

Call for projects – Intercenter Initiatives of the Cardiometabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity (CMDO) Research Network in partnership with the Foundation of Stars on Childhood Obesity

Created in April 2012 by the Fonds de Recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS), the **Research Network on Cardiometabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity** aims to develop research excellence in these areas, to transfer knowledge and to foster the use of new knowledge so as to promote the quality of life of Quebec province population.

The [Fondation of Stars](#) is dedicated exclusively to funding pediatric research to protect, promote and improve the health and well-being of children and adolescents. It is recognized as one of the largest non-governmental sources of research funding for childhood diseases, including orphan diseases, in Quebec. Every dollar donated to pediatric researchers is used to advance research to improve the quality of life for sick children and their families.

The **Foundation of Stars on Childhood Obesity** aims to bring together the best researchers and professionals from all fields of health care related to childhood obesity in Quebec to conduct research on innovative approaches and bring science to pediatric health care to find solutions and treatments for the obesity epidemic in Quebec.

The CMDO network in partnership with the Foundation of Stars Centre of Excellence on Childhood Obesity calls for **intercentre** collaborative projects for the period of 2023 - 2024. This competition invites proposals from researchers who are regular members of the CMDO Network to focus on **childhood obesity (0-5 years old), prevention and early intervention research**. One(1) research project relevant to this research theme will be funded based on excellence. Submitted projects must involve network members from at least two research centers and could also involve additional research center in Quebec, Canada (*e.g. a member of Diabetes Action Canada*) or abroad. A detailed description of the eligibility criteria and evaluation procedures is provided below. Project selected for its excellent scientific quality that demonstrates a structuring effect for research within the network will be funded up to \$ 40,000 for one year (\$20,000 provided by CMDO / \$20,000 provided by the Foundation of Stars).

The deadline for the submission of applications is February 22, 2023, with funding beginning no later than April 1, 2023.

Women, Aboriginal people, visible minorities, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities and people from the 2SLGBTQIA+ community are encouraged to apply for funding. For evaluation purposes, we strive to recruit a diverse committee that reflects the profiles of the applicants and ensure an evaluation process that considers the particular situations of applicants, including atypical trajectories.

Applications submitted late, incomplete or that do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be evaluated. Award recipients will be required to present their findings at the annual joint CMDO Network - Société québécoise de lipidologie, nutrition et métabolisme (SQLNM) meeting upon completion of the project.

A follow-up report will be requested at the end of the year (e.g. at the end of the funding period). In addition, an annual follow-up for another two(2) years will be conducted to document the benefits of this project.

Eligibility criteria:

- 1) The main theme of the research project should focus on **Childhood Obesity (0-5 years), prevention and early intervention**;
- 2) The **principal investigator** must be a regular member of CMDO Network;
- 3) All co-investigator affiliated with a research center in Quebec province must be a CMDO member before final submission;
- 4) **Only one application per year may be submitted as principal investigator** for this Intercenter competition in partnership with the Foundation of Stars. There is no limit as co-investigator;
 - a. **NEW** - An investigator or co-investigator who has already received a research award in connection with this CMDO/Foundation of Stars competition may not reapply as a principal investigator or co-investigator;
- 5) The submission must involve at least 2 research centers in Quebec each represented by at least one researcher regular member of the CMDO network;
- 6) Submissions may include additional research centers in Quebec, and/or Canada (*e.g. a member of Diabetes Action Canada*) or abroad;
- 7) Direct involvement in the project of at least one student, resident or postdoctoral fellow (*registered at a Quebec University*) who must be identified in the submission and must be in place at the beginning of funding (April 1st);
- 8) A demonstration of the structuring effects on research within the network, based on its objectives (*e.g., establishment of new intersectoral collaborations within the network or internationally, standardization of methods, implementation of a research platform or of common resources*);
- 9) A description of a clear plan to obtain subsequent funding from a source other than the CMDO (*e.g., CIHR, private partners or other*).

Full applications require:

- 1) CMDO's submission form completed online (see below);
- 2) Up-to-date curriculum vitae FRQS version (*including the Detailed Contributions section*) for all researchers included in the application as well as for the Quebec-based student, resident or postdoctoral fellow directly involved in the project. For researcher from outside of Quebec, an equivalent of the FRQS CV is accepted (e.g. *CIHR CV*). *All CVs (in PDF format) must be submitted by email at concours@rrcmdo.ca.*

Application Evaluation Process:

An external scientific committee will be formed to assess all applications submitted. The committee will be chaired by a researcher who is not a member of the network, or by a researcher who has not submitted an application. One member of the network steering committee will attend the discussions as an observer and coordinator. The competition results will be announced in April.

