

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

Created in April 2012 by the Fonds de Recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQS), the **Research Network on Cardiometabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity** aims Pursue the development of research in cardiometabolic health, diabetes and obesity, translate and mobilize knowledge to promote sustainable health among Quebecers.

The mission of the [Pediatric Research Foundation](#) is to fund pediatric research in order to protect, promote and improve the health and well-being of children and adolescents. Its vision is to become the driving force behind the advancement of pediatric research in Canada, and in so doing, increase the chances of cure and improve the health of children. It is recognized as one of the largest non-governmental sources of funding for research into childhood diseases, including orphan diseases, in Quebec. Every dollar donated to pediatric researchers is used to advance research and improve the quality of life of sick children and their families.

The CMDO Network, in partnership with the Pediatric Research Foundation, is launching a call for **intercenter** collaborative projects for the year **2025 - 2026**. This competition invites researchers who are regular members of the CMDO Network to propose projects prioritizing research ***on obesity from 0 to 18 years of age or diabetes from 0 to 18 years of age, prevention and early intervention***. One(1) project corresponding to this field of research will be funded on the basis of excellence. Projects submitted must involve at least two Quebec research centers, and may also involve additional centers in Quebec, Canada or abroad. Eligibility criteria and evaluation procedures are described below. Projects of excellent scientific quality that demonstrate a structuring effect on research within the network will be funded to the tune of \$40,000 for one year (\$20,000 provided by the CMDO / \$20,000 provided by the Pediatric Research Foundation).

The deadline for the submission of applications is December 1st, 2024, with funding beginning no later than April 1, 2025.

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 must be ***obesity in the 0-18 age group or diabetes in the 0-18 age group, prevention and early intervention;***
- 2) The **principal investigator** must be a regular member of CMDO Network :
 - **IMPORTANT** - Must not have received funding from the Intercenter Initiatives of this CMDO/Pediatric Research Foundation (formerly Foundation of Stars) competition in the last five(5) years as a principal investigator:
 - i. Thus, for the 2025-2026 competition, principal investigators of winning teams from the 2020-2021 to 2024-2025 competitions are not eligible to participate as principal or co-principal investigators;
 - ii. To consult the list of winning teams - [Click HERE](#) (Past funded projects icon).
- 3) **Only one application per year may be submitted as principal investigator** for this Intercenter competition in partnership with the Pediatric Research Foundation. There is no limit as co-investigator;
- 4) All co-investigator affiliated with a research center in Quebec province must be a CMDO member before final submission;
- 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 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) 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 Pediatric Research Foundation

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)
- Health care organisation (Health System Research), knowledge transfer and utilization
- Hypertension and vascular diseases
- Heart disease through the cycles of life
- Metabolic liver diseases

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;
- Obesity Canada Network;
- Other.

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

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 network's objectives are:

- 1) Organize concerted action, meetings, exchanges and scientific cooperation to respond to unmet issues and needs, and establish research priorities;
- 2) Support bold, innovative initiatives and strategic projects that are part of a cross-sectoral, sustainable approach, and enable the establishment of national and international partnerships;
- 3) Foster and promote the development of research talent and increase Quebec's ability to recruit and retain high-performance young researchers, by making a decisive contribution to training and mentoring;
- 4) Organize knowledge mobilization, scientific animation and dissemination activities aimed at different target audiences;
- 5) Support the sharing and development of research resources for all Quebec researchers;
- 6) Evaluate the effectiveness and scope of CMDO programs on an ongoing basis.

max. 1400 characters including spaces

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

In the event that your project is funded, please provide us with the mailing address and contact details of the person responsible for financial transfers (e.g. administrative technician):

- Name; *max. 120 characters including spaces*
- Email; *max. 120 characters including spaces*
- Phone number; *max. 120 characters including spaces*
- Postal address; *max. 250 characters including spaces*

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

As with tri-council agency, the purpose of the self-identification form is to collect information so our network can monitor the equity performance of our programs and design new measures to achieve greater equity, diversity and inclusion in our research endeavours

Membership Type (one choice only):

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

If Regular member: Position as a researcher: What is the start date of the first career position as an researcher in a research center (e.g. Researcher since December 2018 at INAF)?

Research areas (multiple choices possible):

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

Gender (one choice only):

- Female
- Male
- Trans woman
- Trans man
- Two-spirited person
- Gender fluid
- Non-binary
- Other
- I don't identify with any of these options
- 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 SENT IN PDF FORMAT:

- 1) An up-to-date FRQS curriculum vitae (*including the Detailed Contributions section*) for all researchers involved in the application and for the student, postdoctoral fellow or resident directly associated with the project. For researchers outside Quebec, an equivalent of the FRQS CV is accepted (e.g. CIHR CV). *All CVs (in PDF format) must be sent by e-mail to concours@rrcmdo.ca.*