

Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies

Student Perspective on Graduate Funding Applications

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Theories and Interventions
in Exercise and Health
Psychology Lab

Who am I?

- 2nd year PhD Candidate in Dept. of Kinesiology & Physical Education
- I study proficiency in online health information-seeking.
- In four years of grad school, I have been awarded over \$250k in scholarships.
 - SSHRC CGS (Master's)
 - SSHRC CGS (Doctoral) + Digital Citizen Research Initiative Supplement
 - FRQSC Doctoral*
- Assistant coach – McGill women's & men's varsity swim teams

FRQSC Funding Application – Important Details

- Read: <https://frq.gouv.qc.ca/en/program/formation-de-doctorat-2022-2023/>
 - You are asking for up to \$84k, READ the requirements.
- Eligibility – Double check that you're eligible
 - Quebec residents AND/OR those who have studied in Quebec for 2 of 3 semesters prior to competition deadline.
- Deadline - Check with academic unit for internal deadlines
 - October 5th @ 4pm if direct to FRQSC.

FRQSC – Don't forget

- *Official* Transcripts of ALL University Experiences
 - Undergraduate(s) & Master's
- Link to your Canadian Common CV
 - Start this early, not that simple or straightforward
- Follow formatting guidelines for all documents closely
 - In FRQnet portal, attentively edit & proofread everything.

FRQSC – Selection Criteria

Academic record – 30 points

Sub-criteria:

- Transcripts and honours (awards, distinctions and scholarships)
- Relevant experience (teaching, supervision, assistantships, etc.) and scientific achievements (conferences, presentations, publications, etc.)
- Applicant's ability to present his or her background in an integrated manner (relationship between experiences and interests and career and education choices, trajectory, etc.)

FRQSC – Selection Criteria

Research project – 45 points

Sub-criteria:

- Originality of the project and contribution to the advancement of knowledge
- Clarity and coherence of the research problem
- Relevance of the methodology
- Feasibility (realism of the time frame, quality of supervision including the environment available to the applicant for his or her development and the realization of the project, etc.)

FRQSC – Selection Criteria

Social mobilization – 20 points

Sub-criteria:

- Ability to facilitate dialogue between science and society (outreach activities or participation in events intended for the general public, etc.)
- Capacity for engagement (volunteering, community projects, civic and non-profit involvement, event organization, etc.)
- Consideration of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including equity, diversity and inclusion*

General presentation of the application – 5 points

FRQSC – Relevant Experiences Document

- Highlight skills and personal development that contribute to making you a great researcher.
 - Don't assume the experience 'speaks for itself'
 - List specific responsibilities (e.g. recruitment, analysis, writing)
 - List specific attributes (e.g. public speaking, leadership, time management)
- Include experiences that exemplify your passion for research / your field .
 - If possible, emphasize science communication and knowledge translation.
- Above all, ensure your experiences highlight you meeting the criteria

FRQSC – Research Proposal

- Read Examples & Attend Workshops!
 - Ask lab colleagues and your supervisor if they are willing to share samples.
 - Faculty-level Workshops, GPS Workshops, Skillsets
- Edit, Edit, Edit.
 - Ask your supervisor to provide edits.
 - Ask your colleagues to provide edits.
 - Ask other grad students & professors in tangential fields to provide edits.
 - *** “Would you fund it” Workshop by GPS

FRQSC – Research Proposal

- La problématique et les hypothèses de recherche
 - Originality & Contribution
 - Highlight “The Gap” your research fills.
 - Clarity & Coherence
 - Build a narrative.
 - Use accessible language.
- Les objectifs de la recherche
 - Should follow logically from the background section
- L’approche méthodologique
 - Explain how your proposed methodology is highly effective to address your research problem.
- La contribution du projet à l’avancement des connaissances
 - Emphasize why your work is important (in academic and/or practical terms).
- Le calendrier de réalisation du projet
 - Ensure it reads as feasible to your supervisor / other seasoned researchers.

Resources

- **Workshops and Webinars**

- Offer support in all aspects of the external funding application process and help maximize your chances
- <https://www.mcgill.ca/gps/funding/maximize-my-chances>

- **SKILLSETS**

- Suite of workshops designed for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to complement research training
- <https://www.mcgill.ca/skillsets>

- **Tips for writing a research proposal**

- <https://www.mcgill.ca/gps/students/research-tracking/proposals>

Graduate Funding Team



External team:

Ester Di Cori, Fellowships Officer

Jan Walker, Fellowships Administrator

Phoebe Zamanuel, Student Affairs Coordinator

Internal funding team:

Lilia Eskildsen Torres, Fellowships Officer

Hannah(Shuhua) Hu, Adm. & Student Affairs Coord.

Quinter Faith, Student Affairs Coordinator

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Remember: Include your McGill ID NUMBER