the process, transcripts and doctoral degrees are no longer included in the list of documents to be submitted with the application.

All the required documents listed below must be saved individually in PDF format, without read protection or special double tab configuration, and attached in the appropriate sections of the form under **“Activity details”**.

**The absence of any of the required documents will render the application ineligible.**

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](#) .

The number of pages required for each document may vary and is specified in the form.

**The following documents are required:**

### **5.1. RAMQ CARD (if applicable)**

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.

In accordance with Section 4.4 of these rules, applicants who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents, or do not have either of the two documents listed above, are still eligible for this competition, but must carry out their postdoctoral internship at a Québec university.

### **5.2. DOCUMENTS TO ATTACH TO THE FORM**

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

- Research-creation project description (maximum 3 pages)  
Refer to the evaluation sub-criteria for the research-creation project (see Section 7) to be sure of including all necessary elements.
- Doctoral thesis (maximum 2 pages)

Provide the title, abstract and stage of completion of the doctoral thesis, as well as the link between the thesis topic and the postdoctoral research-creation project. Although not graded, the “doctoral thesis” section can help the evaluation committee to better assess the research-creation project and to modulate its expectations in terms of achievements according to the progress of the doctorate.

- Bibliography (maximum 1 page)

List the full references of the works used in the description of the project. Links to web pages may be included as bibliographic references where relevant (CGR 3.2).

- Justification of host environment (maximum 2 pages)

Refer to the evaluation criteria for the host environment to be sure of including all necessary elements. This justification must demonstrate the quality of the integration plan. The benefits of co-supervision must also be demonstrated, if applicable.

- Requested supplement – Production costs (maximum 1 page)

Justification and relevance of the supplement for production, dissemination and promotion costs, if applicable.



### **5.3. OTHER DOCUMENTS TO ATTACH IN THE “OTHER DOCUMENTS” SECTION OF THE FORM**

The following documents, when required or applicable to the situation, must be attached in the “Other documents” section of the application form:


#### **5.3.1 Curriculum vitae (mandatory)**

Applicants must attach a curriculum vitae. Two formats are available for this purpose:

##### **A) CCV and detailed contributions**

Applicants must complete the [Canadian Common CV](#)  – sector “Société et culture” version. Once the CCV has been completed, the applicant must save a copy and combine it with the [detailed contributions file](#)  into a single PDF document. The CCV and detailed contributions must be up to date as of June 2024.




For more information, see the document [Preparing a CCV for the Fonds](#) , with the exception of Section 7, which is not applicable at the postdoctoral level.

**Important note:** the CCV will no longer be used in postdoctoral scholarship programs as of 2025.

**OR**

## **B) FRQ Postdoctoral CV**

The FRQ Postdoctoral CV must be prepared using the following template: [Instructions and template for the FRQ Postdoctoral CV](#) .

### **5.3.2 Letter of invitation from the host environment (mandatory)**

An official letter of invitation from the head of an arts centre, cultural outreach agency, cultural magazine, research centre, university department or other organization authorized to supervise the internship confirming that the applicant has been accepted.

**NOTE:** this letter may be written by the postdoctoral supervisor. In this case, the supervisor's acceptance form and letter are still required.

### **5.3.3 Proof of event registration or invitation (if applicable)**

Proof of registration or invitation to participate in a workshop, lecture, colloquium, meeting, biennale, festival, symposium or any other relevant event.

If the full realization of the submitted project is dependent on participation in an event, a detailed letter of invitation or agreement with the organization concerned must be included.

If the submitted project is dependent on a partnership, a letter demonstrating the existence of the partnership must be included. This letter can take different forms, ranging from a letter of support from the partner to a formal agreement co-signed by the applicant or team and the partner. It is suggested that the documents submitted for this purpose be concise (a few pages at most) and explicit about the nature of the partnership and the role of the parties involved.