Applications will be judged based on the following criteria:

1) *Scientific merit and potential impact of the project (25%):* Clarity of the research question and scientific justification in relation with the program. Appropriateness of the study design, methodological feasibility within proposed financial framework, including the recruitment of participants, access to databases, laboratory methods or other methods for data collection;

2) *Originality of the application (20%):* Potential creation of new knowledge. Originality of hypotheses and research questions. Novelty of the approach including new methodologies or new applications for existing methodologies;

3) *Competence (10%) and complementarity of the research team (5%):* Scientific achievements, publication record, past funding and training of students, complementarity of participating teams and importance given to the training of students (e.g., *how the expertise of each applicant will be used to carry out the project*);

4) *Structuring effect for research within the CMDO network (15%):* immediate or potential impact of the proposed project on research within the network, based on its objectives (e.g., *establishing new intersectoral collaborations within the network or internationally, standardization of methods, establishment of a platform or of common resources*);

5) *Realism of the budget proposal (10%):* Relevance of the proposed use of funds.

6) *Clarity and feasibility of the plan to obtain future or concurrent funding (5%);*

7) NEW - *Equity/Diversity/Inclusion Vision (10%):* What are you doing/planning to do to ensure fair and inclusive treatment of those involved in the project? Demonstrate efforts made or planned to be more inclusive and equitable in the work environment and/or the participants.

Any request for additional information may be sent to the Research Network on Cardiometabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity (CMDO), Université Laval, École de Nutrition, email: info@rrcmdo.ca.

Description of the electronic form - See next page

**Intercenter Structuring Initiatives
of the Cardiometabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity (CMDO)
Research Network in partnership with the Foundation of Stars on
Childhood Obesity**
Instructions for application form

[PLEASE COMPLETE THE ONLINE FORM AVAILABLE HERE](#)

The online form can be saved and completed later.

WARNING :

- To save your application to complete it later, you must click the *Resume later* icon (a username will be requested and a password), and then quit by closing the program.
- If you have saved your application and click on *Exit and Clear Survey*, all saved data will be erased.

1. GENERAL INFORMATIONS

Title of project: *max. 256 characters including spaces*

Main theme (choose one):

- Cardiometabolic health
- Diabetes
- Obesity

Secondary theme(s) (if applicable):

- Cardiometabolic health
- Diabetes
- Obesity
- Not applicable

Research areas (select all that apply):

- Basic and preclinical research
- Nutrition, physical activity and human pathology (Clinical Research)
- Lifestyle, risk factors, and population intervention across the life course (Populational Research)
- Organisation of health care (Health System Research), knowledge transfer and utilization.

Principal applicant (CMDO regular member): *max. 100 characters including spaces*

Primary affiliation: *max. 120 characters including spaces*

Affiliation to other research networks (several possible choices):

- Another FRQS Network (which one?);
- Diabetes Network Action Canada;
- Other.

In the event that you receive funding, this information will be sought for all co-investigators.

NEW - Indicate any special circumstances that may have affected your career path.

max. 2800 characters including spaces

Up to 7 co-investigators: *max. 100 characters including spaces*

Affiliations: *max. 120 characters including spaces*

For applications with more than 7 co-investigators, please contact the CMDO coordinator.

Student, resident or postdoctoral fellow directly involved in the project: *max. 100 characters including spaces*

Program and current degree sought: *max. 150 characters including spaces*

Affiliations: *max. 120 characters including spaces*

Other students, resident or postdoctoral fellows involved in the project (provide current degree and affiliation in parentheses): *max. 256 characters including spaces*

Research centers directly involved in the project:

Select at least 2 research centers from the list.

Research Center (s) Outside Quebec directly involved in the work (optional):

max. 256 characters including spaces

Location(s) of research: Name of town(s) (e.g., Sherbrooke and Québec) and a brief description if necessary.

max. 256 characters including spaces

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Provide a description of the project including the scientific rationale, objectives and hypotheses, methodology and the potential impacts. Please also include a paragraph stating the originality of your project (*potential creation of new knowledge, originality in hypotheses and research questions, new approach, new methodologies or new applications of existing methodologies.*).

max. 5600 characters including spaces

3. REFERENCES

Provide a full list of references for the application.

max. 2800 characters including spaces

4. EXPERTISE AND COMPLEMENTARITY OF THE RESEARCH TEAM

Provide a description of the research team and its complementarity, scientific achievements, publication record, and past research funding and student training (*e.g., how everyone's expertise will be used to carry out the project*).

max. 2800 characters including spaces

5. STRUCTURING EFFECTS FOR RESEARCH WITHIN THE NETWORK

Provide a description of any structuring effects the project may have based on the network's objectives (*e.g., establishment of new intersectoral collaborations within the network or internationally, standardization of methods, establishment of a research platform or of common resources*).

