

Bilateral Collaborative Research Program  
**4<sup>th</sup> Call Fédération Wallonia-Brussels - Quebec**  
**Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique-FNRS and Fonds de recherche du Québec**  
Program Category: International Collaborative Research Grant

**DEADLINES**

**Submission of the pre-proposal:**

**September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 14h00**

**(Brussels time)**

**Submission of the proposal:**

**February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 14h00**

**(Brussels time)**

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**CONTEXT**

As science becomes increasingly global and complex, many research questions cannot be addressed without international collaboration between researchers from different sectors. For this reason, Quebec and the Wallonia-Brussels Federation have developed a fourth call for the Bilateral Research Program with the aim of creating a leverage effect for scientific excellence and bringing researchers from the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and Quebec to develop innovative joint research projects. These collaborations will lead to major scientific breakthroughs in the short and medium term by combining and potentiating the strengths, expertise and structural levers of both countries, as well as by promoting knowledge transfer.

The call for proposals is jointly led by:

- Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique - FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS) – Lead institution of the call
- Fonds de recherche du Québec – secteur Nature et technologies
- Fonds de recherche du Québec – secteur Santé
- Fonds de recherche du Québec – secteur Société et culture

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Specific conditions and needs applicable to each funding agency are available on their corresponding websites.

## WARNING

By submitting a proposal to this contest, you agree to allow the partner organisations (FRQ and F.R.S.-FNRS) to share the information contained in your proposal. Principal investigators must ensure that all co-investigators and collaborators are aware of the rules regarding the communication of information contained in the proposal. No exchange of confidential personal data will occur (such as gender-related personal data).

## DEFINITIONS

### Intersectorality:

The Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ) understands by intersectorality, or intersectoral networking, a research and collaboration approach that brings together on the same object, problem, method or research question, researchers from disciplinary fields or research practices from at least two of the three major sectors covered by the FRQ: *les sciences naturelles, les mathématiques, et le génie (SNMG)*, *les sciences sociales et humaines, les arts et lettres (SSHAL)* and *les sciences de la vie et de la santé*.

### An intersectoral network in research takes shape in:

- The composition of the teams: researchers from at least two sectors covered by the FRQ must carry out the project
- The joint design and development, within the project, of issues mobilizing questions or research objects common or shared by the representatives of the different sectors by taking advantage of the richness specific to each of the sectors, while proposing networks and cross-referencing of approaches to find innovative solutions
- The development of an innovative methodology, adapted to each problem and integrating approaches from each of the sectors represented within the project.

We encourage researchers to innovate in the composition of their teams by integrating intersectoral collaborations that go beyond established frameworks and thought patterns. We want the cross-sectoral composition to go beyond the mere bringing together or juxtaposition of several disciplines and sectors. It will open new research perspectives, inaugurate new conceptual frameworks and take a fresh look at complex phenomena.

### Status of investigator and co-investigator for Quebec:

See the [Common General Rules](#) of the FRQ.

### Early career researcher:

For the Fonds de recherche du Québec, a researcher at the beginning of a career is not a postdoctoral fellow. In summary, the junior status for a researcher at the FRQ is for a maximum period of 8 years and can begin a maximum of 6 years after obtaining the doctorate.

## Status of Promoter and Co-Promoter for the Wallonia-Brussels Federation:

See the rules and regulations [PINT-BILAT-P](#) of the F.R.S.-FNRS and the annex to this document for eligibility conditions (types of profiles and institutions).

It is possible to include one or more co-promoters if they come from an institution of the French Community of Belgium other than that of the main promoter.

## Collaborator:

A collaborator is a person declared by the principal investigator/promoter as providing specific expertise or competence to the research project or programming that is the subject of the funding application. He/she does not provide a CV and cannot be delegated the management of part of the funds via an inter-establishment transfer. This person cannot be delegated responsibility for any part of the project's research program (no “workpackage”). This person does not necessarily have to come from Quebec or the Wallonia-Brussels Federation.

## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### REMINDER for Quebec researchers

In addition to these program rules, it is the responsibility of individuals applying for financial assistance to become aware of the [Common General Rules \(CGR\)](#) of the Fonds de recherche du Québec, which apply to all programming of the Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ). **If any special conditions apply to this program, they are described below and take precedence over the CGR.**

**All documents indicated in blue are accessible on internet (hyperlink) or in the toolbox located on the program page on the [FRQ website](#).**

## PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

### Objectives

The main objective of this program is to generate / strengthen intersectoral collaborations and promote the advancement of knowledge and techniques in the priority themes of [the 3 major research sectors of the FRQ](#).

