2021 New Scientific Collaboration Support Program
Guide for researchers
(également disponible en français)

1) Program objectives

The New Scientific Collaboration Support Program, financed by the France-Canada Research Fund (FCRF), aims to accomplish the following objectives:

- support developing new expert partnerships between France and Canada;
- promote the advancement of research and innovation;
- prepare and structure scientific cooperation between the two countries;
- promote researcher mobility, particularly for young researchers; and
- provide research training for young researchers.

2) Description

This program provides financing for new scientific projects jointly developed by French and Canadian teams that have never worked together before. The financing is awarded to two-year projects in amounts ranging from $8,000 to $15,000 CAD, according to the needs expressed by the principal investigators. This two-year period may be extended depending on the evolution of the health situation.

This financing is primarily intended to support the mobility of researchers and their students. Submitted proposals must be joint projects between a French institution (all universities, Grandes Écoles, and research organizations are eligible) and one of the 20 FCRF’s Canadian member universities:

- Carleton University
- Dalhousie University
- McGill University
- McMaster University
- Memorial University of Newfoundland
- Queen’s University
- Simon Fraser University
- University of Alberta
- University of British Columbia
- University of Calgary
- University of Guelph
- Université Laval
- Université de Montréal
- University of Ottawa
- Université du Québec à Montréal
- University of Toronto
- University of Victoria
- University of Waterloo
- Western University
- York University

Information about three additional financing programs intended for Master’s and doctoral students is provided in Appendix 2.
3) Application and selection process

A call for proposals is sent out on an annual basis. Open to **ALL research fields and encouraging interdisciplinarity**. The application form is available online.

Each Canadian FCRF correspondent (Appendix 3) is responsible for promoting this program within that institution and for implementing a pre-selection process.

### FCRF 2021 SPECIFICITY: All research fields
**FOCUS on research related to societal impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic (Appendix 1).**
Of all the projects to be funded this year, the FCRF will finance **up to 5 projects** on this theme.

- **a)** All applications must be submitted **electronically** to the FCRF correspondent at the Canadian University involved in the project and to the Embassy of France’s Scientific Office.
  
  assistant.science@ambafrance-ca.org
  
  (1) 613 562-3794

  **File names — a SINGLE PDF-** must begin with the surname of the lead French researcher, followed by the surname of the lead Canadian researcher (ex: name_name.pdf).

  **Teams not selected in previous years who wish to apply on the same project must inform the French Embassy at the time of sending the new application** (within the limit of only one 2nd application).

- **b)** A maximum of five pre-selected proposals must then be sent by the Canadian correspondent to the Embassy of France, which will coordinate the assessment of the proposals.

- **c)** The Executive Committee will collect the evaluations and proceed with the final selection of proposals.

4) Selection criteria

The Program will evaluate proposals on the following criteria:
- **Innovative nature of the proposed project (quality, relevance)**
- **Contribution to the advancement of knowledge (project impact)**
- **Quality of the project presented by researchers and team members (publications, credits, other types of prior recognition)**
- **Proposed execution of research (methodology, calendar, budget)**
- **Significance and contributions of the binational collaboration (complimentarily and balance between teams)**
- **Participation of Master’s/doctoral students (contributions, benefits)**

**Only projects involving collaboration between researchers who have never worked together will be taken into consideration.**
Requests to renew previously awarded FCRF financing will not be accepted.

5) **Obligations of selected candidates**

- Candidates selected by the Executive Committee must use the grant according to the budget submitted in the application.

Candidates selected by the Executive Committee agree to submit a short scientific report following the two years in which the FCRF project is completed. The report must be sent to the French Embassy no later than 3 months after the end of the project.

Laureates will be required to provide financial reports at the end of the 1st and 2nd year of the FFCR project. These reports should be sent to assistant.science@ambafrance-ca.org

- **Canadian applicants** selected by the Executive Committee may be assigned to evaluate FCRF applications in their field of expertise for a period of 2 years following the award of their grant.

- Each publication or event that has been made possible thanks to FCRF funding must explicitly mention the support of the France Canada Research Fund.

6) **Timeline**

- Opening of the call for proposals: **September 8th, 2020**

- **Deadline for submission of electronic projects to the Embassy of France and to Canadian FCRF university correspondents:** **November 13th, 2020 (23:59, Pacific Time)**

- **Pre-selection of a maximum of five projects per Canadian University** **December 11th, 2020**

- **Delivery of pre-selected projects to evaluation committees (both French and Canadian) by the Embassy of France:** **December 16th, 2020**

- Return of the evaluations to the Embassy of France by each evaluation committee: **April 16th, 2021**

- Executive Committee meeting and selection of projects: **Week of May 3-7, 2021**

**Attention:** Internal administrative procedures may be required by some universities in order to apply to the FCRF. It is important to ask your FCRF correspondent for information.
APPENDIX 1

Priority theme of the 2021 competition of the FCRF

The COVID-19 Pandemic: Societal Impacts.

