

Intercenter Internships

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

The network is launching its **Intercenter Internship competition for the year 2023 - 2024**. The competition invites regular CMDO members to propose collaborative projects in the areas of cardiometabolic health, diabetes and obesity and for which a master student/doctoral student/postdoctoral fellow/resident/research professional will complete his training in another laboratory (in another center situated in Quebec, Canada or internationally) than the original one. The amount of the grant is \$5,000 or \$10,000 depending on the length of the internship. The project must involve a regular member of the CMDO Network with one or more collaborators from another research center. Any Quebec collaborator must be a member of the CMDO Network. Collaborators in Canada (eg. a member of Diabetes Action Canada) or abroad are also accepted. Multidisciplinary, cross-sectoral applications or translational aspects oriented towards the patient will be favored. Each year, a minimum of 5 internships corresponding to these criteria will be funded for their excellence.

The eligibility criteria and the method of evaluation are described below. The selected project showing excellent scientific quality and demonstrating a structuring effect for the involved laboratories and for research within the CMDO Network will be funded up to \$5,000 or \$10,000 for one year to allow the establishment of the trainee in the research center of the collaborator or collaborators.

Deadlines for submitting applications are as follows:

- 1) **June 21, 2023**, for internships beginning between **September 1, 2023** and **August 31, 2024**.
- 2) **November 10, 2023**, for internships beginning between **January 1, 2024** and **December 31, 2024**.

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 takes into account the particular situations of the applicants, including atypical trajectories.

Applications submitted late, incomplete or not meeting the eligibility criteria will not be evaluated.

Eligibility and evaluation criteria:

- 1) The Principal Investigator (*the Research Director of the trainee*) must be a regular member of the CMDO Network;
- 2) All researchers and trainees affiliated to research center in the province of Quebec must be member of the CMDO Network before final submission.
- 3) **Only one application per contest in total, as principal investigator** may be submitted for each contest. There is no limit as co-investigator. Unless exceptional circumstances, a maximum of one application per researcher will be funded annually;
- 4) The amount of the grant is defined according to the length of the internship:
 - a. 3 months or less (less than 13 weeks) - \$ 5,000;
 - b. more than 3 months (13 weeks or more) - \$ 10,000.
- 5) Provide relevant and integrated training in an intercenter collaborative project;
- 6) Submission must include a research center in Quebec province, represented by at least one researcher regular member of the CMDO network and at least another research center in Quebec, Canada or abroad.
- 7) Demonstration of the structuring impact of this collaboration for laboratories involved as well as research in the CMDO Network, according to its objectives (*eg. Establishment of new multidisciplinary and/or intersectoral and/or patient oriented collaborations inside the network or at the international*);
- 8) The Principal Investigator must agree to provide a brief progress report at one year post funding period to demonstrate the leverage effect of the program (*i.e. obtaining scholarships and / or external grants*);
- 9) **NEW** - Following the first year of funding, winning teams are asked to provide CMDO with either 1) a text of max. 300 words or 2) a 1-minute video (max. 1min30sec) that presents the team's project/research program in a language that is accessible to all and that will be publicized on CMDO's Citizen Partner Community, in CMDO's newsletter, on CMDO's Twitter account, and in any other media that is deemed relevant.

For trainees who will be trained:

- 1) Be a Master student, PhD student, a resident, a postdoctoral fellow or a research professional with a research director **regular member** of CMDO Network. The supervisor must be a member of the Network CMDO before applying to the competition.
- 2) Excellence and scientific involvement:
 - ❖ For Master students, PhD students, residents and postdoctoral fellows:

- a. Hold an excellent record of publication and participation / involvement in scientific activities.

❖ To research professionals:

- a. Must be actively involved in structuring activities related to the priorities of the network eg: research platform, multi-centric project, research network at provincial, national or international level.
- 3) Demonstrate motivation to pursue a career in a research area related to a Network theme: Cardio Metabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity.
- 4) Participate (submit a scientific abstract for oral or poster presentation) to the Annual Scientific Meeting of the [CMDO Network/SQLNM/COLosSUS](#) inside of two years following the beginning of funding.
- 5) Note that a Master student/PhD student/postdoctoral fellow/resident/research professional cannot receive more than one internship from this competition.