### Projects must:

- Cover at least [two FRQ research sectors](#) in which the added value of collaboration and complementarity between research teams are demonstrated (see definition of intersectorality and pre-proposal evaluation criteria). **The intersectorality of the project and the team must come from the Quebec team.**
- Engage researchers from different research environments, disciplines, and expertise to work together using a range of cutting-edge approaches and technologies.
- Be structured in such a way as to provide an original added value that researchers, funded by each of the funding agencies, could not achieve alone.

### Furthermore, this collaboration will:

- Increase exchanges between researchers from the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles and Quebec

- Promote collaborations between Francophone regions
- Enable research that prioritizes open science

## TEAM COMPOSITION AND ELIGIBILITY

### Conditions

**N.B.**

*Under this 4<sup>th</sup> call for proposals (present call), researchers/promoters that have received funding under the 3<sup>rd</sup> call are not eligible. This program does not allow you to receive funding for 2 consecutive calls.*

### Structure of the research team

The team will be composed of a minimum of 3 people:

- **A principal promoter of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation**

**AND**

**A principal investigator from Quebec**

who represent the project, assume the management and internal coordination of the project, according to the conditions/administrative requirements of the funding agencies to which they belong.

**AND**

- **At least one co-investigator from Quebec**

**Research teams submitting a project under this call for proposals must be made up of researchers working in eligible managing institutions in relation to the conditions/administrative requirements of the funding agencies to which they belong (see below for more details)**

May be added to the team (but their presence is not mandatory):

- A maximum of 4 co-investigators from Quebec
- Co-promoters of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation are also welcome on the team (See the rules and regulations [PINT-BILAT-P](#))
- Up to 8 collaborators (maximum 4 for the Quebec team and 4 for the Wallonia-Brussels Federation team, no minimum)

Furthermore, the program partners strongly encourage the collaboration of researchers with expertise in **diverse research areas**, as well as the **inclusion of early-career researchers in the teams**.

### Important note

**FOR PROJECTS SELECTED FOLLOWING THE EVALUATION OF THE PRE-PROPOSAL:**

*In order to respect the results of the intersectorality assessment, no withdrawal from the team will be allowed in the proposal. It will, however, be permitted to add members to the Quebec and FNRS team. For the French Community of Belgium, the promoters must remain the same as those presented during the pre-proposal.*

## FOR THE WALLONIA-BRUSSELS FEDERATION

### General rules

This call for proposals follows the rules detailed in [PINT-BILAT-P](#), adopted by the Board of Directors of the F.R.S.-FNRS on April 24, 2024.

Teams must be composed of a promoter from a university in the French Community of Belgium (see annex to this document).

It is also possible to include one or more co-promoters, if they come from an institution of the French Community of Belgium, listed in the Annex to this document, other than that of the main promoter.

### Responsible Conduct in Research

Any funded research project must comply with current legal ethical standards.

## FOR QUEBEC

### Conditions

The Quebec team must consist of a minimum of **two (2) individuals, specifically:**

- **A principal investigator, meeting statuses 1 or 2 (CGR)**
- **A co-investigator meeting statuses 1, 2, or 3 (CGR)**

whose areas of research and expertise cover **at least two of the FRQ research sectors (les sciences naturelles, les mathématiques et le génie (SNMG), les sciences sociales et humaines, les arts et lettres (SSHAL) et les sciences de la vie et de la santé).**

**Other individuals may join the team as co-investigators, up to a maximum of 4.**

- **Co-investigators them meeting statuses 1, 2, 3 and 4 (CGR)**

**4a)** Researcher from a government institution recognized by the FRQ

**4b)** Researcher from a government-sector organization not recognized by the FRQ or private

**4c), 4d) and 4e)** Practitioners; Artists; Individuals contributing in their capacity as partners (citizens or citizen partners)

### Specific requirements

- **Clarifications regarding other research statuses: Statuses 4c), 4d), and 4e):**

The involvement of practice environments – status 4c), artists – status 4d), or individuals contributing on a personal basis – status 4e), if relevant, is encouraged **and must be specified in the proposal.**

The role and research status of each team member must be clearly defined in the documents submitted for evaluation. All team members must demonstrate that they will actively contribute to the proposed research project and specify the time allocated to the project.

