



SUPPORT GUIDE FOR THE CALL:
INDUSTRIAL ACCESS TO ACADEMIC PLATFORMS

Submission of declarations of interest: until **March 31, 2026**

Submission of complete applications: **Upon invitation**

For any questions regarding the eligibility of your activity and the preparation of declarations of interest, please contact Médicament Québec at the following address: medicament-quebec@umontreal.ca .

TABLE OF CONTENT

INTRODUCTION.....	2
DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL	2
SUMMARY AND OBJECTIVES	2
THEMES.....	3
ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING REQUIREMENTS.....	3
ELIGIBILITY OF PARTNERS	3
FUNDING STRUCTURE.....	3
ELIGIBLE EXPENSES	4
EXAMPLES OF FINANCING SCHEME.....	5
DISBURSEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS	6
EVALUATION CRITERIA	6
MANDATORY CRITERIA.....	6
ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGES	8
EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES	8
APPLICATION AND EVALUATION PROCESS.....	9
TIMETABLE.....	9
DECLARATION OF INTEREST	9
EVALUATION AND SUPPORT FROM MQ.....	9
FULL APPLICATION	10
ABOUT MÉDICAMENT QUÉBEC	10

INTRODUCTION

This guide is designed to assist you throughout the application process. Its purpose is to provide you with clear and detailed information to maximize your chances of success and ensure that your proposal complies with Médicament Québec (MQ) requirements.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CALL

SUMMARY AND OBJECTIVES

As part of the Industrial Access to Academic Platforms program, Médicament Québec will be accepting grant applications for research activities addressing industrial challenges in drug and vaccine development. Médicament Québec invites companies and academic researchers to submit proposals for collaborative research activities that address a need in Quebec's drug and vaccine development ecosystem.

The objective of this call is to facilitate access for businesses to academic expertise, equipment, and infrastructure by playing an active role in connecting industry and academia in Quebec.

This program funds activities carried out in academic settings. More specifically, it aims to support collaborative and structuring research activities bringing together Quebec life sciences companies and academic researchers, drawing on academic expertise, equipment, and infrastructure to address industrial challenges related to drug and vaccine development. **This should lead to platforms, tools, or other initiatives that will have an impact on Quebec society, offer opportunities for commercialization, and/or be sustained by industry and/or academia.** The proposed activities may also aim to **maximize the impact of existing academic infrastructure, accelerate the transfer of preclinical research to concrete applications, and strengthen local supply chains.**

All proposed activities must be based on proven scientific principles, be structured and collaborative, demonstrate a strong translational impact and potential for sustainability, and clearly meet the needs of industry.

Activities must include a plan for completion within a maximum of two years and demonstrate strong potential for application. Successful applications must also be consistent with MQ's mission.

In summary, this call aims to:

- Respond to the needs expressed by industry;
- Accelerate industry-academia collaborations in Quebec;
- Create/optimize infrastructure, tools, or other initiatives that will have an impact on Quebec society, offer opportunities for commercialization, and/or be sustained by industry and/or academia;
- Maximize the impact of existing academic infrastructure;
- Accelerate the transfer of preclinical research to applications;
- Support activities with high translational impact and high potential for sustainability;

- Strengthen local supply chains.

THEMES

Activities must contribute to boosting the ecosystem within the general themes described below:

- Small molecules ;
- Nucleic acids, macromolecules, and other biological products;
- Vaccines and immunotherapies;
- Information technologies applied to drugs and vaccines;
- Drug and vaccine formulation and delivery technologies.

ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

ELIGIBILITY OF PARTNERS

The application submitted must involve collaboration between **at least one Quebec company and at least two academic researchers** with complementary expertise.

To be eligible to submit an application under this call, a Quebec company must be registered with the **Registraire des entreprises du Québec** and **have R&D activities and employees in Quebec**. In addition, it must not be registered, either temporarily or permanently, with the [Registre des entreprises non admissibles aux contrats publics](#) (RENA), as well as on the [Liste des entreprises non conformes au processus de francisation](#), published on the website of the Office québécois de la langue française. The requirements related to the RENA also apply to subcontractors who are expected to carry out work as part of the proposed activity.

Eligible researchers must work at a public institution in Quebec: universities, affiliated hospitals, research institutes, college technology transfer centers (CCTT), public research centers.

