

CIHR - Quebec Respiratory Health Training Program

**SPONSORED BY THE CANADIAN INSTITUTES OF HEALTH RESEARCH AND
THE HEALTH RESPIRATORY NETWORK OF THE FRSQ**

I. GENERAL INFORMATION – COMPETITION 2011

Outlines

The Quebec Respiratory Health Training Program (QRHTP) is a mentor-driven training program whose stated goal is to support residents, postdoctoral fellows (MD and/or PhD), doctoral (PhD) and masters degree students who wish to acquire excellent training in the field of inflammatory diseases of the airways and the lungs, across a variety of disciplines.

Currently, the mentors of the training program are based in Quebec (Canada) universities (Université de Montréal, McGill University, Université Laval, Université de Sherbrooke, Université du Québec à Chicoutimi, Université du Québec à Montréal and Concordia University).

In addition to fulfilling their respective institutional degree requirements, trainees supported by the program will be required to:

- Follow specialized courses via distance learning.
- Participate in workshops on basic and clinical science research, training methods, bioethics issues, biostatistics and the use of databases.

Trainees will also be strongly encouraged to refine their knowledge of state-of-the-art techniques at the different centers.

All pedagogical program activities are carried out over a one-year period.

Trainees that fulfill all the requirements of the program will receive formal certification of specialized training in the field of inflammatory diseases of the airways and the lung issued by Université Laval.

The following stipends will be allocated:

- Research resident, postdoctoral fellow (MD or PhD) : \$45,000 / year
- Doctoral student : \$20,000 / year
- Masters student : \$18,000 / year

Training program bursaries will be awarded for one year only and will be granted only once during the trainee's studies.

A candidate may be admitted to the program without the bursary. However, the source of current funding must be indicated.

With the consent of his/her supervisor and on condition that the work does not interfere with his/her research activities, the grantee is allowed to have a paid employment or another scholarship provided that the total amount of such income does not exceed 50% of the bursary granted by the Program.

Conditions for admission

- Hold a Baccalaureate/Bachelor's degree, or equivalent, in Health or Natural Sciences (i.e. Biochemistry, Biology, Microbiology).

Exceptionally, graduates from other disciplines may be accepted if they have basic training or research experience in the Health Care field.

- Have achieved a cumulative average of at least 3.00 on a scale of 4.33 during their undergraduate studies.
- Be able to read English textbooks and be able to work autonomously on the Internet.
- Be enrolled full time in one of the 7 universities (McGill University, Université Laval, Université de Montréal, Université de Sherbrooke, Université du Québec à Chicoutimi, Université du Québec à Montreal and Concordia University). Students in the process of enrolment are admissible, but will be awarded a bursary only after their enrolment.
- Have a supervisor who is a regular member of the Health Respiratory Network of the FRSQ. More than one student with the same supervisor can apply to the Program, but only one student per supervisor can be awarded a bursary.
- Work on a topic of research appropriate for the Program and of interest to the Health Respiratory Network of the FRSQ.
- Submit an application prior to the deadline: **1)** complete the application form on the website of the Respiratory Health Network <http://rsr.chus.qc.ca>; **2)** print the completed application form; **3)** send six copies of the completed application form and required documents to the attention of Dr. Bruno Awissi. **N.B.** The sponsor's reports, one of the required documents, are in sealed envelopes with the sponsor's signature across the seal. These sealed reports are not to be photocopied in 6 copies. They are included with the other documents as such; **4)** please limit the application to the number of pages and format prescribed.

Conditions for granting the bursary

- It is understood that the bursaries awarded to students by the Program are not aimed at supporting their current studies, but rather to allow them to receive an added value to their

training. Consequently, the bursaries will be awarded to eligible candidates who meet the following requirements :

- Enrolled in the micro program at Université Laval for the following courses. **N.B.** If needed, students from different universities can use the credits from this micro program for their required number of credits.
 1. *Cellular and Molecular Biology of the Lung I (3 credits)*
Course supervisor: Dr. Elyse Bissonnette
 2. *Clinical Aspects of Research in Respiratory Diseases (3 credits)*
Course supervisor: Dr. Kevin Schwartzman
 3. *Transverse competencies in research (3 credits)*
Course supervisor: Dr. Jean-Luc Malo

N.B. Certain postdoctoral fellows only have a work permit in Canada. To attend the courses, they need a study permit issued by Immigration Canada. The granting of the bursary to eligible postdoctoral fellows may be differed by four months in order to enable them to complete the formalities required for their inclusion in the micro program.

After enrollment in the micro program, any recipient of the bursary who does not follow one of the above 3 courses will result in payment of the bursary being halted.

- Are committed to participating to the workshops, when they take place.
- Are committed to supplying all of the reports requested within the program.
- Are committed to declaring any other bursary which you hold or obtain while you are a recipient of a Training Program bursary.

If you are already a recipient of another bursary from a peer review agency, example: the FRSQ, CIHR, etc. at the time when we announce to you the granting of the Program bursary, the Training Program bursary is no longer valid.

If while you have the Training Program bursary, you obtain another bursary from a peer review organization, example: the FRSQ, CIHR, etc., the Training Program bursary is no longer valid. The payments henceforth cease.