**Candidates in postdoctoral training are only eligible as collaborators.**

	<p><b>Addition of collaborators:</b></p> <p>Individuals may join the team as collaborators <u>up to a maximum of 4, with no minimum.</u></p>
<p><b>Important note</b></p>	<p>The Quebec team should be developed to promote intersectorality collaboration involving various research sectors under the FRQ. Through an innovative approach, the team must demonstrate the added value and contribution of the multisectoral aspect in achieving the project's objectives.</p>
<p><b>Professional Order</b></p>	<p>Candidates with the status of clinical university researcher as well as individuals from practice environments (Status 4c) must prove that they are affiliated to the appropriate professional order in Quebec, that they have the right to practice in Quebec and that they have professional insurance.</p>
<p><b>Clinical University researcher</b></p>	<p><b>Post-grant requirement:</b> A letter from the head of the clinical department or the dean of the faculty specifying how many hours will be freed from clinical duties to conduct the research project (<b>individuals holding a career grant from FRQ – secteur Santé are exempt</b>).</p>
<p><b>Basic training in research ethics</b></p>	<p>Basic training in research ethics is mandatory <b>for all principal investigators and co-investigators</b> when their research project or program focuses on human subjects.</p> <p>Research on human subjects involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The participation of human subjects ;</li> <li>• The use of human biological material (parts, products, tissues, cells, genetic material from the human body, a living or deceased person) ;</li> <li>• Assisted reproduction activities or the use of embryos derived there from them, within the meaning of the Act respecting clinical and research activities in relation to assisted reproduction (L.R.Q. chapter A-5.01) ;</li> <li>• The use of administrative, scientific or descriptive data from human beings.</li> </ul> <p>This basic training consists in the realization of modules 1 and 3 of the online tutorial developed by the Ministère de la Santé et des Services Sociaux (MSSS) a <a href="#">training program in research ethics</a>.</p> <p>Researchers must have completed this basic training <b><u>before the start of payments.</u></b></p>
<p><b>Training on civic engagement regarding health data</b></p>	<p>Citizen engagement around health data in research is a central guiding principle of <b>FRQ – secteur santé</b>. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to incorporate practices in their research that promote the information and active participation of patients and the public in data collection, analysis, and sharing activities.</p> <p>To learn more about these engagement practices, <b>FRQ – secteur santé</b> offers a quarterly online training session. This training aims to raise awareness among the research community about issues related to the social acceptance of using health data and to provide resources and tools to establish a trust relationship with the individuals and communities involved.</p> <p>While participation in this training is optional, it is strongly recommended.</p>

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS – PRE-PROPOSAL

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**F.R.S.-FNRS manages this call for proposals on behalf of both funding agencies. All documents necessary for the eligibility and assessment of the application must be duly sent to the F.R.S.-FNRS.**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The pre-proposal is transmitted via the electronic form available in the [e-space](#) by the principal promoter from the Wallonia-Brussels Federation. **The deadline for submitting this pre-proposal is set for September 25, 2024, at 2:00 PM (Brussels time).**

No documents sent by email or postal mail will be accepted.

In parallel, **principal promoters from Quebec** will have to fill in an administrative form in the [FRQ's e-Portfolio](#). The deadline for submitting this pre-proposal application is set for **September 25, 2024, at 4:00 PM (Montreal time)**.

**The submission to the FRQ, although mandatory, is purely administrative and cannot replace the official submission through the e-space platform.**

**Any document that is missing or does not comply with the rules of the program and electronic forms, but is deemed critical to eligibility or assessment, renders the file ineligible.**

Items required but absent from the file will not be claimed.

All documents received after the filing date of the pre-proposal will not be considered, and no updates to the files will be allowed.

Any documents not required but transmitted with the pre-proposal will be removed from the file before evaluation.

***No extension will be allowed. Any form not submitted by the indicated deadlines and times will be automatically rejected.***

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## FOR THE CONSORTIUM

### Pre-proposal form including :

- The scientific aspect of the project (including the feasibility of the timeline)
- Bibliographical references
- Justification for intersectorality collaboration
- Description of team members' roles

### Budget projection

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## FOR THE WALLONIA-BRUSSELS FEDERATION

<b>Main promoter of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scientific CV</b><sup>1</sup> – Free format including a list of the most relevant publications for the project (up to 5 pages).</li> </ul>
<b>Co-promoter of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scientific CV</b><sup>2</sup> – Free format including a list of the most relevant publications for the project (up to 5 pages).</li> </ul>