FUNDING STRUCTURE

In addition to Médicament Québec, the funding structure of the activity **must include the participation of the Quebec industrial partner** submitting the application and, if applicable, other partners such as other companies, foundations, non-profit organizations, cooperatives, stakeholder groups or associations, etc.

The total MQ budget available for this call is approximately \$1.2 million. MQ's contribution per activity will be between \$300,000 and \$600,000, including indirect research costs.

Matching funding **may be in-kind and/or in cash** and must correspond to **at least 34%** of the total budget for the activity. Please note that the funds used as counterpart funding must come from sources other than the MEIE. **The total contribution in-kind and/or cash from the companies participating in the activity must correspond to at least 15% of the amount requested from Médicament Québec** (for example: if MQ's contribution is \$600k, the total industrial matching

funds must be at least \$90k). If necessary, other funding sources may be added to the funding structure.

Examples of matching fund sources:

- Companies;
- Federal government or other provincial and state funding agencies;
- Provincial funding agencies financed by sources other than the MEIE;
- Foundations;
- Industry groups or associations, etc.

There is no maximum limit on the amount of matching funds. Their value may vary depending on the estimated total costs of the proposed activity, provided that all funding criteria are met, including a maximum contribution of \$600,000 from Médicament Québec and a minimum matching contribution equivalent to 34% of the total budget.

These matching contributions must be supported by documentary evidence (letter of support, etc.) when the complete application is submitted

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Médicament Québec funding applies only to expenses incurred by public research institutions in Quebec. Please note that MQ funds cannot cover expenses incurred by partner companies involved in the activity, even if these expenses are necessary for the proper implementation of the proposed plan.

The budget items listed in the table below are **eligible for Médicament Québec funding**. Direct costs include the remuneration of research personnel, student scholarships and other expenses directly attributable to the activities.

Indirect costs refer to additional operating expenses arising from the activities, but which cannot be specifically attributed to them. They include the costs of operating and maintaining infrastructures, managing and administering activities, and complying with the various regulations and standards in force. A fixed rate of 27% is applied to the following five expense items of direct activity costs: 1) Salaries, wages and benefits; 2) Student scholarships; 3) Materials, consumables and supplies; 4) Equipment purchases or leases; 5) Travel and accommodation expenses. These direct costs, for all five expense items, must have been financed by Médicament Québec. Please note that indirect costs are only eligible for universities, affiliated hospitals, colleges, and CCTT.

Eligible expenses incurred by Québec academic research institutions
1 – Salaries, wages and fringe benefits ¹ *
2 – Student scholarships*
3 – Materials, consumables and supplies*
4 –Purchase or rental of equipment ² *
5 – Management fees
6 – Intellectual property management fees

7 – Professional fees
8 – Travel and accommodation expenses related to the implementation of the activity ³ *
9 – Monetary compensation for participation in the activities
10 – Knowledge dissemination costs
11 – Animal housing and platform expenses
12 – Subcontracting expenses
Indirect expenses (27% of total lines marked with *)

Notes :

1. Amounts relating to the release of teachers to carry out activities within the scope of activities cannot be included in this expense item.
2. Expenses related to the purchase or rental of small equipment may not exceed 25% of total eligible expenses. The purchase value of each piece of equipment must be equal to or less than \$25,000 before taxes.
3. In compliance with current government standards.

EXAMPLES OF FINANCING SCHEME

Example 1 of a financing scheme (sources of funding)				
Sources of funding	Cash (\$)	In-kind (\$)	Total (\$)	Percentage over total costs
Matching contributions				
Company A	54,546	100,000	154,546	34%
Subtotal – Matching	54,546	100,000	154,546	34%
Contribution from Médicament Québec				
MQ contribution to direct costs	270,000	-	270,000	59,4%
MQ Contribution to Indirect Research Costs	30,000	-	30,000	6,6%
Sous-total – contribution MQ	300,000	-	300,000	66%
Total contributions	354,546	100,000	454,546	100%
TOTAL FOR ACTIVITY	\$454,546			

Example 2 of a financing scheme (sources of funding)				
Sources of funding	Cash (\$)	In-kind (\$)	Total (\$)	Percentage over total costs
Matching contributions				
Company A	30,000	50,000	80,000	8,8%
Company B	-	120,000	120,000	13,2%
Others	109,092	-	109,092	12%
Sous-total – contribution contrepartie	139,092	170,000	309,092	34%

<i>Contribution from Médicament Québec</i>				
MQ contribution to direct costs	516,000	-	516,000	56,8%
MQ Contribution to Indirect Research Costs	84,000	-	84,000	9,2%
Sous-total – contribution MQ	600,000	-	600,000	66%
Total contributions	739,092	170,000	909,092	100%
TOTAL FOR ACTIVITY	\$909,092			

DISBURSEMENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

MQ funds will be disbursed to academic research institutions in advance in three installments and will only cover expenses incurred by those institutions.

