

Fonds de recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS)

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 – Santé, an agency that supports public research in the area of health 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?

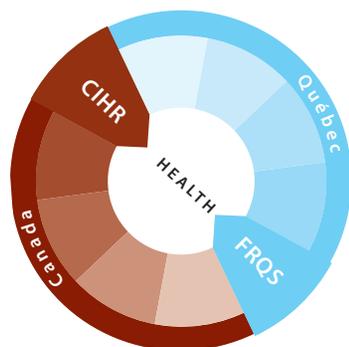
As a professional association, ARC fosters the development of research throughout the college system, in particular through the dissemination of position papers on research issues, the hosting of research-related activities and conferences, the establishment of research support measures, the awarding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

Any questions?

Contact us!

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Fonds de recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS)

FRQS is a not-for-profit granting agency. Reporting to the Minister of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology, the Fonds implements government strategy with respect to human health research.

www.frqs.gouv.qc.ca
[FRQS Today e-newsletter](#)

The *Recherche en santé* magazine (in French) offers members of the scientific community and various health professionals and workers information on groups, centres and networks funded by the FRQS and on the development of health research in Québec, as well as news about the Fonds.

Mandate

FRQS's mandate is to support research on human biology and biological dysfunctions by funding studies on incidence, causes, mechanisms and treatment of disease with a view to improving individual and public health and furthering the economic development of Québec.

To ensure that researchers have access to an adequate human and technological infrastructure to maintain their competitive edge, FRQS chooses to provide support primarily for research conducted by three types of groups:

- 19 research [centres](#) located mostly in university health centres;
- 9 research [groups](#) in university institutions;
- 18 [networks](#) serving to virtually link research teams that are concerned with the same health issues and come from different settings: FRQS centres or groups, Centres locaux de services communautaires (CLSCs), regional boards or private businesses.

FRQS may occasionally fund independent projects within the framework of special partnerships; the partner could be a government ministry or a private organization, for example.

Eligible projects

FRQS funds projects that fall within any of the following areas of application:

- Basic research
- Clinical research
- Epidemiological research
- Health services
- Public health

Research areas

To fulfil its mandate, FRQS funds projects in any of the [12 areas of application](#) specific to health research:

- Aging
- Cancer
- Child, youth and maternal health
- Circulatory and respiratory health
- Gender and health
- Health services
- Human genetics
- Infection and immunity
- Musculoskeletal health and arthritis
- Neurosciences, mental health and addiction
- Nutrition and metabolism
- Public health

As part of its latest strategic plan, which was approved by the government, FRQS targeted four priority research areas:

- Aging and loss of autonomy
- Cancer
- Neurosciences and mental health
- Societal diseases

Applying for a grant

Applicant

The applicant, or the person who signs and is responsible for the grant application, must meet the definition of researcher, as set out in the [Common Rules and Regulations](#) of the three Québec granting agencies.

Roles of individuals participating in a research group

Individuals participating in research conducted by one of the three types of groups funded by FRQS can fulfil the role of either a *regular member* or a *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. The regular member must meet the definition of a researcher, as set out in the [Common Rules and Regulations](#) of the three Québec granting agencies. 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 in the evaluation of 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.

Eligibility requirements for individuals participating in a grant application

Each FRQS grant program sets out specific rules regarding eligibility requirements for researchers for fulfilling the functions of principal investigator, co-investigator or collaborator. Affiliation with a university is an eligibility requirement for fulfilling the roles of principal investigator and co-investigator in all FRQS programs. Under some grant programs, a person affiliated with a college-level institution can fulfil the role of collaborator.

Management of grants

Institution

Under the [Common Rules and Regulations](#) of the three Québec granting agencies, the principal investigator must entrust management of grant funds to a public body, generally the educational institution with which he or she is associated. These bodies, usually universities and their affiliated institutions, are regarded as trustees and must manage grants as assets not their own. Under the Programme d'appui à la recherche pour les enseignants-chercheurs de collége, the college has the mandate to act as trustee.

Eligible and non-eligible expenses

Under the [Common Rules and Regulations](#) of the three Québec granting agencies, FRQS 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 remuneration-related costs.

Regular FRQS grants

Under FRQS programs, college researchers are offered two opportunities. First, they can participate in a research project launched by a theme network, because, unlike research centres and research groups, such networks allow for the possibility of collaborations outside university networks. They can also participate in forming a specific partnership funded by FRQS. Researchers can consult the [2015-2016 Directory of Programs](#).

Grant program specific to colleges

The FRQS has established the Programme d'appui à la recherche pour les enseignants-chercheurs de collége ([Research Support Program for College Teachers-Researchers](#)), which includes specific eligibility conditions.

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. To access the forms and complete a grant application, researchers must open an electronic account on the FRQS [website](#).

Other sources of funding

Other sources of funding are also available for researchers who work in the health field. To find out what they are, researchers can consult the [list of granting agencies recognized by FRQS](#).

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Version française aussi disponible