## FOR QUEBEC

<b>IMPORTANT</b>	<b>The principal investigator from Quebec must send all necessary documents for eligibility and evaluation of the application to the FNRS promoter.</b>
<b>Principal investigator from Quebec statuses 1 and 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Electronic Form</b> (FRQnet) "Pre-proposal" (PDF version for information in the Toolbox); <i>To be attached in the Other Documents section:</i></li> <li>• Updated FRQ abridged CV<sup>3</sup> (updated) of a maximum of 5 pages in PDF format for <b>the principal investigator statuses 1 or 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated FRQ abridged CV (updated) of a maximum of 5 pages in PDF format for the <b>co-investigator</b> with <b>statuses 1, 2, or 3</b> co-investigator</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><i>If applicable:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated FRQ abridged CV (updated) of a maximum of 5 pages in PDF format for other with <b>statuses 1, 2 or 3</b> co-investigator additions</li> <li>• Updated FRQ abridged CV (updated) of a maximum of 5 pages in PDF format for the Other co-investigator with <b>statuses 4a), 4b), 4c), or 4d)</b></li> </ul>
<b>Co-investigator from Quebec with statuses 1, 2, and 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated FRQ abridged CV (updated) of a maximum of 5 pages in PDF format for the <b>co-investigator</b></li> <li>• And for any other co-investigators , if applicable.</li> </ul> <p>These documents must be sent to the principal investigator.</p>
<b>Other co-investigators with statuses 4 a), 4b), 4c) et d)</b>	<p><i>If applicable:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated FRQ abridged CV (updated) of a maximum of 5 pages in PDF format, tailored for the call for proposals; document available in the Toolbox</li> </ul> <p>These documents must be sent to the principal investigator.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Your CV is used for scientific evaluation purposes and must not contain personal data that is not relevant to this evaluation.

<sup>2</sup> Your CV is used for scientific evaluation purposes and must not contain personal data that is not relevant to this evaluation.

<sup>3</sup> Your CV is used for scientific evaluation purposes and must not contain personal data that is not relevant to this evaluation. This note applies to all FRQ abridged CVs.

**Other co-investigator with status 4e)**

**Citizens partners**

No documents required at this stage.

Depending on the individual's role within the team (principal investigator; co-investigator; collaborators), please refer to the **Other Documents** section of the form to insert the updated FRQ abridged CVs or any other requested documents.

**Agreement and FRQnet account**

Each co-investigator from Quebec must provide their consent to be included in the team composition before the application deadline. Otherwise, the principal investigator from Quebec will be unable to submit the pre-proposal form. Researchers who do not have created an FRQnet account are encouraged to follow the "[FRQnet account creation](#)" procedure available in the Toolbox.

Practitioners, artists and those contributing individually who need to be registered in the "Individuals from other backgrounds" section of the electronic pre-proposal form, do not need to provide consent to be included in the team composition.

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS – PROPOSAL**

The submission of the proposal must be done via the call for proposals management platform [e-space](#) before the closing date of the call by the principal investigator from Wallonia-Brussels Federation (only one form per team).

The submission to the FRQ, although mandatory, is purely administrative and cannot replace the official submission through the e-space platform.

**Only team members whose pre-proposals have been selected will be invited to submit a full proposal** (see the **Evaluation** section).

All documentation transmitted for the pre-proposal will be available for the proposal. The principal investigator in Wallonia-Brussels Federation will have the opportunity to update these documents. Therefore, in addition to the documents submitted during the pre-proposal, the following documents will be required:

**FOR THE CONSORTIUM**

**Proposal form including :**

- **The scientific aspect of the project (including the feasibility of the timeline)**
- **Bibliographical references**
- **Justification for intersectorality collaboration**
- **Description of team members' roles**
- **Budget**

**FOR THE WALLONIA-BRUSSELS FEDERATION**

**Main promoter of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation**

- Letters of support from collaborator(s) or partner(s) attesting to their expertise and contribution to the **project**, if applicable; (maximum 1 page per letter, up to a maximum of four (4) letters)

**FOR QUEBEC**

**The principal investigator from Quebec must send all necessary documents for eligibility and evaluation of the proposal to the FNRS promoter.**

All documentation submitted in the pre-proposal stage through FRQnet will be available during the proposal stage. The principal investigator will have the opportunity to update these documents. Therefore, in addition to the documents submitted during the pre-proposal, the following documents will be required:

**Principal investigator from Quebec statuses 1 and 2**

- **Electronic Form** (FRQnet) "**Proposal**" (PDF version for information in the Toolbox)

*To be attached in the Other Documents section:*

**See the required documents for the pre-proposal**

**AND**

- Letter(s) of support from the institution(s) to which the principal investigator is affiliated. In these letters of support, the institutions must specify the type of support, whether financial or in-kind, that will be provided to the project throughout the funding period granted by FRQ and its partners (maximum two (2) pages per letter)
- Letter(s) of support from the institution(s) where the research project will take place, if different from the principal investigator's affiliated institution. These letters of support must indicate the commitment offered to the project by the institution.