#### 5.4. DOCUMENTS FOR EXCEPTION REQUESTS (IF APPLICABLE)

Applicants seeking an **eligibility period exception** (see Section 4.2) must provide:

- **Justification of request for an eligibility period extension or exemption** (maximum 1 page): the applicant must justify the exception request and provide, in the case of a request for extension, the dates and duration of the interruptions. This document must be attached in the “Other documents” section of the form and **will not be sent to the evaluation committee.**
- **Supporting documents:** documents supporting the exception request (e.g., medical certificate, disability certificate, child’s birth certificate, caregiver tax credit application, official document or letter from employer, etc.) allowing the Fonds to determine the duration of the extension to be granted. These must be attached in the “Other documents” section of the form and **will not be sent to the evaluation committee.** Any supporting document for an exception request submitted in a language other than French or English must be accompanied by a translation.

Applicants seeking an exception regarding the **supervising or co-supervising institution** (see Sections 4.5 and 4.6) must provide:

- **Justification of the exception** (maximum 1 page): the applicant must demonstrate having considerable mobility restrictions due to medical reasons, a disability or major family obligations. The applicant must also demonstrate that it is impossible for the postdoctoral internship to be carried out at an institution other than the one that awarded the doctorate, or to be supervised by a person other than the doctoral supervisor. This document must be attached in the “Other documents” section of the form. **It will not be sent to the evaluation committee.**
- **Supporting documents:** documents supporting the exception request (e.g., medical certificate, disability certificate, child’s birth certificate, caregiver tax credit application, official document or letter from employer, etc.) must be attached in the “Other documents” section of the form. **They will not be sent to the evaluation committee.**

Any supporting document for an exception request submitted in a language other than French or English must be accompanied by a translation.

## **5.5. DOCUMENT REQUIRED FROM THE (CO)SUPERVISOR**

The applicant must identify, in the “Host environment” section of the form, the postdoctoral supervisor, and the co-supervisor where applicable. **The supervisor and co-supervisor must first create an FRQnet account.** An email will then be sent to them, and an electronic Supervisor Acceptance Form will automatically be added to their FRQnet ePortfolio. A PDF version of the form is available in the Toolbox for information purposes.

The postdoctoral supervisor, and co-supervisor where applicable, must complete the **electronic Supervisor Acceptance Form** and attach a letter of acceptance (max. 2 pages). The form and letter must be completed and submitted before the applicant **submits the scholarship application form.** If this is not done, 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 persons concerned with the necessary instructions for creating an FRQnet account and writing the letter, and to ensure that the form’s) and letter(s) are submitted within the prescribed deadline

The Fonds expects the postgraduate supervisor and, where applicable, the co-supervisor, to support the development of the applicant’s future career. The letter of acceptance attached to the form is not a letter of recommendation. It should contain only the following information:

- how the applicant’s research-creation project fits in with the (co)supervisor’s research activities
- the type of supervision offered to the applicant
- how the supervising or co-supervising institution will enrich the applicant’s experiences and broaden the applicant’s area of expertise
- the material resources available to the applicant for carrying out the project.

Once the form and letter have been submitted by each supervisor, no further changes can be made.

At the competition deadline of **4 p.m. on October 17**, the status of the application must be "Submitted to the Fonds" and all required documents must be attached to the form.

### **5.6. ELIGIBILITY NOTICE**

All applications received by the Fonds 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 evaluation committee. Applications sent to the evaluation committee may nevertheless be declared ineligible at any time.

**New Academics (CCZ)**



**Individual Project (RC1)**



**Team Project (RC2)**



**ATTENTION: At this stage of the application process, for the New Academics, Individual Project and Team Project components, the Fonds requires the approval of the managing institution.** It is the applicant's responsibility to transmit the application **before the competition**

**deadline** and to ensure that the application is forwarded to the Fonds within the time prescribed by the CGR (section 3.2).

At any time, applicants may verify the transmission status of their application in the “My forms” section of their FRQnet E-portfolio:

- The form will be flagged “Transmis à l’établissement” (Submitted to the institution) once the applicant has submitted the application to the managing institution;
- The form will be flagged “Transmis au Fonds” (Submitted to the Fonds) once the managing institution has submitted the application to the Fonds.

At the competition deadline of **4 p.m. on October 17**, the status of the application must be “Submitted to the Institution” or “Submitted to the Fonds” and all required documents must be attached to the form.

All applications received by the Fonds 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 evaluation committee. Applications sent to the evaluation committee may nevertheless be declared ineligible at any time.