The COVID-19 pandemic posed unprecedented challenges to Canada, France and the rest of the world. To date, research efforts have focused on slowing and stopping the spread of COVID-19 through large-scale projects that are broadly based in the biological and medical sciences and are supported by abundant funding, which the FCRF Program cannot contribute to.

In the context of the current historical crisis, the FCRF also believes that it must support research that fosters the development of critical and strategic thinking frameworks that can shed light on the short- and long-term societal consequences of the pandemic. Hence the choice of the priority theme for 2021: COVID-19 pandemic: Societal Impacts.

The FCRF is thus seeking projects that will address the issue from multiple angles, including those related to epidemiology, sociology, economics, philosophy, politics, law, ethics and culture. This list is not exclusive and projects incorporating, for example, the fields of mathematics, physics and artificial intelligence will be welcome.

The comparison of French and Canadian experiences will bring innovative approaches in this sense.

The priority theme selected this year calls for both the expertise of the humanities and social sciences community and the creation of transdisciplinary teams likely to accelerate discovery and generate new research directions.
APPENDIX 2

Additional Funding

The Embassy of France wishes to bring to the attention of the Canadian and French research community the existence of three other funding mechanisms that may complement the "New Research Collaborations" program. These opportunities are intended to benefit Master's and doctoral students.

1.1 French Ministry of Higher Education, Research & Innovation’s Doctoral Contracts

Each year, three doctoral contracts are awarded to three French doctoral schools involved in three of the best projects selected by the FCRF Executive Committee. Beneficiaries of these doctoral contracts will receive a monthly sum of 1769 € over a period of three years.

Please note: If your project is not preselected by the Canadian University, you will not be eligible to apply for a doctoral contract (at least in the FCRF frame).

Interested French teams involved in projects that have been pre-selected by Canadian universities will receive a “doctoral form” from the Embassy of France’s scientific office. The completed form must be sent to:

assistant.science@ambafrance-ca.org

The deadline for submissions of doctoral records is February 19th, 2021. The three contracts will be awarded on May 2021, once a FCRF decision has been reached on the main “New collaborations” program.

1.2 Mitacs funding /Globalink Research Award (GRA) aimed on France Canada Research Fund (FCRF) projects selected for the Call of projects 2021

Mitacs supports the France Canada Research Fund. Canadian and French Master’s and PhD students involved in a FCRF 2020 project selected at the end of the competition (May 2021) will be eligible to apply for a Mitacs Globalinks Research Award in the same year.

The research stay should last between 12 & 24 weeks and the GRA is $5000 CAD per GRA-FCRF eligible Canadian or French Student.

Further information on eligibility and how to apply is available on the application form and questions should be directed to Mitacs International at international@mitacs.ca.
1.2. L’Oréal-FCRF Scholarship

L’Oréal, in partnership with UNESCO, supports the participation of women in science and the contributions of women to scientific progress through its For Women in Science Program.

The FCRF and L’Oréal Canada have founded a partnership to support the participation of women in France-Canada cooperative scientific projects.

The L’Oréal/FCRF scholarship is awarded to a young doctoral student or post-doctoral whose research projects was included as part of a Franco-Canadian research project preselected for the 2021 FCRF call for applications (provided that the young woman still has the same status as at the time of the application).

A Franco-Canadian project is considered "pre-selected" if it was selected in December 2020 by one of the Canadian member universities.

A l'Oréal / FCRF scholarship can therefore be awarded to a candidate even if the FCRF project she is involved in is not selected at the end of the competition (May 2021).

The FCRF, via its Executive Committee, selects the young Canadian doctoral or post-doctoral female student who will receive the L’Oréal Canada-FCRF Scholarship.

Criteria of eligibility

- The research projects of the selected applicant must be part of a 2021 Franco-Canadian research project preselected by the FCRF’s Canadian member universities.
- The selected applicant must hold Canadian citizenship
- The applicant’s research projects must make positive contributions to the vitality of scientific cooperation between France and Canada.

L’Oréal Canada is committed to awarding a sum of $5,000 CAD (five thousand Canadian dollars) to the applicant selected by the FCRF Executive Committee. The laureate will also be invited to take part in a mentorship program for young girls in order to share her experience and her passion for science with girls aged 9–14.

L’Oréal Canada will pay the scholarship directly to the applicant selected by the FCRF Executive Committee.

Applications

Heads of Canadian FCRF projects wishing to put forward a candidate for this scholarship must send a single PDF document containing a letter of recommendation and the student’s CV to the following email address: assistant.science@ambafrance-ca.org by February 19th, 2021.
## APPENDIX 3
FCRF contacts for each University member

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<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
<th>Position</th>
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