The first payment will be made upon finalization of the contractual documentation and full compliance with the conditions. Subsequent payments will be conditional upon receipt and acceptance of reports and other related documents to the satisfaction of MQ, as well as receipt of supporting documentation for matching funds.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

MANDATORY CRITERIA

1. **Is the proposed activity structuring?**

The proposed activity sets up organizations, networks or tools that will have a synergistic and developmental impact on the Quebec drug industry. It demonstrates appreciable and development potential.

- **A structuring activity** must have a **multiplier effect** within the Quebec vaccine ecosystem. It must act as a lever, a catalyst, an engine of **synergistic development** for the ecosystem.

2. **Is the proposed activity collaborative?**

The proposed activity brings together players from several organizations and ideally several disciplines around a common project. In this way, several partners collaborate over a defined period to carry out the activity, which will result in an innovative platform, service or process applicable to the Quebec drug/vaccine industry. These partners may be private (innovative pharmaceuticals, generic, biotech and manufacturing companies) or public (universities, college centers for the transfer of technology, research laboratories, public agencies, technical centers, associations or others).

The contribution of complementary skills is highlighted. This collaboration is a form of mutualization to meet a broader ecosystem need, whether in terms of R&D expenditure, know-how, risks or activity results.

- A structuring activity aims to bring together and mobilize distinct academic and non-academic/industrial players to achieve common goals.
 - The activity is supported by several players from different horizons within the biopharmaceutical ecosystem of Quebec and Canada. A structuring activity must benefit a maximum number of players in this ecosystem.
 - The commitment of the partners is adequate.
 - The team's expertise is complementary.
 - The team's expertise is sufficient.
 - The partnership offers a win-win solution.
3. **Does the proposed activity directly or indirectly create or strengthen local supply chains?**
 The proposed activity will increase the potential for drug discovery and development, establish partnerships with the biomanufacturing community, involve local biomanufacturing companies or act as a link in the supply chain for an important niche (maximum 24 months)
- The activity will generate positive outcomes for Quebec.
 - The activity is interesting and brings appreciable added value to the Quebec drug/vaccine ecosystem.
 - The activity has an adequate management and implementation plan, including a risk mitigation approach.
4. **Is the expected new knowledge of scientific importance?**
 The proposed activity benefits the scientific community for the advancement of innovation or constitutes an important scientific breakthrough in its own right. The proposed activity is mature, i.e. the goals, objectives and scope are already defined and can be rapidly implemented.
- Scientific justification must be clearly demonstrated.
 - Activity plan is robust.
 - The methodology is appropriate for achieving the objectives.
 - The equipment, infrastructure and biological materials available are adequate for carrying out the activity.
 - Data analysis and storage capacities are adequate.
 - Objectives are clearly defined and realistic.
 - Objectives are compatible with the establishment of measurable milestones and deliverables.
5. **Is the proposed activity adequately funded?**
 The proposed activity is supported or will be supported by funding from private partners or other eligible sources. The sources of funding will enable the amounts requested from MQ and other funders to be matched, where applicable. They should also ensure the sustainability of the activity in the medium and long term. MQ's funding helps to encourage partners to join and share the risk with other funders, where applicable.

- Funding sources are existing and confirmed, or about to be. MQ funding does not exceed 66% of the total cost of the activity;
- The activity must involve at least one Quebec company that conducts R&D activities in Quebec and that commits to supporting the activity (in-kind and/or in cash).

6. Does the proposed activity have potential for valorization?

The proposed activity includes a reflection on the valorization of intellectual property by making knowledge, skills and research results available for the benefit of society, while also contributing to its outreach. The activity provides a clear understanding of the issue or problem, the proposed solution and the characteristics of the target clientele and the size of the potential market (business model, value proposition, SWOT analysis).

- The activity meets a need in the Quebec drug/vaccine ecosystem.
- The activity generates innovations with potential for valorization.
- The activity's value-added is competitive
- The activity includes a realistic plan for accessing resources to fuel its activity and dynamic development over time, after the end of MQ's initial funding

ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGES

7. Does the proposed activity make it possible to integrate artificial or digital intelligence approaches?

The proposed activity makes it possible to integrate artificial or digital intelligence approaches into the vaccine discovery, development and/or supply process.

