

Initiatives involving research platform

Created in April 2012 by the Fonds de Recherche du Québec – secteur Santé (FRQ), the mission of the **CardioMetabolic health, Diabetes and Obesity Research Network** is to pursue the development of research into metabolic and cardiovascular health, diabetes and obesity, and to transfer and mobilize knowledge to promote sustainable health among Quebecers.

The network is launching a **competition to fund Quebec research platforms** through **intercentre** collaborative projects for the year **2026 - 2027**. This competition invites researchers who are regular members of the network to propose collaborative projects in the fields of cardiometabolic health, diabetes and obesity in which a **research platform** is essential for the success of the project. A maximum of four (4) projects from among the proposals received will be funded according to the usual criteria of excellence and the available budget (2 x \$10k funded by the CMDO (all platforms are eligible) and 2 x \$10k funded by the CRCHUM (for CRCHUM platforms)). These projects must involve at least two Quebec research centers and may also involve additional centers in Quebec, Canada or internationally. The eligibility criteria and evaluation process are described below. Projects of excellent scientific quality that demonstrate a structuring effect for research within the network will be funded at a rate of \$10,000 for one year.

The application deadline is December 1, 2025, for funding beginning no later than April 1, 2026.

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 that do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be evaluated. Award recipients will be required to present their findings at the Scientific joint CMDO Network, Société québécoise de lipidologie, nutrition et métabolisme (SQLNM) and MyRoad Training Platform meeting upon completion of the project.

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

General Eligibility Criteria :

- 1) **The Principal Investigator** is a regular member of the CMDO Network;

- 2) **WARNING** - Must not have received CMDO Initiatives involving research platform funding in the last two years as a principal investigator or co-investigator:
 - Therefore, for the 2026-2027 competition, all members of the winning teams from the **2024-2025**, as well as **2025-2026** competitions are not eligible to participate.
 - To view the list of winning teams - [Click HERE](#) (*Funded teams/platforms icon*)
- 3) **Only one application per year as a Principal Investigator** may be submitted for the *Initiatives involving research platform* competition. There is no limit as a co-investigator or platform leader;
- 4) All co-investigators affiliated with Quebec research centers must be members of the network before submitting the final application;
- 5) The person in charge of the research platform, only if he/she is a researcher, must be a member of the network before submitting the final application.
- 6) The application must include at least two Quebec research centers, each represented by at least one regular member of the network;
- 7) Applications may include additional centers in Quebec, Canada or internationally;
- 8) The research project must be related to the fields of cardiometabolic health, diabetes and/or obesity.
- 9) The research platform must be posted on the CMDO website prior to application (www.rrcmdo.ca/en, tab – *Resources for Research*) ;
 - a. [Click HERE](#) to fill out the electronic form directly online ;
 - b. We will post the platform as soon as we receive the information ;
- 10) The Quebec research platform involved must be one of the eligible research platforms for this competition :
 - a. See below for the criteria that the CMDO considers to make a research platform eligible ;
 - b. **Posting on the CMDO website (at #8) does not automatically make the platform eligible for the competition. Only the platforms listed in the list of eligible research platforms can be selected for the competition ;**
 - c. **Request this list from the CMDO Network at concours@rrcmdo.ca ;**
 - d. Want to add a platform to this list of eligible platforms? Send your request to the CMDO Network at concours@rrcmdo.ca ;
- 11) The application must include a formal submission (services offered) produced by the research platform involved;
 - a. The CMDO will transfer the amount of the final invoice in the form of a grant directly to the principal applicant, following the services rendered and according to the amount requested or eligible (up to \$10,000);

b. The submission must include the following information :

- i. Name and address of the research platform ;
- ii. Name of the research platform manager ;
- iii. Name of the user researcher(s) ;
- iv. Bid Amount ;
- v. Details of services offered ;
- vi. Work schedule.

12) Demonstration of the structuring effect for research within the network, according to its objectives (*e.g. establishing new multidisciplinary and/or intersectoral collaborations within a network or internationally, knowledge transfer, patient-oriented research, standardization of methods, or setting up a common platform or resources, etc.*);

13) 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.

Documents required when filing an application:

- 1) Completed CMDO application form (*online, see below*) ;
- 2) A formal submission from the research platform detailing the services that will be rendered (*sent via email to concours@rrcmdo.ca*);
- 3) COMPLETE CV (FRQ format whenever possible, but we accept all CV formats) of all researchers participating in the application. *All CVs (in PDF format) must be sent by email to concours@rrcmdo.ca* ;
- 4) *Optional*: a page containing one or more figure(s) and their respective captions (*sent via email to concours@rrcmdo.ca*).

Definition of a Research Platform (Criteria considered by the CMDO) :

The Quebec research platforms that the CMDO wishes to support in this competition have all or most of the following characteristics :

- A unique combination of state-of-the-art equipment, expertise and targeted services;
- Highly qualified technical staff dedicated to the platform;
- Accessibility to all Quebec researchers regardless of their departmental or faculty affiliation and openness to external demand;
- A demand for services from a critical mass of internal and external users (varying according to the sector);

- Formalized display of the range of facilities and services, access conditions and approximate rates;
- Governance structure;

Research platforms that are listed as eligible platforms meet these criteria. Therefore, it is not necessary to add this information in the application for funds.