Timetable

- Competition launch date: February 21st 2011
- Date for reception of applications: April 18th 2011
- Funding decision: June 2011
- Deadline for enrollment to the micro program, August 1st 2011
- Start date of funding: September 1st 2011
- Starting date for the courses : September 6th 2011

Some of the benefits of enrolling in The Quebec Respiratory Health Training Program:

- ✓ Once the Micro program is successfully completed, the Registrar of l'Université Laval will present the student with a certificate of studies in addition to a formal certification of specialized training in the field of inflammatory diseases of the airways and the lung issued by the Network.
- ✓ To have the opportunity to collaborate more easily with high level researchers in the Health Respiratory Network of the FRSQ whose areas encompass the 4 pillars of the CIHR: (1) biomedical research, (2) clinical research, (3) research with respect to health systems and health services, and (4) research on the health of populations, societal and cultural dimensions of health and environmental influences on health.
- ✓ To more easily establish relationships with internationally recognized researchers in the field of respiratory health.
- ✓ To participate in a multidisciplinary and multi-centre training program allowing to acquire interdisciplinary skills and approaches necessary for facing the complex challenges of state-of-the-art research in respiratory medicine.
- ✓ To have access to the various resources of the Health Respiratory Network of the FRSQ, including: tissue banks, telematic tools and databases, genetic and functional genomic resources, etc.
- ✓ To have the opportunity to participate in scientific meetings organized by the Network.
- ✓ To have the opportunity to establish relationships with other students and with researchers during Network activities.
- ✓ To have additional specialized training, not readily available in traditional degree programs, but essential for high level research.
- ✓ To have access to Program funding enabling trainees to study and acquire state-of-the-art knowledge in other universities, in order to benefit from the complementary expertise available at each centre.

II. ADMISSION REQUEST: REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- 1. Application form duly completed.**
- 2. Research project :**
A brief description of your research project. You must justify the relevance of your project in relation with the present Training program. Outline the trans-disciplinary methodological approach used for your research.
- 3. Official transcript of the candidate's highest university degree.**
- 4. CIHR CV module** of the candidate, with the list of publications and abstracts with proof of acceptance or submission (articles in preparation are not accepted).
- 5. Certified copies** of grant notifications obtained by the candidate in the last four years.
- 6. Two sponsor's reports:** You must ask 2 sponsors who participated in your training (including your former research supervisor) to fill the sponsor's report. Neither sponsor should be your current or future supervisor. The sponsor's reports **must** be sent to the candidate in sealed envelopes with the author's signature across the seal, such that the candidate can assemble a complete application package, including these reports. Only these sponsor's reports duly completed as requested will be considered in your application. Letters of recommendation are not accepted. View the report to be completed by the sponsors on the Network's website: <http://rsr.chus.qc.ca>
- 7. Current supervisor's report:** Your current supervisor should explain in one page maximum, why he/she accepts or has accepted to direct your research. Your current supervisor will also have to outline in his report his participation in the activities of the Health Respiratory Network of the FRSQ and of the Quebec Respiratory Health Training Program. The current supervisor's report should be sent to the candidate in a sealed envelope with the author's signature across the seal, so as the candidate can assemble a complete application package, including this report, by the competition deadline.
- 8. Current supervisor CIHR CV module.**

N.B. Language: Any document submitted in a language other than French or English must be accompanied by a certified translation.

III. EVALUATION GRID OF RECEIVED APPLICATION REQUESTS

Criteria	MSc	PhD	Postdoc
Grades and quality of university academic record	/6	/4	/4
Research project	/4	/6	/8
Participation in undergraduate research projects	/3		
Publications, abstracts and presentations	/3	/6	/8
Sponsor and current supervisor's reports	/4	/4	/4
Quality of supervisor	/5	/5	/5
Transdisciplinarity	/2	/4	/5
TOTAL	/27	/29	/34

Notation guideline:

1. Grades and quality of university academic record:

- Grades of the highest diploma obtained by the candidate
- Grants and distinctions

2. Research project:

- Relevance of the subject of the research project in relation with the Training program
- Transdisciplinary methodological approach for the research

3. Participation in research projects

- Research experience
- Training internships

4. Publications, presentations and communications

- Presentations and communications
- Publications

5. Sponsor's reports

6. Supervisor:

- Publication record
- Quality of supervisor's student training record

7. Transdisciplinary profile of the candidate: research work and courses followed by the candidate which are outside the usual boundaries of his discipline.

8. A bonus of 0 to 5 points will be added to the overall final score for participation of your supervisor to activities of the Respiratory Health Network of the FRSQ. Hence, a bonus of 5 points could be given to a candidate if his or her supervisor participates actively in the activities of the Respiratory Health Network of the FRSQ.

IV. REPORTS TO BE FILLED BY THE SPONSORS

How long have you known the candidate?	
In which capacity have you known the candidate: his or her professor (number of courses)? Research supervisor? Other? Specify:	
Critical thinking	
Independence	
Perseverance in pursuit of goals	
Originality	
Organizational skills	
Interest in scientific research	
Scientific communication skills	

Rating:

1	Low
2	Fair
3	Good
4	Very good
5	Excellent

– Forward your admission request to:

Dr Bruno Awissi

Respiratory Epidemiology and Clinical Research Unit

Montreal Chest Institute, McGill University

3650 St Urbain St, Room K1.29

Montreal (Quebec) Canada H2X 2P4

For all additional information, please contact Dr. Bruno Awissi :

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