Funding and Parental Leave – Graduate students and postdocs holding FRQ fellowships

All FRQ programs follow the conditions set out in the Common General Rules. Also consult Fonds-specific regulations:


**DISCLAIMER:** The information below is an extracted summary from the official agency websites provided for information only. You MUST verify the information and the impact of interruption on your progress in your program.

**Interruption of award** - An award may be interrupted after it has been activated, if the following conditions are met:
- Training had already begun for at least one term
- A [Request for Deferment of Start Date or Interruption of Award](http://www.frqsc.gouv.qc.ca/en/bourses-et-subventions/consulter-les-programmes-remplir-une-demande/bourse?id=kp4yacwd1498585154751) form must be completed and the required supporting documentation must be sent to Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS)
- All interruptions must be approved by GPS.
- Trainees must advise the Fonds concerned of their intention to take maternity or parental leave by completing the [Award payment deferral form](http://www.frqsc.gouv.qc.ca/en/bourses-et-subventions/consulter-les-programmes-remplir-une-demande/bourse?id=kp4yacwd1498585154751) and provide supporting documents:
  - a letter from GPS confirming the suspension of the study project or program and the authorized suspension duration, or
  - a medical certificate confirming the applicable situation (birth, adoption, interruption of pregnancy after 19 weeks).

**Paid interruption** - An award may be interrupted for a period of up to six months for paid parental leave
- The instalment deferral period cannot be divided. If both parents hold training awards from one of the Fonds, only one of them is entitled to the award supplement.

**Reinstatement of award** - Notification must begin at Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS).
- Award holders must contact [graduatefunding.gps@mcgill.ca](mailto:graduatefunding.gps@mcgill.ca) to request a reinstatement of award
- To reinstate an award, [graduatefunding.gps@mcgill.ca](mailto:graduatefunding.gps@mcgill.ca) must receive a [Request for Instalment or Reinstatement of Award Paid Directly to Award Holder](http://www.frqsc.gouv.qc.ca/en/bourses-et-subventions/consulter-les-programmes-remplir-une-demande/bourse?id=kp4yacwd1498585154751) form.
- Request for reinstatement of award should be submitted up to six weeks in advance of the award holder returning to their research or studies.
- Failure to submit the necessary documentation in a timely manner will delay the payment of the award.
- Upon resuming their studies, training award recipients must provide the Fonds with proof of enrolment.

**Unpaid interruptions** - Training award recipients are entitled to an instalment deferral of up to 12 months during maternity or parental leave.
- The installments of the award planned for each month of the parental leave will be rescheduled at the end of the funding period.
- The instalment deferral period cannot be divided. Only one parental leave is allowed per child even if both parents are recipients of a FRQ award. The parents are free, however, to organize and share this leave at their convenience.
- Completion of the [Award payment deferral form](http://www.frqsc.gouv.qc.ca/en/bourses-et-subventions/consulter-les-programmes-remplir-une-demande/bourse?id=kp4yacwd1498585154751)
- In addition to this form, awardees will need to include
  - a statement from their research supervisor confirming the training interruption for parental leave and
  - a midwife's or doctor's confirmation of the approximate date of birth or a copy of the adoption proposal.