In addition, posting on the CMDO website (Tab - Resources for researchers) does not automatically make the platform eligible for the competition. Only platforms that are on the list of eligible research platforms can be selected for the competition.

Application evaluation process:

All applications are evaluated by a Scientific Committee. Any member with a conflict of interest is excluded from the final decision. Competition results will be announced in February.

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1) Description of the project (25%): Provide a description of the project including the scientific rationale, objectives and hypotheses, methodology and potential benefits. Please also include a paragraph that presents the originality of your project (*Potential for creating new knowledge. Originality of the hypotheses and research questions. Novelty of approach, new methodologies or new application of existing methodologies*);

2) Rationale for the use of the research platform and realism of the budget proposal (25%): Explain the choice of this platform and its uniqueness among other platforms. Relevance of the requested budget in relation to the expected results;

3) Competence and complementarity of the research team (25%): Scientific achievements, publication history, funding and student training, complementarity of the participating teams and emphasis on student training (*e.g., how each person's expertise will be used to complete the project*);

4) Structuring effect for research within the network (25%): Immediate or potential impact of the proposed project on research within the network, depending on its objectives (*e.g. establishing new multidisciplinary and/or intersectoral collaborations within a network or internationally, knowledge transfer, patient-oriented research, standardization of methods, or setting up a common platform or resources, etc.*);

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 form to be filled out – see next page.

Initiatives involving a research platform

Instructions for the application form

[THE FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT ONLINE, CLICK HERE](#)

The form can be saved for later completion.

ATTENTION:

- To save your application to complete it later, you must click on the *Finish later* icon (you will be asked for a username and password), then exit by closing the program.
- If you have saved your application and you click on *Exit and delete your answers*, all saved data will be deleted.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Project title: *max. 256 characters including spaces*

Main theme (one choice only):

- ☐ Cardiometabolic health
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Obesity

Secondary theme(s) (if applicable):

- ☐ Cardiometabolic health
- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ Obesity
- ☐ Does not apply

Axes (several choices possible):

- ☐ Basic and preclinical research
- ☐ Nutrition, physical activity and human pathophysiology (Clinical Research)
- ☐ Lifestyle habits, risk factors and population-based interventions across the life cycle (Population-based research)
- ☐ Organization of care (Health system research), knowledge sharing and use
- ☐ Hypertension and vascular diseases
- ☐ Heart disease through the cycles of life
- ☐ Metabolic liver diseases

Principal Investigator (regular member of the CMDO Network): *max. 100 characters including spaces*

Main affiliation: *max. 120 characters including spaces*

Affiliation with other research networks (several choices possible):

- ☐ Another FRQ Network (*which one(s)?*);
- ☐ Diabetes Action Canada Network;
- ☐ Obesity Canada Network;
- ☐ Other.

In the event that you are awarded funding, this information will be requested for all co-investigators.

Possibility of 7 Co-investigators:

Co-investigator: *max. 100 characters including spaces*

Affiliation : *max. 120 characters including spaces*

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

Name of the research platform: *max. 300 characters including spaces*

Name of the research platform responsible: *max. 250 characters including spaces*

Affiliation of the research platform responsible: *max. 120 characters including spaces*

Email of the research platform responsible: *max. 120 characters including spaces*

Quebec research centers directly involved in the work:

Choose from the research centers. Two choices minimum.

Research centers(s) outside Quebec directly involved in the work (optional):

Location(s) of research: The name of the city(ies) (e.g. Sherbrooke and Quebec City) and a short description if necessary.

max. 256 characters including spaces

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJET

Provide a description of the project including the scientific rationale, objectives and hypotheses, methodology and potential benefits. Please also include a paragraph outlining the originality of your project (*Potential to create new knowledge. Originality of the hypotheses and research questions. Novelty of approach, new methodologies or new application of existing methodologies.*).

max. 5600 characters including spaces

3. BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Provide all bibliographic references related to the request for funds.

max. 2800 characters including spaces

4. REASON FOR USING THE RESEARCH PLATFORM AND REALISM OF THE BUDGET PROPOSAL

Explain the choice of this platform, its uniqueness among other platforms and the relevance of the requested budget in relation to the expected results.

max. 2800 characters including spaces

- ✓ Provide us with the submission supplied by the research platform for the execution of the project to concours@rrcmdo.ca.

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*

5. COMPETENCE AND COMPLEMENTARITY OF THE RESEARCH TEAM

Provide a description of the team formed, its complementarity, scientific achievements, publication history, funding and student training (e.g. *how the expertise of each will be used to carry out the project*).

max. 2800 characters including spaces

6. STRUCTURING EFFECT FOR RESEARCH WITHIN THE NETWORK

Provide a description of the structuring impact of the research project in relation to the network's objectives (e.g. *establishing new multidisciplinary and/or intersectoral collaborations within a network or internationally, knowledge transfer, patient-oriented research, standardization of methods, or setting up a common platform or resources, etc.*).

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

7. 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 SUBMITTED IN PDF FORMAT:

- 1) A formal submission from the research platform detailing the services that will be rendered (*sent via email to concours@rrcmdo.ca*) ;
- 2) COMPLETE CV (FRQ format whenever possible, but we accept all CV formats) of all researchers participating in the application ;
- 3) *Optional*: one page of figures;
- 4) Submit documents at concours@rrcmdo.ca.