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## 6. CREATION PORTFOLIO (MANDATORY)

For all components, a creation portfolio is required, illustrating the principal investigator’s relevant creative achievements.

For the Team Project (RC2) component, the co-investigators’ achievements must be included in the principal investigator’s creation portfolio.

**A description** of the items presented must be included in the creation portfolio (maximum of one to two pages, in PDF format). This document must allow easy identification of the different items

making up the creation portfolio and may contain links to one or more websites for large files. The creation portfolio may include files of various formats: PDF, MPEG, PNG, MP3, MP4, MOV, etc. A press kit of up to 15 pages may also be included (PDF format).

The person evaluating the application should not need to spend more than fifteen minutes reading and assessing the creation portfolio.



**IMPORTANT:** 48 hours after opening the FRQnet form, applicants will receive an email with a link for submitting their creation portfolio, which must be uploaded **before the competition deadline.**

The creation portfolio must be submitted in digital form, with all its component documents **assembled and compressed into a single ZIP file.**

The ZIP file must be smaller than 2 GB.

It must be identified as follows:

APPLICANT'S LAST NAME\_APPLICATION NUMBER (e.g. SIMARD\_654321)

Applicants are requested to send this file only once, in its final version.

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## 7. EVALUATION

Research-creation project descriptions must be written in such a way as to be easily understandable in a multidisciplinary context. The role of evaluation committees and the conditions governing

funding decisions are described in the CGR (Sections 4.4 and 4.5).

Evaluation committees use the FRQSC [Scoring System Grid](#) .

To be recommended for funding under any program component, an overall score of 70% is required.

Applicants are advised to attach equal importance to both the evaluation criteria and their associated sub-criteria.

Funding applications are evaluated according to the following criteria, **sub-criteria and weighting**:

## **Postdoctoral Scholarship (B5)**

### **Research-creation project – 50 points**

- Originality and impact on the development or renewal of the field, and added value to the applicant's doctoral work;
- Problematization of the creative or artistic practice, and appropriateness of the methodology for the stated objectives;
- Realism of the time frame, feasibility and relevance of the supplement for production, dissemination and promotion costs, if applicable;
- Relevance of the planned dissemination activities.

### **Host environment – 20 points**

- Quality of the plan for integration into the host environment(s) (planned research, creation, teaching and dissemination activities;; development of a network of contacts beyond the supervisor;; proximity to other potential research and creation environments;; access to documentary, material and financial resources;; etc.);

- Quality and suitability of the chosen environment(s) to the project (including supervisors' and co-supervisors' letters).

### **Expertise – 30 points**

- Honours (scholarships, awards and distinctions, training);
- Achievements: production/dissemination (compositions, choreographic creations, recordings, environments, exhibitions, installations, works, etc.) and research-creation activities (design or development of creation or interpretation tools, publications, writing of articles, reviews and educational/instructional documents, etc.);
- Relevant experience: professional academic and/or non-academic and/or artistic experience related to the project (e.g. research or teaching assistantships, teaching assignments, internships, employment, volunteer involvement, etc.).

**New Academics (CCZ)**



**Individual Project (RC1)**



**Team Project (RC2)**





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## 8. DESCRIPTION AND DURATION OF FUNDING BY COMPONENT

### Postdoctoral Scholarship (B5) —

The maximum annual value of the postdoctoral scholarship is \$45,000.

Its duration is a **minimum of 6 months** and a **maximum of 24 months, for a total of \$90,000**. Recipients of a FRQSC postdoctoral scholarship are eligible to apply for an extension of funding for an additional year through the Postdoctoral Research-Creation Fellowship – Knowledge Mobilization Plan (B5R) program. See the terms and conditions of this program in Section 9.11 of these rules.

**The scholarship must begin between May 1 of the year of the offer and March 1 of the following year.**

#### 8.1 Supplement for host environment outside Québec

A supplement of \$10,000 per year will be granted if the host environment and, should the scholarship be awarded, the awardee's place of residence, are located outside Québec (see Section 4.4 for conditions governing the use of the scholarship outside Québec).

In the case of a co-supervising institution outside Québec, the annual supplement is conditional on the awardee spending a minimum of 180 days per year at the co-supervising institution.

