

## Science en exil – extension of student grants

**Année** : 2025-2026

**Disponibilité de la date limite (demande)** : Variable

**Montant** : Variable (depending on the training program)

**Durée du financement** : Variable (depending on the training program)

Note :

**Please note:** The request must be made within **4 months** of the scheduled end of the current award, i.e., at the time of the last scheduled payment request before the end of the award\*.

\*In the event that an emergency situation arises in the student's home country during the **last 4 months** of the award the student may still apply.

### Contexte

Researchers in exile due to an emergency situation in their home country (see definitions in Section 1 - Objective) face considerable challenges when attempting to pursue their research in a new environment.

The population in their home country may be in situations that threaten their immediate safety, their lives, their property or their environment. These situations may even lead to death, irreversible damage, exile or displacement of these populations.

### 1- Objectives

The Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ) proposes to perpetuate and expand the programs put in place after the outbreak of the war in Ukraine in 2022. Indeed, the threats faced by the scientific and research communities in the world can be of several kinds and other crises will occur in the future. The FRQ intends to participate in global solidarity efforts with scientific communities affected by major and sudden crises.

This program is aimed at students from countries in emergency situations who are already in Quebec, and whose FRQ scholarship is coming to an end.

In collaboration with the universities and the people responsible for supervising these students, the Funds propose to offer a scholarship extension lasting from 4 to 12 months maximum, depending on the level of training. This extension, conditional on university enrolment, would enable students to extend the validity of their student visa, and thus remain safely in Quebec until the situation in their country of origin stabilizes, or until they can regularize their administrative situation.

#### ***What is an emergency?***

For the purposes of this program, we consider a country to be in an emergency situation when it is facing a crisis with the following aspects:

- a situation that presents an immediate danger to life, health or the environment
- a situation that causes death or serious effects on life, health or the environment
- a situation with a high probability of endangering life, health or the environment
- a situation that leads to the exile or displacement of a part of its population.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees lists [here](#) the countries or regions in emergency situations in which it intervenes.

Beyond this list, the FRQs will consider the particularities and challenges of each situation submitted when studying the application.

## 2- Eligibility requirements

To be eligible to apply for the scholarship extension the applicant must:

- Hold a passport from the country of origin that is valid on the date the application is submitted
- Hold (or have applied for) a residence permit (refugee claim or visa or any emergency travel authorization issued by Immigration and Citizenship Canada allowing study at an institution of higher learning)
- Hold a current graduate scholarship from the Funds that is **expiring within 4 months of the time of application**
- Provide a letter of justification for the request that describes the reasons why the individual is seeking the award (e.g., without this extension, the validity of the visa or study permit could be difficult to extend which could result in a forced return, security reasons, impact on research, etc.)
- Have a continuous physical presence in Quebec for the entire duration of the funding, excluding the break periods provided for in the school calendar. Candidates who are pursuing their training under a cotutelle arrangement are also subject to this rule. In their case, a study period in the country where the co-tutorship is taking place is not permitted
- Have confirmation that the person in charge of the research agrees to extend the supervision of the candidate
- **(Master's and PhD)** Be registered as a full-time student at the university during the targeted period
- **(Postdoctoral)** Be a full-time postdoctoral fellow
- Send to the Fund, for each of the sessions covered by the extension, the form confirming that the person in charge of your research agrees to let you continue your training or internship within his or her team

### Important :

- Persons who have already been supported by another grant or other funds for a research project in Canada are not eligible
- Persons who are permanent residents or spouses of permanent residents or Canadian citizens are not eligible
- Persons who are permanent residents or citizens of a third country other than the one from which they are fleeing are not eligible

### 3- Duration and amounts of the scholarship

After analysis, the FRQ will determine the duration of the scholarship extension according to the needs and circumstances of each application.

The amounts of the payments will be of the same value as those received during the regular duration of the fellowship.

### 4- Submitting an application

To submit an application for an award extension, you must contact the person responsible for the program for which you currently hold an award so that they can open a form for you in your ePortfolio (you will find the form in the section *Available Competitions/Scholarships and Training* of your e Portfolio).

#### Required documents:

- Electronic application form, duly completed
- Copy of passport
- Residence permit or proof that an application has been made (email, acknowledgment of receipt, etc.)
- Letter of introduction/motivation, including the justification requested in the **section 2. Eligibility conditions section**
- **(Master's and PhD)** Proof of university registration during the period in question
- Electronic form from the person who will be directing or supervising the research
- Extension of supervision form confirming that the person in charge of your research accepts that you continue your training or internship within his/her team

### 5- Application review by the FRQ

Once the electronic application has been submitted, the FRQ will analyze the file and notify the applicant of its decision. Decisions will be sent 4 times a year:

- June 2025
- September 2025
- December 2025
- March 2026

Please note

**The decision as to whether or not to award a grant to an applicant will be made to the FRQ's best knowledge at the time the file is reviewed. Unfortunately, once the program's budget has been reached, we will no longer be able to award a grant for this program.**

## **6- Award administration**

Students who receive an award extension through the Science in Exile program are subject to the [Common General Rules](#) (CGR) for the duration of the funding.

The administration rules that apply are those of the program in which the student is registered at the time of the extension request.

Payments are conditional upon confirmation of full-time registration by the institution for master and doctoral students. Confirmation is sent to the FRQ each session by the university. For post-doctoral students, payments are conditional upon confirmation of presence at the fellowship site by the supervisor.

They are also conditional on receipt, in the electronic portfolio, of the documents listed below.

### **Terms of payment**

- Request for payment made by the grant holder, 3 times a year starting on May 30, September 30 and January 30 for master's and doctoral level holders and according to the payment schedule established for postdoctoral and internship awardees
- Supervisor's Confirmation of Supervision
- [Ethics training certifications](#) (levels 1 and 3), if applicable.

## **7- Final report**

A final report is required after the end of the session corresponding to the last payment. The grant holder is notified by e-mail of the availability of the form to be completed in his/her electronic portfolio. It is required to complete and submit this form by the deadline indicated. The granting of subsequent financial assistance in another FRQ program is conditional upon receipt of this report.