*If applicable:*

- Motivation or interest form from citizen partners, equivalent to **status 4e**)
- Letters of support from relevant collaborators or partners (maximum 1 page per letter, up to a maximum of four (4) letters)
- College co-investigator (**status 3**): letter of support for the project signed by the director (or their representative) of the institution of affiliation

**Co-investigator from Quebec with statuses 1, 2, and 3**

**See the required documents for the pre-proposal**

*If applicable:*

**College co-investigator (status 3):** letter of support for the project signed by the director (or their representative) of the institution of affiliation

<p><b>Other co-investigators with statuses 4a), 4b), 4c), d) and e)</b></p>	<p><b>See the required documents for the pre-proposal</b></p> <p><i>If applicable:</i></p> <p><b>Citizens partners (equivalent to status 4 e)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motivation or interest form to participate in the project, specifying the nature of expertise and their role (available in the Toolbox)</li> </ul> <p>These documents must be sent to the principal investigator.</p>
<p><b>Collaborators</b></p>	<p>Letters of support from collaborator(s) or partner(s) attesting to their expertise and contribution to the project, if applicable; (maximum 1 page per letter, up to a maximum of four (4) letters)</p> <p>These documents must be sent to the principal investigator.</p>
<p>Depending on the individual's role within the team (principal investigator; co-investigator; collaborators), please refer to the <b>Other Documents</b> section of the form to insert the updated FRQ abridged CVs or any other requested documents.</p>	
<p><b>Agreement and FRQnet account</b></p>	<p>Each co-investigator from Quebec must provide their consent to be included in the team composition before the application deadline. Otherwise, the principal investigator from Quebec will be unable to submit the proposal form. Researchers who do not have created an FRQnet account are encouraged to follow the "<a href="#">FRQnet account creation</a>" procedure available in the Toolbox.</p> <p>Practitioners, Artists and those contributing individually <u>who need to be registered in the "Individuals from other backgrounds" section of the electronic Full proposal form</u>, do not need to provide consent to be included in the team composition.</p>

**RESEARCH LOCATION**

<p><b>Choice of location of research</b></p>	<p><b>For the Wallonia-Brussels Federation:</b></p> <p>An institution of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation as mentioned in the Annex to this Regulation adopted by the Board of Directors of the F.R.S.-FNRS of April 24, 2024.</p>
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## AMOUNT AND DURATION

	Team from Wallonia-Brussels Federation	Team from Quebec
Total program funding	€ 1,485 Million	\$1,8 M CAD
Maximum grant amount for the team	€ 247 500	\$300 000 CAD
Total budget per year	€ 82 500	\$ 100 000 CAD
Duration	3 years	
Number of funded projects	<b>(6) six projects</b>	
Start date of funding	September 2025	
Source of funding	Recipients from the Wallonia-Brussels Federation will be funded by the F.R.S.-FNRS. Recipients from Quebec will be funded by all 3 Sectors of the Fonds de recherche du Québec. The FRQ – secteur Santé will manage the grants for this program.	

### Indirect research costs (overhead costs)

#### For promoters of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation:

The eligibility policy of the F.R.S.-FNRS regarding expenses is detailed in the [Practical guide on costs](#).

For their participation in the administration and management of awarded grants, host institutions may include overhead costs:

- Operating expenses: up to 1% within the granted budget. This percentage should be included in the requested operating budget.
- Personnel: up to 2% outside of the granted budget. This percentage will be paid upon reimbursement of expenses to institutions by the F.R.S.-FNRS.

#### For Quebec researchers:

Grants awarded under this program are eligible to receive an additional amount to cover the institutions' [Indirect research costs \(IFRs\)](#). Details regarding the reimbursement of indirect research costs will be available at the time of award.

The managing institution will receive an amount equivalent to 27% of the requested grant (excluding teaching relief or salary support for researchers with status 3) to carry out activities related to the research.

### Management and financing rules

#### For the Wallonia-Brussels Federation:

The general rules of the F.R.S.-FNRS apply: [Practical guide on costs](#).

**For Quebec :**

The list of institutions that can manage grants from the FRQ is limited to the management [institutions recognized by the FRQ](#). The institution managing the grant is the employer institution of the person holding the grant, and is responsible for submitting the application to the program's managing fund (see the [CGR](#)).

The grants will be managed according to the respective general rules of the funding agencies.

**ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES**

Eligible expenses such as salaries, research materials, equipment and other expenses related to the project are subject to the regulations and practices of the agency that will fund the project.

**Important note:** Teams are required to budget for participation in an in-person project launch meeting, with eligible expenses to be included in the proposed budget.

**For promoters of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation**

In the context of a bilateral research project, the eligible costs that can be requested are of 3 types:

- Personnel
- Operating
- Equipment

Eligible expenses follow the rules set out in the [PINT-BILAT-P](#) regulation adopted by the Board of Directors of the F.R.S.-FNRS on April 24, 2024.