Awardees who are eligible for this supplement are also entitled to reimbursement of certain travel expenses (see Section 9.7).

## 8.2 Supplement for production, dissemination and promotion costs

The Fonds offers a supplement of up to \$5,000 per year for costs relating to the conduct of the research-creation project (studio rental, purchase of materials and supplies, equipment rental, transport costs for works and/or equipment, etc.) on submission of justification of the expenses with the application form. The supplement may also cover costs related to the dissemination and promotion of the research and/or creation also upon justification in the application form.

Variable costs incurred by a non-academic host organization for expenses related to the research-creation project may also be claimed. The organization's fixed costs are not eligible. Expenses already reimbursed by another organization are not eligible.

The evaluation committee recommends the amount of the supplement based on the submitted justification and taking into account the objectives of the research-creation project. As a result, the recommended amount may be less than the amount indicated in the application.

The Fonds will also reimburse the purchase cost of books and reference documents to a maximum of \$500 per year.

## 8.3 Partnership scholarships

The scholarship may be offered in partnership. For this, applicants must select, in the Partnerships section of the application form, one or more partners whose research areas are in line with their research theme. **They must also ensure that they meet the conditions set out in the partner description, where applicable.** If the scholarship is awarded, the Fonds 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). If the applicant's research project is deemed relevant by one or more partners, the scholarship will be offered in partnership.

<p>Partner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SSA Québec Support Unit / SPOR National Training Entity (NTE)</b></li> </ul>	<p>Description</p> <p>The <b>SSA Québec Support Unit</b> is a provincial unit of the national Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) network of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).</p> <p>The Unit's vision is to continuously improve the Québec health system and make it a learning system. It mobilizes and empowers the network to do things differently and achieve the quintuple aim by making partnership a driving force, integrating science and innovation, and facilitating change. The unit's teams work across Québec and deploy their expertise by offering training, consultation services, tools, facilitation and networking opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It builds scientific and experiential knowledge</li> <li>• It offers support to project leaders in the network</li> <li>• It oversees the continuous improvement of quality</li> </ul> <p>The <b>SPOR National Training Entity (NTE)</b>, an integral part of the CIHR SPOR network, is a pan-Canadian organization that aims to increase, support and maintain the capacity of a collaborative, interdisciplinary research community focused on partnerships with and for patients. The NTE provides answers to changing healthcare questions, helping to improve the patient experience.</p> <p>The scholarships offered by the FRQ in partnership with the Unit and the SPOR National Training Entity allow 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.</p>
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**New Academics (CCZ)**



**Individual Project (RC1)**



**Team Project (RC2)**




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## 9. FUNDING AND CONDITIONS

The conditions governing the announcement and management of funding are set out in the CGR (Sections 5 to 8).

In all releases, reports, articles and communications, funding recipients must acknowledge that the research was funded by the FRQ.

Peer-reviewed publications stemming from the research made possible by this funding must be released as immediate open access (without embargo) under an open license in accordance with the FRQ's [Open access policy for the dissemination of research](#) .

**Postdoctoral scholarship applicants** are strongly advised to read the following rules governing the use of the scholarship **before submitting their application** and to keep them for future reference if they are awarded a scholarship. Technical details are provided in the scholarship user guide, which is common to the three Fonds.

## Rules for using the postdoctoral scholarship

### 9.1 Rules for using the postdoctoral scholarship

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 their FRQnet ePortfolio. Once a funding offer has been refused by the applicant it cannot be reactivated.

To retain the scholarship, awardees must meet all eligibility requirements in effect at the time of application. In addition, the following conditions must be met throughout the funding period:

- Be engaged in the postdoctoral project on a full-time basis, subject to the rules governing paid employment and internships described in Section 9.3.2
- Comply with the rules pertaining to concurrent funding described in Section 9.3.1.

Awardees must notify the Fonds as soon as one of these conditions is no longer met and of any change in their situation that could affect compliance with the conditions of the scholarship. Failure to meet these conditions (or failure to inform the Fonds of such a change) may result in the cancellation of the scholarship and the obligation to reimburse the sums received.

