

EVALUATION CHU SAINTE-JUSTINE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP 2021-2022

Evaluation grid

Criteria	MSc	PhD	Postdoc
Academic performance	25	15	-
Research and/or clinical internships	15	10	-
Scholarships and awards	10	10	15
Publications and communications	10	20	35
- Publications	5	13	25
- Conferences et presentations	5	7	10
Research project	25	30	30
- Clarity and conciseness of the research topic	5	6	6
- Clarity and consistency between the hypotheses and objectives	6	6	6
- Relevance of the methods and analyses	6	6	6
- Feasibility	5	6	6
- Originality of the project and contribution to the advancement of knowledge	3	6	6
Motivation letter and justification of the place of training	10	10	15
Leadership and implication	5	5	5
TOTAL POINTS	100	100	100

Evaluation criteria

Criteria	Description	Tips to increase your score
Academic performance	Evaluation according to the academic results obtained and the progression of the student's file over the years. International applicants should include an explanatory document for scoring in the appendices document.	<p>If you have received any honors or distinctions, indicate them clearly in your CV. Now is not the time to be modest!</p> <p>If your grades show improvement, the evaluators will appreciate it. Feel free to add a justification, if necessary.</p>
Research and/or clinic internships	Based on the number, duration, content and quality of the student's internships and research work experience. Clinical internships relevant to the student's application and research project may also be considered. Please specify whether they are optional or compulsory internships.	<p>Clearly state whether your internships are optional or mandatory, and the number of hours for each internship.</p> <p>Be concise and separate your internships into paragraphs for better visibility. Share what you did and how it fits in your academic path.</p>
Scholarships and awards	Evaluation according to the number and prestige of the scholarships, prizes and distinctions obtained. Stipends awarded by the research director will not be considered.	<p>Do not write down the stipend your supervisor offers you, it will not count as a merit scholarship, and reviewers may see it as an attempt to artificially inflate your application.</p> <p>Indicate the total amount you got for each scholarship. If this is an international scholarship, less known in Canada, give some details about it.</p> <p>If you have little or no scholarship, applying to multiple small scholarships is a good short-term strategy. They are easier to obtain and you will gradually improve your file to obtain larger scholarships later.</p>
Publications and communications	Evaluation according to the number and prestige of publications and communications (oral and poster). For publications, the author rank and the impact factor will be considered. For communications, the type of presentation (oral or poster) and the importance of the event (local, national or international) will be considered.	<p>Do not indicate articles in preparation, it is not worth any points and it complicates the reviewer's job.</p> <p>If you don't have a publication yet, add all the communications you have (Science Expo, Science Olympics, presentations during an internship, etc.). Publication is the key to obtaining scholarships, the</p>

		<p>faster you publish, the more you will have an advantage over other applicants (even a small publication).</p> <p>Cite your publications according to good practices. All information must be present (including all the authors, and your rank among them). It's a good idea to bold your name among the authors.</p> <p>Do not mix abstracts (conferences, meetings) with published articles. Make separate sections for each type of presentation and communication.</p>
Research project	<p>The research project must be described in such a way that a non-expert evaluator of the field can understand. Evaluation according to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarity and conciseness of the research topic - Clarity and consistency between the hypotheses and objectives - Relevance of the methods and analyses - Feasibility - Originality of the project and contribution to the advancement of knowledge <p>Presentation of the project (including flow, structure, and quality of writing) as well as respecting the word limit (max 1500 words) and references (max 6 references) may affect the score.</p>	<p>The evaluator is unlikely to be an expert in your field. Describe your project so that he can understand it. Don't use too much abbreviations. If you do use them, make sure they are well defined earlier in your text.</p> <p>Be careful to cover all the points that will be evaluated. The hypothesis is frequently overlooked.</p> <p>Explain why your methods and analyzes are relevant.</p> <p>The feasibility of the project should be obvious to the evaluator (depending on the methods, but also depending on where you are at in your academic journey - an MSc and a PhD will not have projects of the same scope), take care to explain it well.</p>
Motivation letter and justification of the place of training	<p>Evaluation according to the scientific motivation, the career goals and objectives and identification of clear interests. The fit between the training already acquired and the proposed project as well as the reasons for the choice of laboratory and/or supervisor will also be taken into consideration. The quality of the writing and respecting the word limit (max 750 words for MSc and PhD students) may affect the score.</p>	<p>Explain why you chose this laboratory, this research center, this program and/or this university. Evaluators will be uninterested in your choice of city, or knowing that you had to stay in Montreal for personal reasons (even if it is the reason, there are several universities/laboratories in Montreal).</p> <p>Make the connection between your training and previous experiences, your current project and your long-term goal.</p>

	Postdoctoral fellows must include a detailed scientific career plan in their motivation letter. The focus should be on career goals in the short, medium and long term. Points will be awarded according to the clarity and relevance of the career plan. The quality of the writing and the respect of the word limit (max 1200 words) may affect the score.	The career plan (for postdocs) is often missing or incomplete. Saying that you want to become a researcher is not a career plan. You have to explain why, how, what motivates you, etc. Focus on what you want to accomplish rather than what you have accomplished in the past. Include a short, medium and long term career plan.
Leadership and implication	Evaluation based on the student's involvement in various committees or associations, volunteering and other relevant extracurricular activities demonstrating the student's leadership.	Explain how these activities will be useful in your academic or professional development.

General tips for increasing your score

Remember that the evaluator will have many files to evaluate in a short time. The information in your application should be clear and easy to find. Don't hesitate to use paragraphs to separate your ideas. Put yourself in the minds of the reviewers when writing your application. If they have to search for information to give you points, they might miss things. Read the evaluation criterias carefully and make sure everything is there and in the right place.

Be honest: do not try to cover up the lack of presentation, publications or grants with a lack of clarity or exaggeration (for example, citing work done in class as a scientific publication), the reviewer will only assess you more severely.

Be sure to complete ALL sections. If a section is empty, there is a good chance that your application will not be selected. If you don't have anything to write in a section, add a justification. Also use all available space. If you have a section that is half completed, you are losing an opportunity to sell yourself and it makes it seem like you don't have a lot of contributions for that section, or that you haven't put in a lot of effort.

Start writing your application in advance. Have someone else proofread your application, ideally your research supervisor. Beware of mistakes and bad turns of sentences. If you are not writing in your native language, have a colleague who can correct you to proofread.