Eligible expenses:

All expenses connected to the establishment of the trainee in the center of the collaborator and allowable under FRQS research grants rules. Especially:

1. Transport, accommodation and living expenses (if necessary depending on the distance) for the trainee in the collaboration laboratory(ies);
2. Shipping costs between the main laboratory and the collaboration laboratory(ies) in connection with the trainee's stay;
3. Costs related to the research project of the intercentre collaboration (supplies, technical services, etc.);
4. Salary for trainee.

Non-eligible expenses:

1. Transport, accommodation and living expenses for the trainee in its main laboratory;
2. Salary for researchers.

Who can file an application:

The principal investigator (*regular member of CMDO Network*) is responsible for the nomination.

Materials required when submitting an application:

- 1) Completed CMDO Intercenter internship application form (*online, see below*);
- 2) Updated curriculum, FRQS version (including detailed Contributions section), of all Quebec participating researchers and trainee that will be trained to evaluate scientific quality. For

collaborators outside of Quebec, any CV containing information similar to FRQS CV will be accepted. *All CV (PDF format) must be submitted by email at concours@rrcmdo.ca.*

Application evaluation process:

An external scientific committee will be formed to evaluate all submitted applications. The chair of the committee will be held by a researcher which has not submitted an application. A member of the network's direction committee will attend the discussions as an observer and coordinator. Competition results will be announced in the weeks following the application deadline.

Applications will be evaluated based on compliance with the contest eligibility criteria and the following criteria:

For principal investigator and collaborators:

- 1) ***Excellence in home and host laboratories (25%):*** Description of performance, scientific contribution and expertise of the laboratories involved in the collaboration;
- 2) ***Relevance and quality of the proposed intercenter training (25%):*** Immediate or potential impact of mentoring for the original laboratory and research within the network, according to its objectives (*Ex. Establishment of new multidisciplinary and / or intersectoral collaborations inside the network or at an international level, knowledge transfer, Patient-oriented research, standardization of methods, establishment of a platform or common resources etc*).
- 3) ***Realism of budget proposition (10%):*** Relevant proposal for use of funding.
- 4) ***NEW - Equity/Diversity/Inclusion Vision (5%):*** 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 participants.

For the trainee (35%):

1.a) For Master students/PhD students, residents and postdoctoral fellows:

- a) ***Excellent of publication and participation / involvement in scientific activities records.***

1.b) For research professionals:

- a) ***Involvement in structuring activities related to the priorities of the network*** as in research platform, multi-centric project, provincial, national or international research network.
- 2) ***Motivation to pursue a career in a research area related to a theme of the network:*** cardio metabolic health, diabetes and obesity.

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 internships

Instructions for the application form

[FORM MUST BE COMPLETED ONLINE, CLICK HERE](#)

The form can be saved to complete it 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 INFORMATION

Internship title: *max. 256 characters including spaces*

Main theme (choose one):

- ☐ Cardiometabolic health
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Obesity

Secondary Theme(s) (if applicable):

- ☐ Cardiometabolic health
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Obesity
- ☐ Not applicable

Axes (multiple choice possible):

- ☐ Basic research and pre-clinical
- ☐ Nutrition, physical activity and human pathophysiology (Clinical Research)
- ☐ Living habits, risk factors and population interventions through cycles of life (Population Research)
- ☐ Organization of care (Health System Research), sharing and use of knowledge

Principal investigator name (regular member of CMDO Network): *max. 100 characters*

Affiliation of principal applicant: *max. 120 characters*

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 collaborators.

Number of collaborators from other centers? (Possibility of 2 collaborators which may host the trainee)

Collaborator name in another center: *max. 100 characters*

Affiliation collaborator: *max. 120 characters*

Quebec research center(s) directly involved in the project:

Choose among the research centers.

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

If applicable, indicate the name(s) of the research center(s).