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### 9.2 Part-time postdoctoral internship

A part-time postdoctoral internship is permitted only in the cases listed below, on the condition that the postdoctoral supervisor authorizes it and on presentation of supporting documents:

**Family obligations or medical condition:** family obligations (e.g., family caregiver, primary caregiver for a young child) or a medical condition that prevents the awardee from pursuing the postdoctoral project on a full-time basis. During part-time periods, awardees may receive 50% of the value of the scholarship payments.

**Disability:** 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](#)

[☞](#)) that prevents the awardee from pursuing the postdoctoral project on a full-time basis. The awardee may receive full scholarship payments.

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

### 9.3 Rules for concurrent funding

#### 9.3.1 Concurrent awards

The following table details the rules for concurrent awards.

TYPE OF SCHOLARSHIP / SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM	RULE
Training scholarships (master's, doctoral and postdoctoral) from federal granting 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)	Partial concurrent funding* allowed
Training scholarships (master's, doctoral, postdoctoral, partnership) from Québec granting agencies such as the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies (FRQNT), the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture (FRQSC), the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS), the Conseil de recherches en pêche et agroalimentaire du Québec (CORPAQ)	Concurrent funding prohibited
Scholarships from Canadian and Québec government departments and agencies other than those mentioned above	Concurrent funding allowed
Co-supervised international mobility scholarships and scholarships for internships in or outside Québec	Concurrent funding allowed
Scholarships from the Canada Council for the Arts (CCA) or Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (CALQ)	No concurrent funding if the scholarships are for the

	same project
Scholarships from the private sector, internal scholarships from universities and affiliated centres and supplementary scholarships from the postdoctoral supervisor	Concurrent funding allowed

### **\*Partial concurrent funding with a scholarship from a federal granting agency**

Partial concurrent funding with a scholarship from a federal granting agency is possible when the Fonds scholarship is of a **higher annual value** or **longer duration** than the scholarship from the federal agency. In such cases, the awardee must accept the federal scholarship. However, the awardee may also accept the Fonds scholarship to take advantage of additional benefits that are not covered by the federal scholarship, as applicable:

- When the **annual value** of the Fonds scholarship is higher than that of the other scholarship, the amount will be adjusted to make up for the shortfall.
- When the **duration** of the Fonds scholarship is longer than that of the other scholarship, the Fonds will extend the term of the scholarship to make up for the shortfall when the other scholarship ends, unless the total value of the other scholarship is equal to or higher than the total value of the Fonds scholarship.
- If the requirements governing the **start date** of the federal scholarship do not allow the first instalment to be paid as soon as the thesis is submitted, the awardee may receive one instalment of the Fonds scholarship while waiting to meet the conditions for obtaining the first instalment of the federal scholarship. However, the federal scholarship cannot be delayed in order to benefit from this first payment from the Fonds.

All the financial benefits associated with the Fonds scholarship will also be available to the awardee.

It is not possible to defer a payment or the start of a scholarship in order to receive another scholarship with which concurrent funding is prohibited.

Awardees who receive payments in a situation in which concurrent funding is prohibited will be required to reimburse the sums paid.

### 9.3.2 Paid employment and internships

Paid employment or internships undertaken alongside the postdoctoral internship and **that do not interfere with research activities** are permitted, without time restrictions, provided they are approved by the postdoctoral supervisor.

In addition, awardees may be paid a salary by their postdoctoral supervisor or co-supervisor to work on the research-creation project funded by the Fonds while holding the scholarship. Excellence awards paid by the Fonds do not constitute a salary.

## 9.4 Payments and management

### 9.4.1 Payment schedule

The annual scholarship amount is paid to the awardee in three instalments. Each instalment covers a four-month period.

The first payment must be claimed between **May 1 of the year of the offer and March 1 of the following year**, failing which the scholarship will be immediately cancelled (see Section 9.4.3).

Within this period, the postdoctoral internship may begin at any time. The payment schedule allows payments to be made on the 15th or 30th of each month, with the exception of July 30 and December 30. A detailed schedule of payments, including the periods for claiming them, can be found in the scholarship user guide. Once the scholarship has been awarded, awardees will be able to consult the payment schedule in their FRQnet ePortfolio.