**For Quebec researchers**

**In addition to the list of eligible and ineligible expenses detailed in section 8** of the FRQ's [Common general rules](#), the following expenses are eligible:

**Eligible:**

- Release from teaching duties or salary support for researchers with status 3

Clarifications:

- College researchers (status 3, see [CGR](#)), with or without teaching duties who join a research team may receive release from teaching duties or salary support of up to 20% of their gross salary, an amount that should be included in the grant budget.;

**The compensation for research and administrative personnel must adhere to the standards in effect at the affiliated institution, taking into account social benefits and annual salary increases.**

**Non-eligible:**

Any expense not listed among the eligible expenses in the [CGR](#) is considered non-eligible unless it has been authorized under program rules.

**Note**

No funds can be transferred out of Quebec.

## EVALUATION – PRE-PROPOSAL

<b>Eligibility</b>	The eligibility of the pre-proposal (applicants, team structure and intersectorality) will be verified by the respective funding agencies to the teams involved in the project.								
<b>Evaluation criteria</b>	<p>The eligible pre-proposals will be evaluated by a joint scientific committee, composed of international experts from the clinical and scientific communities selected by the FRQ and the F.R.S.-FNRS. The members of this peer committee will be responsible for establishing a ranking based on their discussions.</p> <p>The evaluation criteria as well as the weighting associated with each of the criteria are indicated in the table below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="495 667 1453 1344"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="495 667 1190 714">Evaluation criteria</th> <th data-bbox="1190 667 1453 714">Weighting (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="495 714 1190 945"> <b>Section 1 : Quality of the research project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Originality of the research theme and the proposed approach</li> <li>• Clarity of objectives and scientific excellence of the project, description and justification of the methodologies used</li> <li>• Articulation of the work plan (workplan)</li> </ul> </td> <td data-bbox="1190 714 1453 945">40</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="495 945 1190 1239"> <b>Section 2: Added value and impacts of the F.R.S.-FNRS and FRQ collaboration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complementarity of expertise</li> <li>• Importance of the problem addressed and potential impact of the proposed approach to address this problem.</li> <li>• Impact on the development of new concepts and models, as well as on the development of new approaches and methods</li> </ul> </td> <td data-bbox="1190 945 1453 1239">30</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="495 1239 1190 1344"> <b>Section 3 : Intersectorality</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance and added value of the intersectorality of the project and the team</li> </ul> </td> <td data-bbox="1190 1239 1453 1344">30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>A mandatory 70% threshold of excellence <u>for each of the criteria will be applied.</u></p> <p>To proceed to the proposal submission stage, projects must achieve a final score above the threshold of scientific excellence. Projects will be selected based on their ranking, up to a maximum of 25.</p> <p><b>The promoter will receive the results of the pre-proposal evaluation. These results will be sent in December 2024. An invitation email to submit a proposal will also be sent to the selected teams.</b></p>	Evaluation criteria	Weighting (%)	<b>Section 1 : Quality of the research project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Originality of the research theme and the proposed approach</li> <li>• Clarity of objectives and scientific excellence of the project, description and justification of the methodologies used</li> <li>• Articulation of the work plan (workplan)</li> </ul>	40	<b>Section 2: Added value and impacts of the F.R.S.-FNRS and FRQ collaboration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complementarity of expertise</li> <li>• Importance of the problem addressed and potential impact of the proposed approach to address this problem.</li> <li>• Impact on the development of new concepts and models, as well as on the development of new approaches and methods</li> </ul>	30	<b>Section 3 : Intersectorality</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevance and added value of the intersectorality of the project and the team</li> </ul>	30
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## EVALUATION – PROPOSAL

<b>Evaluation process</b>	<p>The proposal evaluation process will take place in two successive stages according to the rules in force for the composition of the evaluation committees:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each application will be evaluated remotely by experts outside the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and Quebec.</li> </ol>
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2. Each application will be evaluated by a joint scientific committee, composed of international experts from the clinical and scientific communities selected by the FRQ and the F.R.S.-FNRS. The members of this peer committee will oversee establishing a ranking based on their discussions while considering the evaluation reports carried out by the remote experts.

**Evaluation criteria**

The evaluation criteria as well as the weighting associated with each of the criteria are indicated in the table below:

Evaluation criteria	Weighting (%)
<b>Section 1 : Excellence and innovative nature of the project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarity of objectives and scientific excellence of the project</li> <li>• Originality and innovative aspects of the project</li> <li>• Relevance of the intersectorality of the project</li> <li>• Contribution to the advancement of knowledge</li> <li>• Efficient use of existing resources</li> </ul>	25
<b>Section 2 : Feasibility</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific and technical feasibility of the project, choice of methods</li> <li>• Rigor in defining the project's structure and expected outcomes</li> <li>• Realism of the workplan and relevance of identifying milestones and monitoring indicators</li> <li>• Justification of the budget requested in relation to the proposed project</li> </ul>	25
<b>Section 3 : Research Team</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of experiences and achievements of team members</li> <li>• Diversity and complementarity of expertise among team members</li> <li>• Quality of collaboration strategy and added value of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation - Quebec cooperation</li> </ul>	25
<b>Section 4 : Impact and potential outcomes of the project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Importance (quantitative where applicable) of the problem addressed and potential impact of the proposed approach to solving this problem. Proposals should address these issues explicitly and provide as much evidence or solutions as possible</li> <li>• Impact on the development of new concepts and models, on the development of instrumentation and on new approaches and methods</li> <li>• Potential impact of project achievements and outcomes</li> <li>• Originality of the knowledge mobilization strategy among various targeted audiences</li> </ul>	25

**RESEARCH RESULTS AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER**

**Reports**

**By accepting the grant, the award holders undertake to provide:**

- Annual financial reports and a final financial report at the deadlines indicated by the FRQ and the F.R.S.-FNRS
- A project launch meeting. Participation fees for this meeting (in-person) should be included in the proposal budget.

- A mid-term joint meeting with the teams; the format and details will be communicated to funded teams later on.
- A report on Impacts, Contributions, and Activities for Quebec teams will also need to be completed at the end of the project on the FRQNet portal.
- A joint scientific report maximum 3 months after the end of the grant for the FRQ and the F.R.S.-FNRS.
- The F.R.S.-FNRS collects ex-post quantitative indicators (number of publications, patents, dissertations, theses...) and the list of publications related to the financing of the PINT-BILAT-P granted for the purpose of evaluating the PINT-BILAT-P research program as a whole. The main promoter transmits this data to the F.R.S.-FNRS on the [e-space](#) platform, for the entire duration of the project, increased by a period of 2 years.

## Dissemination and use of results by partners (for the Quebec team)

Upon accepting the funding, the grantee provides the FRQ and its partners, as well as any potential additional partners, with a non-exclusive, non-transferable license to their copyright in the final scientific report, without territorial limits, for the legal duration of copyright protection and for non-commercial purposes. This license allows the FRQ and other partners, if applicable, to reproduce, adapt, publish, translate, and communicate the final scientific report to the public through various means such as conferences, websites, Facebook, and X (Twitter), among others. The grantee guarantees to the FRQ and any partner that they possess all necessary rights to grant this copyright license. Partners commit to acknowledging the authors in all uses of the report.

## Open access (for the Quebec team)

Publications resulting from research enabled by this grant must be immediately disseminated in open access (without embargo), under an open license, in accordance with the [Open Access Policy](#) (revised in 2022).

## Open Science (for the Quebec team)

With this call for projects, the partners also seek to promote the contribution to [open science](#) as much as possible, aiming to achieve greater equity in access to scientific knowledge and to contribute to citizen scientific literacy.

## COMMITMENT OF THE CANDIDATE

### For the Wallonia-Brussels Federation

By transmitting his or her pre-proposal, the candidate undertakes, among other things, to:

- Comply with the [general rules of the F.R.S.-FNRS](#)
- Send, at the request of the F.R.S.-FNRS, certain additional documents related to the use of the grant
- Comply with the standards of ethics and integrity defined in the [PINT-BILAT-P](#)

Authorize the F.R.S.-FNRS to retain and use all personal and scientific information contained in its file in accordance with the terms and conditions described in the F.R.S.-FNRS [Privacy Policy](#).

## DIVERSITY

Diversity refers to the presence of individuals from various groups within the research ecosystem and society, fostering a range of perspectives, approaches, and experiences, including those from underrepresented groups. The FRQ values the contributions that this diversity brings to research.

The FRQ adopts a broad view of diversity, encompassing but not limited to gender, disability, Indigenous identity, racialized group membership, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, age, language, parenthood, immigration, geographical location, and socioeconomic status.

In research, embracing diversity can be reflected in team composition, the training and mentoring of emerging researchers, the formulation of research questions, the selection of methodological approaches when relevant, the planning and execution of projects, particularly in the field, the interpretation of results, and the dissemination of findings to a relevant target audience.

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The funding agencies recognize that the recipient researcher and his or her home institution own the intellectual property rights in accordance with the institution's internal rules.