8. Does the proposed activity include a training component?

The proposed activity integrates a component related to the development of talent, skills and the next generation, to provide support and guide those who choose to pursue a career in the pharmaceutical industry in Quebec, whether in academia, organizations or companies.

EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Platform for preclinical validation, target or biomarker qualification;
- Technological feasibility studies;
- Prototype development;
- Manufacturing, scale-up, formulation, or process feasibility studies;
- Specialized analyses for drugs and vaccines.

These examples should not be considered exhaustive. Please feel free to contact the Médicament Québec team as soon as possible to discuss your proposal.

APPLICATION AND EVALUATION PROCESS

TIMETABLE

Launch of the initiative	February 25, 2026
Information session - webinar (register here)	March 10, 2026 (12h- 13h)
Submission of declarations of interest	At the latest of March 31, 2026
Submission of full applications	Upon invitation

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

As a first step, MQ is launching an open call for declarations of interest from February 25 to March 31, 2026. The call is ongoing, and documents will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Interested Quebec life sciences companies and/or academic researchers must submit a declaration of interest including the following elements:

- Description of the proposed activity (maximum 1 page), including:
 - Industrial challenges associated with the development of drugs and vaccines;
 - Proposed solution(s)/need(s) that could require academic expertise, infrastructure, and/or equipment ;
 - Expected deliverables ;
 - Expected outcomes, including those that will meet a need within the ecosystem;
- Team description (maximum 1 page), including:
 - The presentation of the lead company and, if applicable, of the other participating companies;
 - The identification of potential academic researchers or, at a minimum, a description of the expertise and resources sought;
- Preliminary funding structure.

Please download and complete the declaration of interest form available on our website at the following address: [Médicament Québec appel Accès industriel aux plateformes académiques](#) and send it to: medicament-quebec@umontreal.ca by **March 31, 2026**. For any questions related to the preparation of declarations of interest, please contact Médicament Québec promptly at medicament-quebec@umontreal.ca .

EVALUATION AND SUPPORT FROM MQ

Declarations of interest will be analyzed by Médicament Québec, with the aim of :

- Verify eligibility and compliance with program criteria;

- Analyze the quality and capacity of the proposal to meet the objectives of the call for proposals;
- Examine the relevance of groupings or mergers between proposals, where this could be beneficial to the ecosystem.

Following the analysis, if necessary and with the agreement of the companies, MQ may identify opportunities for networking with academic researchers. In accordance with confidentiality requirements, MQ may also disseminate certain needs anonymously to facilitate this process.

Please note that MQ coordinators will be available to assist you throughout the application planning process and during the implementation of your activity. Their role within MQ includes identifying ecosystem needs to strengthen the supply of drugs/vaccines and seizing opportunities for projects or partnerships that promote the growth of Quebec's capabilities.

What kind of support do we offer??

- Facilitate partnerships between industry and academia;
- Increase collaboration with other partners (academic or otherwise);
- Ensure that activity proposals meet evaluation criteria, etc.

The support offered by Médicament Québec is provided on a first-come, first-served basis. It is therefore advantageous to contact the MQ team as soon as possible. MQ support is provided on a best-efforts basis and does not constitute a guarantee of funding.

FULL APPLICATION

Once the declaration of interest is complete and eligible, teams consisting of one or more companies and at least two researchers will be invited to submit a joint full application.

Complete applications are evaluated on a rolling basis, with no fixed deadline. Each application will be evaluated by three independent experts responsible for assessing proposals and making recommendations to the MQ Governance Committee. Selected activities must ultimately receive approval from the MQ Governance Committee.

Funding will be granted until the available budget of approximately \$1.2 million is exhausted.

ABOUT MÉDICAMENT QUÉBEC

Médicament Québec (MQ) is an initiative funded by the Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Énergie (MEIE), which brings together research and teaching establishments and companies around a common project. It aims to increase the autonomy and dynamism of Quebec and Canada in bioinnovation and biomanufacturing. MQ supports structuring and collaborative academic research activities bringing together players from different disciplines and institutions for the benefit of the provincial drug and vaccine ecosystem.

Website: <https://medicamentquebec.ca/> LinkedIn: [Médicament Québec | LinkedIn](#)