### 9.4.2 Payment conditions

Awardees must comply with all the conditions associated with their payments. In particular, they must make their initial doctoral thesis submission before claiming the first payment and must meet all requirements for obtaining the doctoral degree before claiming the third payment. All payment conditions are described in the scholarship user guide and in the FRQnet ePortfolio.




In addition, the postdoctoral supervisor must provide an attendance certificate each year. A PDF version of this document is available in the Toolbox.

### **9.4.3 Cancellation of a payment or scholarship**

The first scholarship payment must be claimed no later than March 1 following the year in which it is awarded, failing which the scholarship will be immediately cancelled. Starting with the second payment, a payment will be cancelled, after prior notice, if it is not claimed or deferred or if required documents are not received within two months of the scheduled date of the payment concerned.

The Fonds will cancel a scholarship, after prior notice, if the awardee has not taken any action in the FRQnet ePortfolio for two consecutive payment periods.

The Fonds will cancel a scholarship, after prior notice, if two consecutive payments must be cancelled due to non-compliance with the eligibility requirements or failure to submit required documents in the two months following the start of the periods concerned.

In addition, the Fonds reserves the right to cancel any payment or scholarship in accordance with the [Policy for the responsible conduct of research](#) .

## **9.5 Deferral of payments**

### **9.5.1 Gaining relevant experience**

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

The deferral periods authorized for the entire duration of the postdoctoral scholarship may be taken consecutively if this is approved by the supervisor.

Awardees cannot use this provision for their first payment, to accept another scholarship with which concurrent funding is prohibited, or to accept paid employment.

### **9.5.2 Sick leave or family obligations**

In accordance with Section 6.14 of the CGR, awardees may obtain a deferment of payment if their postdoctoral internship is suspended due to illness or family obligations, for as long as the university permits.

### **9.5.3 Parental leave**

In accordance with Section 6.13 of the CGR, awardees may obtain a deferment of payment for the birth or adoption of a child for a **maximum period of 12 months**.

### **9.6 Scholarship supplement for parental leave**

In accordance with Section 6.13 of the CGR, during the authorized suspension of the postdoctoral internship for parental leave (see Section 9.5.3), awardees may apply for a **scholarship supplement for a continuous period of eight months** (i.e., for a maximum of two payments).

To be eligible for this supplement, awardees must have already received their first scholarship payment and have suspended their postdoctoral internship. In addition, the awardee must not hold paid employment for the duration of the leave.

In the case of partial concurrent funding with an award received from a federal agency, the awardee must take the parental leave allowance offered by the federal program.

### **9.7 Reimbursement of travel expenses**

Awardees who are eligible for the **\$10,000 supplement for a host environment outside Québec** (see Section 8.1) are also entitled to reimbursement of the following travel expenses, provided that they are not already reimbursed by another organization:

- travel expenses for the applicant for one round trip between Québec and the supervising or co-supervising institution outside Québec at the beginning and end of the postdoctoral internship
- travel expenses for the applicant's spouse and children, for the same round trip.

The Fonds will reimburse the cost of one additional round trip if the awardee's thesis defense takes place during the postdoctoral internship.

### **9.7.1 Air travel**

The Fonds will purchase airline tickets for the awardee as well as the awardee's spouse and children.

If the airline tickets were purchased prior to the award, the maximum reimbursement amount is equivalent to the price of a round-trip economy ticket. The awardee is responsible for providing proof that the airline tickets purchased correspond to the average price of a round-trip economy ticket.

### **9.7.2 Road or train travel**

Awardees who travel by car receive a per-kilometre allowance, up to the cost of a one-way economy airfare.

Awardees who travel by bus or train, in economy class, are entitled to reimbursement of the cost of their ticket.

### **9.7.3 Non-eligible expenses**

The following expenses are not reimbursed by the Fonds:

- Airline tickets purchased directly by the awardee after the scholarship is awarded

- Moving costs for personal effects
- Transportation of research materials
- Any additional baggage fees imposed by airlines
- Vehicle rental
- Parking fees
- Urban public transportation/commuter train fees
- Taxi fare
- Meals and accommodation

## **9.8 Request for changes during the funding period**

Any change in the awardee's situation must be communicated to the Fonds. In accordance with Section 6.5 of the CGR, the Fonds will ensure the requested change does not impact the outcome of the application's initial evaluation and remains in compliance with the eligibility requirements and program rules. The Fonds will assess the requested change and may decide to continue, reduce, suspend or terminate the payments. The Fonds may also require that the awardee reimburse the sums paid.