## PARTNERS

**Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique – FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS)**

**Fonds de recherche du Québec – secteur Nature et technologies**

**Fonds de recherche du Québec – secteur Santé**

**Fonds de recherche du Québec – secteur Société et culture**

**ANNEXE – F.R.S.-FNRS: LIST OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS OF THE WALLONIA-BRUSSELS FEDERATION FOR THE FRQ-F.R.S.-FNRS BILATERAL CALL 2024-2025**

<p><b>Candidat promoteur principal et candidat co-promoteur d'une université CFB / Main promoter-applicant and co-promoter-applicant of a CFB university</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Universités de la Communauté française de Belgique (CFB)</b> <i>Universities of the French-speaking Community of Belgium (CFB)</i></li> <li>Université Catholique de Louvain (UCLouvain)</li> <li>Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)</li> <li>Université de Liège (ULiège)</li> <li>Université de Mons (UMons)</li> <li>Université de Namur (UNamur)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Candidat co-promoteur (de régime linguistique francophone) attaché à l'une de ces institutions / French speaking co-promoter-applicant attached to one of these institutions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• École royale militaire (E.R.M.)</li> <li>• <b>Établissements scientifiques fédéraux</b> <i>State Scientific Institutions</i></li> <li>Archives de l'État (AE)</li> <li>Institut d'Aéronomie spatiale de Belgique (I.A.S.)</li> <li>Institut royal météorologique de Belgique (I.R.M.)</li> <li>Institut royal du Patrimoine artistique (I.R.P.A.)</li> <li>Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique (I.R.S.N.B.)</li> <li>KBR (Bibliothèque royale de Belgique)</li> <li>Musée royal de l'Afrique centrale (M.R.A.C.)</li> <li>Musées royaux d'Art et d'Histoire (M.R.A.H.)</li> <li>Musées royaux des Beaux-arts de Belgique (M.R.B.A.B.)</li> <li>Observatoire royal de Belgique (O.R.B.)</li> <li>• Centre d'Étude de l'énergie Nucléaire (SCK-CEN)</li> <li>• Centre wallon de Recherches agronomiques (CRA-W)</li> <li>• LABIRIS</li> <li>• Jardin Botanique Meise (J.B.M. – Jardin Botanique National de Belgique)</li> <li>• Musée royal de Mariemont</li> </ul>

- Sciensano
- **Hautes Ecoles (HE)**
  - La Haute Ecole de la Province de Liège (HEPL)
  - La Haute Ecole Louvain en Hainaut (HELHa)
  - La Haute Ecole provinciale de Hainaut - Condorcet (HEPH-Condorcet)
  - La Haute Ecole Léonard de Vinci (HE Vinci)
  - La Haute Ecole libre mosane (HELMo)
  - La Haute Ecole de Namur-Liège-Luxembourg (Hénallux)
  - La Haute Ecole Galilée (HEG)
  - La Haute Ecole Ephec (Ephec)
  - La Haute Ecole en Hainaut (HeH)
  - La Haute Ecole Charlemagne (heCh)
  - La Haute Ecole «Groupe ICHEC - ISC Saint-Louis - ISFSC» (HE Ichec-ISFC)
  - La Haute Ecole Francisco Ferrer (HE-Ferrer)
  - La Haute Ecole de Bruxelles Brabant (HE2B)
  - La Haute Ecole Albert Jacquard (HEAJ)
  - La Haute Ecole libre de Bruxelles - Ilya Prigogine (HELB-Prigogine)
  - La Haute Ecole Robert Schuman (HERS)
  - La Haute Ecole de la Ville de Liège (hel)
  - La Haute Ecole Lucia de Brouckère (HELDB)
  - La Haute Ecole de la Province de Namur (HEPN)
- **Ecoles Supérieures des Arts (ESA)**
  - Le Conservatoire royal de Bruxelles (CrB)
  - Arts2
  - Le Conservatoire royal de Liège (CrLg)
  - L'Ecole supérieure des Arts Saint-Luc de Liège (ESA Saint-Luc Liège)
  - L'Ecole nationale supérieure des Arts visuels de La Cambre (La Cambre)
  - L'Institut des Arts de Diffusion (IAD)
  - L'Ecole supérieure des Arts Saint-Luc de Bruxelles (ESA St-Luc Bruxelles)
  - L'Ecole supérieure des Arts Institut Saint-Luc à Tournai (ESA Saint-Luc Tournai)
  - L'Ecole supérieure des Arts - Ecole de Recherche graphique (erg)

	<p>L'Académie royale des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Bruxelles – Ecole Supérieure des Arts (ARBA-ESA)</p> <p>L'Académie des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Tournai (ACTOURNAI)</p> <p>L'Ecole supérieure des Arts de la Ville de Liège (ESAVL-ARBAL)</p> <p>L'Institut national supérieur des Arts du Spectacle et des Techniques de Diffusion (INSAS)</p> <p>L'Institut supérieur de Musique et de Pédagogie (IMEP)</p> <p>L'Ecole supérieure communale des Arts de l'Image «Le 75» (ESA le 75)</p> <p>L'Ecole supérieure des Arts du Cirque (ESAC)</p>
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