



Postdoctoral fellowships in health policy and healthy public policies
CIHR-McGill-INSPQ



Closing date: August 21, 2017

The Strategic Training Program in Transdisciplinary Health Policy Research, led by McGill University and the Institut national de santé publique du Québec, and funded by the CIHR Institute of Health Services and Policy Research and Institute of Population and Public Health, is aimed at preparing future researchers to provide leadership in the area of health policy or healthy public policies by working in the public health network.

CIHR-McGill-INSPQ postdoctoral fellowships in healthy public policies

Two fellowships for postdoctoral training in a public health setting are offered. The training includes four types of learning opportunities:

- 1) Hands-on learning at the Institut national de santé publique du Québec (INSPQ), specifically in the office of the Vice-President, Scientific Development and Communication, located in Montreal. The INSPQ's mission is to support the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux du Québec, regional public health authorities and institutions in the health and social services network in carrying out their responsibilities. Among other things, this mission consists in developing **new knowledge and approaches in health promotion, prevention and protection, evaluating the impact of healthy public policies and contribute to the development and implementation of the Quebec National Public Health Program (NPHP)**, and other Ministry directions such as the government health policy for prevention;
- 2) professional development training focusing on a body of enriched competencies (e.g. leadership, negotiation, project management), designed to accelerate professional development for postdoctoral fellows and better prepare them for various career options as researchers, especially outside the university setting;
- 3) participation in a national cohort of fellows and directors of university healthcare organizations and associated organizations in order to contribute to creating, introducing and fine-tuning a cross-Canada curriculum for research into public health policy;
- 4) networking and mentoring opportunities with the management of university and healthcare organizations in Quebec and across Canada.

The INSPQ and McGill mentors will jointly provide expertise and technical and professional advice to support the fellows in achieving the impact objective, for example, helping them apply their scientific and analytical competencies to real-world challenges, facilitating access to resources (data, colleagues, organizations) and developing enriched competencies in health policy research.

Postdoctoral fellows will work under the joint supervision of Dr. Alain Poirier, Vice-President, Scientific Development and Communication, INSPQ, and one of the following university research professors: Daniel Weinstock, PhD (<https://www.mcgill.ca/law/fr/about/profs/weinstock-daniel>); Amélie Quesnel-Vallée, PhD (<http://www.ameliequesnelvallee.org>); Erin Strumpf, PhD (<https://mcgill.ca/economics/erin-strumpf>) or Gilles Paradis, MD (<http://www.mcgill.ca/epi-biostat-occh/research-0>).

Value of fellowships

The postdoctoral fellowships are valued at **\$70,000 for one year** (non-renewable). Along with this amount, each fellow will receive a research and professional development allowance of **\$10,000** for participating in the development of a cross-Canada enriched curriculum for health policy research and a national cohort, as well as research-related expenses.

Length and time commitment

The program runs for 12 months, starting September 2017.

The fellows must devote four days per week to INSPQ, and the remaining time to McGill. This latitude in managing their time is intended to enable them to make an important contribution to the INSPQ's mandate, immerse themselves in its culture and activities, and take advantage of the mentoring provided by Dr. Alain Poirier, while allowing a portion of their time for university activities.

Program

The **research must tie in to the Quebec NPHP and the equity of its service offering in response to priority preventable health problems**. The research priorities the fellows will work on focus on the INSPQ's current priority issues: 1) the built environment, 2) antibiotic resistance, 3) reduction in problems associated with the use of psychoactive substances, 4) reduction in health disparities among social groups, 5) healthy aging, and 6) health of indigenous peoples. The policy analysis research into these questions must enable INSPQ to provide influential leadership in support of informed decision-making. The research projects will be selected jointly by the fellows, the INSPQ and university supervisors from McGill.

In addition to a project related to the NPHP, the competency development plan will include:

- 1) knowledge of the public health community through sustained interaction at regular meetings with the supervisors, and participation in various committees, 2) developing knowledge and research and analytical capabilities by participating in a regular cycle of seminars at the Institute for Health and Social Policy, seminars by the McGill Centre on Population Dynamics, and those of the INSPQ, and by ad hoc participation in public policy-related initiatives 3) a monthly paper written by the fellow, on a question in which science and policy intersect and 4) participating in organizing a symposium on health policy research for the Journées annuelles de santé publique du Québec in 2018.

Eligibility and evaluation criteria

Candidates:

- must demonstrate strong professional leadership potential in research into healthy public policies and an excellent academic record,
- must hold or be in the process of completing a doctorate in health policy research or a related field (e.g. economics, political science, public health, anthropology, demographics, epidemiology) by the beginning of the fellowship,
- must not have completed a doctorate more than five years before the competition closing date,
- must not be a current or former employee of INSPQ, nor have received an offer of employment from INSPQ or McGill.

Candidates must also demonstrate:

- their interest in the entire training program,
- their interest in health policy research and healthy public policies in Quebec and Canada,
- the relevance of the project they are considering, with regard to the NPHP and the INSPQ's priorities,
- their interest in a research career in a public health setting, such as the INSPQ.

in addition to demonstrated excellence in oral and written French and English. The competition is open to Canadian citizens, permanent residents of Canada, and citizens of other countries. The selected candidates must begin their fellowship in September 2017.

Application process

Interested candidates who meet the above-mentioned criteria are invited to email their application* to Anne-Marie Hamelin, PhD, scientific director, at 4P-amh.eboh@mcgill.ca. Letters of recommendation must be sent directly to this same address.

*The complete application includes the attached form (signed) and all other required documents listed on the form. Each of the documents (Word or PDF) must be identified with the candidate's surname followed by the title of the document.

The closing date for the competition is August 21, 2017, at 4:30 p.m.

Applications will be evaluated as they are received.

Preselected candidates will be informed by no later than August 30, 2017.

For more information, please contact Anne-Marie Hamelin at 4P-amh.eboh@mcgill.ca.