The objectives of the network are:

- 1) Promote, establish and foster meetings, scientific exchanges, and collaborations between teams involved in the various areas of research towards the development of “translational”, multidisciplinary and inter-institutional projects covering aspects of basic research, clinical research, evaluative and epidemiological research, as well as knowledge transfer activities.
- 2) Make available to its members specialized platforms and shared research services obtained through CFI infrastructure grants, including imaging, human and animal metabolic phenotyping, genomics, transgenics, and metabolomics.
- 3) Increase Quebec's ability to recruit and retain performing researchers in obesity, diabetes and metabolic health by providing start-up grants and by promoting interactions between new researchers and well-established researchers.
- 4) Encourage the training of student researchers through salary support and scholarships to attend scientific conferences.
- 5) Foster the establishment of partnerships with other research and private organizations, of collaborations with other existing thematic networks, as well as encourage participation in national and international research projects and initiatives.
- 6) Promote knowledge transfer and utilization among health care professionals and the general population, and advise the FRQS and Quebec public health authorities about obesity, diabetes and cardiometabolic health.

max. 1400 characters including spaces

NEW - Indicate if distribution to the general public is planned.

max. 1000 characters including spaces

6. BUDGETARY CONTEXT

Summary budget and complementary sources of funding:

Provide a brief description of how funds will be used. Indicate any concurrent funding if applicable and the amounts to be used for the project.

max. 1400 characters including spaces

Plan to obtain subsequent funding:

Describe the strategies that will be used to obtain subsequent funding from another source than the CMDO.

max. 1400 characters including spaces

NEW - In the event that your activity is funded, please provide us with the contact information of the person in the financial department responsible for the transfer of funds (e.g., administrative technician) :

- Name ; *max. 120 characters spaces included*
- Email ; *max. 120 characters spaces included*
- Phone #; *max. 120 characters spaces included*

7. NEW - EQUITY/DIVERSITY/INCLUSION VISION

What are you doing/will you do to ensure fair and inclusive treatment of those involved in the project?

Demonstrate efforts made or planned to be more inclusive and equitable with respect to the work environment and/or participants.

max. 2800 characters spaces included

8. NEW - SELF-IDENTIFICATION (To be completed by the Principal Applicant only)

Membership type (one choice only) :

- Regular member (CMDO)

Research areas (several choices possible) :

- Fundamental/Preclinical
- Clinic
- Care Organization/Health System
- Populationnal

Gender (one choice only) :

- Male
- Female
- I prefer not to answer

Aboriginal People: Aboriginal people in Canada is a generic term used to refer to Inuit, Métis or First Nations people who live within the boundaries of the territory now known as Canada. We encourage all persons belonging to these nations and communities to indicate their affiliation below..

I belong to one of the following Aboriginal peoples of Canada (one choice only) :

- First Nations or First Peoples
- Metis
- Inuits
- No
- I prefer not to answer

Minority Ownership

I belong to the following ethnocultural or racialized community (You may choose the option that best describes your ethnic or regional background or choose more than one if you consider yourself to be a person of mixed heritage):

- Aboriginal Community of Canada (First Nations, Métis or Inuit)
- White community or of European descent
- Community of Central or North Asians
- Afro-descendant (or black) community
- Latin American Community
- Middle Eastern or North African community
- South Asian Community
- Southeast Asian Community
- East Asian Community
- Aboriginal community outside of Canada
- None of the above
- I prefer not to answer

If you selected "None of the above" for the previous question:

More specifically, I prefer to identify myself using the following terms
max. 500 characters spaces included

Mother tongue

The first language I learned and still understand is (please select all that apply)

- French
- English
- Other
- I prefer not to answer

If you selected "Other" for the previous question :

You can indicate your first language here :
max. 200 characters spaces included

Commonly used language

The language I most commonly use at home is (please select all that apply)

- French
- English
- Other(s)
- I prefer not to answer

If you selected "Other(s)" for the previous question :

You can indicate your current language here :

max. 200 characters spaces included

Comments or questions about the self-identification questionnaire

max. 1000 characters spaces included