The decision to accept or refuse the requested changes is sent by email.

### **9.8.1 Change in scholarship duration or start date**

The duration of funding is based on the information provided in the application form.

If a change in the start date of the internship is required, the awardee must request this before the first payment is made. It is strongly recommended that the change be requested at the time of accepting the scholarship. Increases in the duration of funding are not permitted.

### **9.8.2 Change in host environment**

The new host environment must comply with the relevant program rules (see Section 4.5). The awardee must justify the suitability of the new host environment and demonstrate that this choice is equivalent to the initial proposal.

The Fonds will take into account the evaluation criteria used to assess the initial choice of host environment when analysing the request.

### **9.8.3 Change in supervisor**

The new supervisor must comply with the relevant program rules (see Section 4.6). The awardee must justify the relevance of the new supervisor's expertise and demonstrate that this choice is equivalent to the initial proposal.

The new supervisor must also attach a letter of acceptance. The Fonds will take into account the evaluation criteria used to assess the initial choice of supervisor when analysing the request.

### **9.8.4 Addition of a co-supervising institution**

The addition of a co-supervising institution and a co-supervisor must comply with the relevant program rules (see Sections 4.5 and 4.6). The awardee must justify the added value of this co-supervising institution.

The co-supervisor must also attach a letter of acceptance.

### **9.8.5 Change in research-creation project**

To change research-creation 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 as the one that evaluated the initial project
- demonstrate that the new project is of the same scientific quality as the initial project.

It must also be indicated whether the awardee intends to stay with the same research supervisor, at the same host environment and in the same department.

In addition, the project supervisor must agree to and justify the proposed change.

The Fonds will take into account the evaluation criteria used to assess the initial project when analysing the request.

#### **9.8.6 Withdrawal or part-time postdoctoral internship**

An awardee who withdraws from the postdoctoral internship during the course of funding, or who decides to pursue it on a part-time basis, with the exception of the cases described in Sections 9.2, is no longer eligible for the scholarship and must notify the Fonds to terminate it. The awardee may be required to reimburse the last payment received.

#### **9.9 Final report**

In accordance with Section 7.2 of the CGR, a final report is required three months after the last payment. The final report allows the Fonds to document the impact of the scholarship and the value of the postdoctoral internship. Future funding under a different program is contingent upon receipt of this final report.

#### **9.10 Converting the scholarship into a start-up grant**

Part of the postdoctoral scholarship (up to \$15,000) can be used as a start-up grant by an awardee who is offered a position as a regular professor in a Québec university. The awardee must have completed a full year (12 months) of funding under the postdoctoral scholarship or received 3 full scholarship payments before requesting conversion of the scholarship. The effective date of the start-up grant is the awardee's employment start date.

A copy of the letter of employment must be sent to the Fonds via the awardee's FRQnet ePortfolio. It is not necessary to provide salary information.

The rules for the use of the start-up grant are the same as those for the New Academics component. Awardees who benefit from this conversion remain eligible to apply for this

support program

A recipient of a postdoctoral award from a federal granting agency who also received and accepted a funding offer from the FRQSC under this program may benefit from this conversion, if applicable.

### **9.11 Funding extension**

Recipients of a scholarship under this competition may apply for an extension of funding for an additional year through the *Postdoctoral Research-Creation Fellowship – Knowledge Mobilization Plan* (B5R) program.

During the second year of the scholarship, a plan for the mobilization of knowledge stemming from the postdoctoral research can be submitted to the Fonds via a funding competition. The plan will be subject to evaluation. This funding extension may only be requested once.

**It is the responsibility** of the research-creation postdoctoral scholarship (B5) recipient to consult the rules of the *Postdoctoral Research-Creation Fellowship – Knowledge Mobilization Plan* (B5R) program to obtain all the necessary information to apply for the extension. These rules are available on the Fonds website and are updated every fiscal year.

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## **10. EFFECTIVE DATE**

These rules apply to the 2025-2026 fiscal year.