Name of the Master student/PhD student/postdoctoral fellow/resident/research professional directly involved in the internship: *max. 100 characters*

Current curriculum and educational level: *max. 150 characters*

Affiliation: *max. 120 characters*

2. MOTIVATION – TRAINEE:

The trainee (Master student, PhD student, postdoctoral fellow, resident or research professional) must provide a description of his reasons, related to their career plans, to participate in this intercentre internship.

max. 2000 characters including spaces

3. EXCELLENCE - MAIN AND HOST LABORATORIES:

Description of performance, scientific contribution and expertise of the laboratories involved in the collaboration;

max. 2000 characters including spaces

4. RELEVANCE AND QUALITY OF THE PROPOSED TRAINING INTEGRATED IN AN INTERCENTER COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

Description of the proposed training and the immediate or potential impact of this training for the original laboratory and research within the network, according to its objectives (*eg. establishment of new multidisciplinary collaborations and/or cross to the internal network or internationally, knowledge transfer, patient-oriented research, standardization of methods, establishment of a platform or common resources, etc.*).

The objectives of the CMDO network are:

- 1) To promote, establish and strengthen, through meetings and scientific exchanges mechanisms, collaborations between teams involved in the various research themes aimed at the implementation of "translational" projects covering major multidisciplinary and interinstitutional research covering aspects of basic research, clinical research, evaluative and epidemiological research and knowledge transfer activities.
- 2) To ensure availability for its members of specialized platforms and joint research services obtained through CFI infrastructure grants, including imaging, human and animal metabolic phenotyping, genomics, transgenics, and metabolomics.
- 3) Increase Québec's ability to recruit and retain productive researchers in obesity, diabetes and metabolic health by providing installation grants and promoting the interaction of new researchers to the high level teams already in place.
- 4) Promote the training of research students, through salary support and scholarships to attend scientific conferences.
- 5) Allow the establishment of partnerships with other research or private organizations, the collaborations with other existing thematic networks, and encourage participation in national and international research projects and initiatives.
- 6) Promote the sharing and use of knowledge with health professionals and the public, and advise the FRSQ and Québec public health authorities about obesity, diabetes and cardiometabolic health.

max. 3000 characters including spaces

5. BUDGETARY CONTEXT

Start date and end date of the internship, as well as the number of weeks in total: max. 250 characters

Budget summary:

Provide a brief description of the use of funds over one (1) year (\$ 5,000 for less than 13 weeks or \$ 10,000 for over 13 weeks).

max. 1400 characters including spaces

If in the event that your project is funded, please provide us with the contact information of the person in finance responsible for the transfer of funds (e.g., administrative technician):

- Name; *max. 120 characters including spaces*
- Email; *max. 120 characters including spaces*
- Phone number; *max. 120 characters including spaces*

6. NEW - EQUITY/DIVERSITY/INCLUSION VISION

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 participants.
max. 2800 characters including spaces

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

Membership Type (one choice only):

- ☐ Regular Member.
- ☐ Student, postdoctoral fellow or resident member
- ☐ Other

Research areas (multiple choices possible):

- ☐ Basic Science/Preclinical
- ☐ Clinical
- ☐ Health care organization/health system
- ☐ Population-based

Sex (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
- ☐ Métis
- ☐ Inuit
- ☐ No
- ☐ I prefer not to answer

Minority affiliation

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

- ☐ Canadian Aboriginal Community (First Nations, Métis or Inuit)
- ☐ White community or community of European descent
- ☐ Central Asian or North Asian community
- ☐ 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:

Specifically, I prefer to identify myself using the following terms

max. 500 characters including spaces

Native Language

The native language I learned and still understand 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 may indicate your native language here:

max. 200 characters including spaces

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 may indicate your commonly used language here:

max. 200 characters including spaces

Comments or questions about the self-identification questionnaire

max. 1000 characters including spaces

DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED IN PDF FORMAT:

1. CV, FRQS version (with *Detailed Contributions* section) of the principal investigator and his collaborators (For collaborators outside of Quebec and Canada, CV containing information similar to FRQS CV will be accepted) ;
2. CV, FRQS format (with *Detailed Contributions* section) of the Master student / PhD student / postdoctoral fellow / resident / professional research;
3. Submit document at concours@rrcmdo.ca.