## Canada Impact+ Research Chairs competition

[The Canada Impact+ Research Chairs (Impact+) program](#) is a Canadian initiative designed to support institutions in attracting world-leading researchers currently based outside of Canada whose work addresses critical national and global challenges.

The Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) is looking for exceptional candidates interested in leading ambitious and transformative projects in Canada's [strategic priority areas](#):

- advanced digital technologies (including artificial intelligence, quantum and cybersecurity);
- health, including biotechnology;
- clean technology and resource value chains;
- environment, climate resilience and the Arctic;
- food and water security;
- democratic and community resilience;
- manufacturing and advanced materials; and/or
- defence and dual-use technologies.

**Nominees must be full professors or associate professors** or, if recruited from outside the academic sector, must possess the qualifications required to be appointed at these levels.

Canada Impact+ Research Chairholders will support the translation of discoveries into **tangible applications** and **marketable products**, generating social and economic benefits for Canada and globally.

As a part of this highly competitive program, UQAM's allocation allows for the nomination of up to five (5) chair nominations, each supported by $1 million in annual funding over an eight-year period.

The candidate for a Impact+ Chair must:
- Be an outstanding, innovative world-class researcher currently working

outside Canada, whose achievements have had a significative impact in one or more of Canada's strategic priority areas;

- Be an internationally recognized leader in this field;
- Demonstrate the ability to recruit and supervise graduate students and postdoctoral fellows;
- Demonstrate the ability to manage a research team;
- Demonstrate the ability to develop partnerships with international researchers;
- Identify a **host department at UQAM** and designate the mentor who will be involved in the preparation of the application;
- Demonstrate access to cutting-edge infrastructure at UQAM to support the proposed project.

The results of the Impact+ Research Chairs competition will be announced in **September 2026**, with the successful candidate expected to fill the position within the following 12 months.

Anyone interested in applying must submit a PDF application by email to impactplus@uqam.ca, no later than March 15, 2026.

The application file must include the following documents:

1. A summary (maximum 2,500 characters) of the proposal in a language accessible for the general public. Using simple terms, describe:
   - the nature of the proposed research program;
   - the proposed research program's objectives;
   - the research approach; and
   - the novelty of the proposed research program and its expected significance.

2. A nomination document (**maximum 6 pages**; references may be included separately—see formatting guidelines below) presenting a research program that is original, innovative, and of high quality. It must include the following information:
   - Title of the Impact+ Chair:
   - Description of the research program, including:
     i. The explicit objectives of the research program;
     ii. The significance and originality of the proposed research, as well as the tangible applications and marketable products;
     iii. How co-creation with partners from all sectors (academic, public,

private, non-profit, and philanthropic) will be fostered to increase the adoption of research results for the benefit of all Canadians;

    iv.    How relevant collaborations and partnerships with Canadian and international entities (across the academic, public, private, non-profit, and philanthropic sectors) will be integrated, alongside initiatives led «by and with» Indigenous Peoples and communities, including First Nations, Inuit, and Métis, as applicable and according to the research program

- A demonstration that the candidate has the potential to recruit, train, and retain excellent trainees, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows;
- A demonstration of strong institutional support for the candidate from a dedicated team at UQAM (**including their mentor**);
- A demonstration of the research program's alignment with [UQAM's strategic plan](#);
- Demonstration of the Chair's capacity to contribute constructively to the Canadian and international research ecosystem;
- **A list of potential or confirmed partners** (academic institutions, hospitals, Canadian or foreign organizations, private companies) that will provide cash and/or in-kind contributions to the Chair;
- **A list of up to ten (10) organizations and individuals** who can provide letters of support for the candidacy.


3. Curriculum vitae detailing awarded grants, publications from the past five (5) years, and student supervisions (free format).
4. A presentation of the candidate's five most significant research contributions throughout their career. Explain their significance (maximum 2 pages).

5. Justification for any interruptions in research activities, if applicable (maximum 0.5 page). UQAM recognizes that life circumstances such as illness, disability, family and community responsibilities (e.g., maternity leave, parental leave, leaves due to illness, leaves due to caring for family members, slowdowns due to chronic illness or disability, or COVID 19 impacts) are often an expected part of life and are likely to have an impact on a nominee's record of research achievement, and that these impacts will be taken into careful consideration during the assessment process;

The application document must comply with the following formatting standards:
- 8 ½" x 11" (216 mm x 279 mm);
- The font used for the body of the text must be Times New Roman 12-point

or Arial 11-point;

- Margins (left, right, top, and bottom) must be set to at least ¾ inch (1.87 cm).

This competition is part of the Canada Research Chairs Program's equity initiative. To achieve these objectives, UQAM has developed an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Action Plan. UQAM promotes equity and is committed to ensuring the representation of underrepresented groups within its workforce. It welcomes applications from members of visible minorities, women, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, individuals of all sexual orientations and gender identities, and anyone with the skills and knowledge needed to work effectively with diverse communities.

UQAM can provide accommodation measures to meet the needs of applicants with, for example, hearing impairments or limited mobility. Please contact Philippe Pierret (pierret.philippe@uqam.ca) for more information.

Individuals who self-identify as belonging to one or more of the above-mentioned groups are invited to complete a self-identification form. Once completed, please return it to edi@uqam.ca.

For more information:
About self-identification, please contact Evelyn McDuff (mcduff.evelyn@uqam.ca);
About eligibility for the competition or accessibility measures, please contact Philippe Pierret (pierret.philippe@uqam.ca)

For any other inquiries, contact impactplus@uqam.ca.

**Schedule**

| Application Steps | |
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| Call for applications | January 26, 2026 |
| Submission of the letter of intent to impactplus@uqam.ca | March 15, 2026 |
| Processing and sending Impact+ files to the UQAM's Institutional Subcommittee for Canada Research Chairs | March 18, 2026 |
| Evaluation by UQAM's Institutional Subcommittee for Canada Research Chairs | April 2, 2026 |
| Candidate selection | April 6, 2026 |
| **Writing Steps** | |

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| Preparation of the application file with support from the mentor, faculty, the Research and Creation Office and the team from the Vice-Rectorate for Research, Creation, and Dissemination | Starting April 7, 2026 |
| Submission of the final application on the Convergence portal | June 22, 2026 |
| Submission of the application to the Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program | June 29, 2026 |
| Announcement of results | September 2026 |