



CONFLICT OF INTEREST CHECKLIST FOR THESIS EXAMINERS

Before accepting to serve as a thesis examiner, please review the list of questions below to determine whether there are potential conflicts of interest that could be perceived to prejudice your evaluation of the thesis. If your answer to any of these questions is 'yes', you are likely in a conflict of interest and should decline the invitation. If you think this conflict should be allowed for you to be able to serve as an examiner, please contact associatedeans.gps@mcgill.ca before accepting the invitation.

All Examiners (for master's and doctoral theses):

- Have you co-authored or otherwise carried out research in collaboration with the student within the last five years?
- Have you co-authored or had a research collaboration with the supervisor on a topic directly related to the thesis within the last five years?
- Do you knowingly have a financial interest in an entity that could benefit from the thesis research?
- Have you previously (within the last five years) examined or been examined by the student's supervisor? This would be the case if you are the former student or former supervisor of the student's supervisor.
- Have you engaged in (or intend to engage in) discussions/negotiations with the student or the supervisor relating to future employment or supervision?
- Do you have a personal or financial relationship to the student or the supervisor? Relationships that might appear to have a conflict of interest include:
 - A past or present spouse or partner
 - A close family member
 - A past or present business partner
- Have you engaged in other activities that could be interpreted as conflict of interest? If you require assistance to determine whether these activities constitute a conflict of interest, please email associatedeans.gps@mcgill.ca.

Doctoral External Examiners only:

- Do you have a former (within the last five years) or pending affiliation with the student's academic unit*? For example, have you graduated from the same academic program or been offered an academic appointment in the unit*?
- Have you held an academic appointment at McGill within the last five years?
- Have you previously read the thesis, or parts of it, or evaluated the student's thesis research (e.g., as an advisor, as a supervisory committee member, evaluator for progress tracking)?

* **Unit** refers to a department, a division, a school, an institute, or Faculty/University-wide program.