How to be successful in your FQRSC fellowship application: Tips from a reviewer

Fonds de recherche
Société et culture
Québec

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McGill

General Overview

- Program Objectives
- The committees
- Evaluation process
  - Step 1: Ranking each applicant individually
  - Step 2: Creation of the ranking list
  - Step 3: Making final decisions
- Concluding remarks

Program Objectives

- **Foster students' interest in research.**

- **Financially assist the best applicants** in undertaking or continuing a Master's or doctoral program in disciplines related to the social sciences, humanities, arts and literature.

- The Fonds encourage students to lead and carry out transfer activities whenever relevant.

Committees are created to assess each applicant

Éducation, savoirs et compétences

(10A) Formation :
Formation continue; andragogie; formation professionnelle; formation des enseignants et enseignantes; formation en entreprise; orientation et counseling.

(10A) Pédagogie et approches éducatives :
Didactiques; enseignement des disciplines; alphabétisation; technologies éducationnelles; formation à distance; fondements de l'éducation; mesure et évaluation des apprentissages.

(10A) Systèmes d'éducation et de formation :
Éducation comparée; curriculum et programmes; gestion et administration de l'éducation ou de la formation; évaluation de politiques, des institutions et des programmes.

(10D) Éducation spécialisée :
Adaptation scolaire et sociale; psychopédagogie; orthopédagogie; psychoéducation.

Evaluation process
Step 1: Ranking each applicant individually

- The committees are created into the Fall
- Distinction between Master and Doctorate
- Each member of the committee (usually 3 members /committee) receive all dossiers, including GPA coming from all Québec universities.
- Each member of the committee should read all of them and assess them in order to rank each applicant.
- In appareance of conflict of interest, the committee member doesn't assess the conflicting application.

Evaluation Process Master

EXPERTISE — 60 points

Quality of academic record and recognition	40 points
Academic standing (30 points)	
Scholarships, awards and distinctions (10 points)	
Relevant experience (in an academic or non-academic setting)	20 points
Letters of recommendation	

RESEARCH PROJECT — 40 points

Originality of the proposed research problem in relation to current knowledge	20 points
Relevance of the theoretical and methodological approach	20 points
Bibliography (3 to 5 relevant references)	

Evaluation Process Doctorat / PhD

EXPERTISE	50 points
Quality of academic record and recognition	30 points
Academic standing (20 points)	
Scholarships, awards and distinctions (10 points)	
Relevant experience (in an academic or non-academic setting)	20 points
Letters of recommendation	

RESEARCH PROJECT	50 points
Originality of the research problem and contribution to the advancement of knowledge	25 points
Relevance of the theoretical and methodological approach and of the proposed time frame	25 points
Bibliography (5 to 10 relevant references)	

SCORES AND RATINGS GRID FOR EVALUATION COMMITTEES

Description	SCORE	%	RATING
Exceptional Application demonstrates outstanding scientific rigour.	18 to 20	90 to 100 %	A +
Remarkable Strengths and qualities of the application exceed standards in terms of scientific rigour.	17 to 17.9	85 to 89.9 %	A
Excellent Overall, the application meets standards in terms of scientific rigour.	16 to 16.9	80 to 84.9 %	A -
Very good There are minor weaknesses in the application.	15 to 15.9	75 to 79.9 %	B+
Good There are weaknesses in the application (a series of minor weaknesses or a more significant weakness).	14 to 14.9	70 to 74.9 %	B
Passable There are significant weaknesses in the application.	12 to 13.9	60 to 69.9 %	B-
Insufficient Clearly lacking in terms of scientific rigour.	11.9 and below	59.9 % and below	C

For all master's and PhD awards, an evaluation committee will only recommend applications with a minimum total score of 60% (12/20).
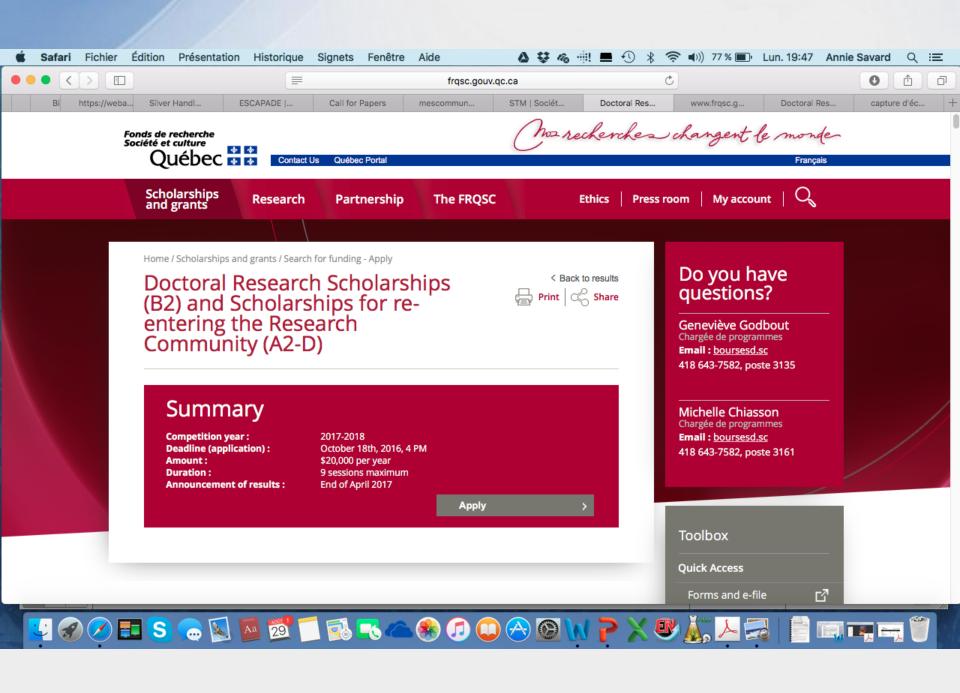
Step 2: Creation of the ranking list

- Each committee member should compile his ranking for each aplicant, for each criteria.
- The Fonds Québécois de recherche comes up with a list with all committee members grades and a common one, using statistics.
- Consistency on the grading for each committee member.
- Some cases to discuss.

Step 3: Making final decisions

- The meeting are done using phone conference.
- The new ranking list appears on all computers through secured website.
- The discussion is about ranking: why this application is the 7th with this committee member and 3th with another one?
- The committee should agree on a new ranking list.

Concluding remarks

- You have to convince me that you are the best emerging researcher:
    - Clear and simple writing style;
    - Provide evidences of your talent;
    - Explain what it has to be explained;
    - Take it as a learning process: you will learn from this experience.
    - Stay confident: Who knows?

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Summary

Competition year :	2017-2018
Deadline (application) :	October 18th, 2016, 4 PM
Amount :	$20,000 per year
Duration :	9 sessions maximum
Announcement of results :	End of April 2017

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Do you have questions?

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Fonds de recherche du Québec

COMMON GENERAL RULES

Updated on June 30, 2016 subject to the approval of the Ministre de l'Économie, de la Science et de l'innovation

Québec