

Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture (FRQSC)

This fact sheet is part of a set of eight on *Research Granting Agencies* produced by the Association pour la recherche au collégial. It introduces the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture, an agency that supports public research in the area of social sciences, humanities, fine arts and literature in Québec, and situates it within the overall configuration of agencies that, in Québec and in Canada, support public research in the areas of health, natural sciences and engineering, social sciences, humanities, fine arts and literature, as well as the acquisition or maintenance of the infrastructures needed for conducting such research.

ARC?

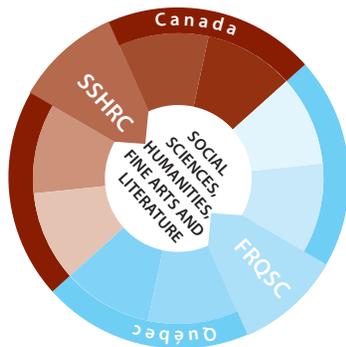
As a professional association, ARC fosters the development of research throughout the college system, in particular through the dissemination of position papers on research issues, the hosting of research-related activities and conferences, the establishment of research support measures, the awarding prizes and, more recently, through meta-research projects.

Any questions?

Contact us!

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Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture (FRQSC)

FRQSC is a not-for-profit granting agency. Reporting to the Minister of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology, the Fonds implements government research strategies in fields related to social sciences, humanities, fine arts and literature.

www.frqsc.gouv.qc.ca

The [Recherches Innovations](#) magazine (in French) promotes research funded by FRQSC, and its impacts.

Mandate

FRQSC's mandate is to promote the development of research and innovation in social sciences, humanities, fine arts and literature in Québec. To achieve this, it provides financial assistance for research and researcher training in these sectors, and promotes the dissemination and transfer of knowledge. It also establishes the partnerships necessary for the advancement of scientific knowledge to address social issues.

Eligible Projects

FRQSC funds projects in all areas of application, as long as they are in keeping with its mandate. However, under the Concerted Action grant program, calls for proposals are launched for projects oriented to certain areas of application, based on priorities identified by the Fonds and various partners.

Research areas

Because of the complexity of research subjects in social sciences, humanities, fine arts and literature, FRQSC encourages funding for multidisciplinary, multi-sector research. It must be conducted in one of the following 13 areas:

- [Arts, literature and society](#)
- [Artistic and literary creation](#)
- [Cultures, religions and civilizations](#)
- [Development and functioning of people and communities and community life](#)
- [Economy, employment and markets](#)
- [Education, knowledge and skills](#)
- [Fundamental issues and finalities of human life](#)
- [International relations and development](#)
- [Language](#)
- [Living environments, development and the appropriation of human space](#)
- [Media, communications and information](#)
- [Nature, transformation and governance of society and institutions](#)
- [Organization management](#)

Applying for a grant

Applicant

In the context of a research project carried out either by an individual or a team, the applicant, or the person who signs and is responsible for the grant application, must have the status of researcher, as set out in the [Common Rules and Regulations](#) of the three Québec granting agencies. Individuals who hold doctoral degrees and have teaching positions at a Québec college may be recognized as *researchers*.

As part of its mandate, FRQSC supports not only research, but also research-creation. In the latter case, the applicant must meet the definition of *researcher-creator*. Individuals who hold doctoral degrees, have teaching positions at a Québec college and whose duties include creation and performance activities can be recognized as researcher-creators.

Roles of individuals participating in a research group

Within the context of research conducted by a group (team, cluster, etc.), participants can fulfil the role of either *regular member* or *collaborator*. The *regular member* is responsible or jointly responsible for the scientific leadership of a research project or the scientific program of a research group. Regular members must meet the definition of a researcher, as set out in the [Common Rules and Regulations](#) of the three Québec granting agencies. In a team, the applicant is recognized as the principal investigator and the other regular members of the team as co-investigators. The *collaborator* contributes on a one-time or occasional basis to the research activities necessary to carry out the project or the research group's scientific program. While the curriculum vitae is an important tool for evaluating a regular member's contribution, the collaborator's contribution is evaluated more on the basis of the description of the nature and quality of this collaboration, as described by the applicant in the grant application. Moreover, unlike the regular member, the collaborator does not have access to grant funds.

Status of individuals participating in a grant application

For each FRQSC grant program, specific rules are set out regarding the status of eligible researchers who fulfil the functions of principal investigator, co-investigator or collaborator. These statuses are most often defined on the basis of researchers' affiliations or the communities they come from: university researcher, government researcher, industrial researcher, etc. Each status corresponds to certain characteristics. The status of *college researcher* is reserved for individuals who fall into one of the following two cases:

- Be a full-time faculty member of a CEGEP, publicly-funded private college or government school that offers postsecondary education;
- Have a position as a full-time or part-time researcher at a college centre for technology transfer.

College researcher-creators meet the same criteria as college researchers, but their duties involve creation or performance. As for *retired college researchers*, they have conducted research at a CEGEP, publicly-funded private college, government school that offers postsecondary education or college centre for technology transfer. They are no longer employed by this institution, but still pursue research activities.

Under some grant programs, a person from the college community can participate in a project with the status of *collaborating practitioner*, or collaborator from a practice setting. This status can apply to any teacher or professional from the college community.

Management of grants

Institution

Under the [Common Rules and Regulations](#) of the three Québec granting agencies, a principal investigator from a college setting must entrust management of grant funds to the educational institution with which he or she is affiliated. When the principal investigator is affiliated with a college centre for technology transfer, the funds are awarded to the educational institution with which this centre is affiliated.

Educational institutions that administer FRQSC funds are regarded as trustees: they must manage grants as assets not their own and are accountable to FRQSC for grant-related expenditures.

Eligible and non-eligible expenses

Under the [Common Rules and Regulations](#) of the three Québec granting agencies, FRQSC grants fund most of the direct costs of the research: they cover expenses associated specifically with conducting research. Expenses related to remuneration of a researcher or a release from teaching duties or from any other professional activities in order to conduct research activities are therefore not eligible. Institutions that employ individuals participating in research must bear the remuneration-related costs. However, to better assist college teachers wishing to pursue research activities, the [National Research and Innovation Policy](#) (PNRI 2014-2019) will make specific credits available to these researchers.

Regular FRQSC grants

An application submitted by a college researcher to the [Program to Release College Researchers from their Teaching Duties](#) is compatible with the following grant programs:

- [Research-Creation Support Program](#)
- [Support for Innovative Projects](#)
- [Support for Media Arts and Technologies](#)
- [Research Team Support Program](#)
- [Strategic Clusters](#)
- [Concerted Action Programs](#)

Grant program specific to colleges

FRQSC does not offer any programs specific to colleges.

Submitting applications

Grant applications must comply with both the [rules for submitting an application](#), as set out in the Common Rules and Regulations of the three Québec granting agencies, and the specific submission requirements for the grant program selected. It is also possible to obtain from FRQSC the [Guide de rédaction des demandes de subvention](#) (in French), for research administrators who are tasked with supporting researchers in the process of preparing and writing their grant applications for FRQSC programs. To access the forms and complete a grant application, researchers must open an electronic account on the FRQSC [website](#).

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Internet-accessible: <http://vega.cvm.qc.ca/arc/doc/RGA-FRQ-SC.pdf>

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Version française aussi disponible