



Posting date: August 30, 2024

CALL FOR EXTERNAL CANDIDATES

CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR (TIER 2) IN HIGHLY PATHOGENIC INFLUENZA VIRUSES AND ZOOZOSES

The [Faculty of Medicine](#) of [Université Laval](#) is launching a call for external candidates for the creation of a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC) in the field of highly pathogenic influenza viruses and zoonoses.

Université Laval is one of Canada's largest universities and the oldest French-language institution of higher learning in North America. For many years, Université Laval has been recognized worldwide for its expertise in infectious disease research. This recognition, established over the years, is the fruit of the Faculty of Medicine and Université Laval's prioritization of infectious diseases as a major research field, the vision of great builders-researchers, the recruitment of top-level researchers and the development of infrastructures essential to their work. The CRC holder will join a group of top-level basic and clinical researchers in the Faculty of Medicine's Department of Microbiology-Infectiology and Immunology, and will conduct his or her research within the Infection and Immunity Axis of the Centre de recherche du CHU de Québec, the largest francophone research center in North America.

Université Laval's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion

Université Laval rejects all forms of discrimination, promotes excellence in research and research training, and guarantees equal opportunity for all candidates. We support the principle that excellence and equity are compatible and complementary. We welcome and encourage applications from racialized and visible minorities, women, Canada's First Peoples (Aboriginals), people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, 2ELGBTQI+ communities, and all qualified individuals with the skills and knowledge to engage productively with diverse communities.

By choosing Université Laval, you can benefit from the following integration measures:

- welcome days for new professors
- peer mentoring
- free French lessons for you and your partner
- support in settling in Québec City and job search assistance for your spouse, for professors from abroad
- tax exemption (under certain conditions)

In November 2020, Université Laval published an update to its [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan](#) (PDF) with a view to increasing the representation, in CRC positions



within our institution, of people from the four designated groups, namely women and gender diversity, people with disabilities, Aboriginals, and people belonging to a visible minority.

Université Laval has made significant progress in closing the representation gap among its CRC holders. Additional efforts are still required to meet the representation targets for 2025, 2027 and 2029. For a more detailed explanation of the rationale behind these EDI commitments, as well as the representation gaps the University must close by 2029, we invite you to consult the web pages dedicated to EDI as well as those of the CRC Program.

Profile required

The [Canada Research Chairs Program](#) (CRC) aims to attract and retain some of the world's most accomplished and promising researchers.

Tier 2 Junior Chairs are intended for outstanding researchers recognized by their peers as having the potential to become leaders in their field. These five-year, once-renewable chairs are valued at \$100,000 per year, and contribute to the salary of the chairholder. A research allowance of \$20,000 per year accompanies Tier 2 Chairs for the first 5 years of their term. This allowance must be used for direct research costs.

Candidates for a Tier 2 Chair must hold the status of assistant or associate professor, or else be qualified for a position at this level. In addition, candidates must be researchers who have been active in their field for less than 10 years at the time of nomination.

Candidates who obtained their most advanced degree more than 10 years ago and whose career has been interrupted for reasons mentioned in the section below may have their eligibility for a Tier 2 Chair reviewed through the Program's Tier 2 Chair Justification process. For more information, please contact Alexandra Godbout (alexandra.godbout@vrr.ulaval.ca) at Université Laval's Office of the Vice-Rector for Research, Creation and Innovation.

Career breaks, personal situations and accommodation measures

Université Laval recognizes that career interruptions or slowdowns (e.g. maternity or parental leave, extended sick leave or clinical training) as well as disabilities can have an effect on productivity and research achievements. Candidates are therefore invited to explain any such effects, so that they can be taken into account when assessing their application. In addition, confidential accommodations may be offered to people with disabilities based on their needs in the context of this competition, particularly in terms of accessibility. If you require accommodation, please contact Julie Beauchamp (Julie.Beauchamp@fmed.ulaval.ca), EDI Manager at the Faculty of Medicine.

The person chosen by the department will then have to pass an internal selection process at Université Laval as part of the [CRC selection competitions](#), and an evaluation by the CRC Program.



To find out more about the program and the eligibility criteria for candidates, please visit the [Canada Research Chairs Program](#) website.

Job description

The Department of Microbiology-Infectiology and Immunology is seeking applications from renowned scientists with a PhD or MD (or equivalent) whose achievements have had a major societal impact in their field, and who are recognized as leaders in infectious disease research. The successful candidate will have access to state-of-the-art facilities, including CL2/3 animal facilities and laboratories, a clinical research unit, tissue engineering, analytical and medicinal chemistry, cytometry, imaging and "omics" facilities at the Centre de recherche du CHU de Québec - Université Laval, a dynamic work environment where collaborations between researchers working in epidemiology, genomics, bioinformatics, virology and microbiology are encouraged.

The successful candidate will be expected to establish an active research program in the field of highly pathogenic influenza viruses and other zoonotic viruses that require research in Containment Level 3 (CL3) facilities. In particular, we are looking for expertise in applying the 'One Health' concept to the interface between zoonotic and human viruses. The successful candidate will work with a team of basic scientists and clinicians involved in pathogenesis-immunology-vaccines-treatment-clinical testing of dangerous pathogens. The Chairholder will be expected to forge links with industrial partners, as well as governmental and nongovernmental organizations, to accelerate the translation of research findings into improved health outcomes.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the following academic tasks:

- Teaching and supervision at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Research and publication in job-related fields.
- Participation in the teaching and administrative activities of the Department and Faculty.
- Participation in external academic activities that contribute to the reputation of the Department, Faculty and University.

Requirements

- Hold a Ph.D. in an appropriate discipline.
- Demonstrate strong potential to develop and lead a high-caliber funded research program.
- Demonstrate strong research leadership and potential to attract, develop and retain excellent trainees and students.
- Demonstrate an interest in and ability to work with multidisciplinary teams.
- To propose an original and innovative research program of the highest quality.



Additional requirements for clinical physicians

- Hold an M.D. and a diploma in specialized medical training.
- Hold or be able to obtain a Québec medical practice permit.

The person chosen by the Faculty must pass an internal selection process at Université Laval (see criteria in the [evaluation grid](#)) and an evaluation by the [Canada Research Chairs Program](#).

Candidates for a Tier 2 Chair must hold Assistant or Associate Professor status, or else be qualified for a position at this level.

People for whom French is not their first language receive support from Université Laval to enable them to achieve the level of language proficiency required to perform their duties.

Conditions of employment and treatment

- Tenure track assistant/associate professor.
- Salary according to current collective agreement (SPUL) for candidates with a Ph.D.
- Salary in accordance with the current collective agreement (AMCEL) for candidates with M.D. and Ph.D. degrees.

Receipt of application

The complete application must be sent **no later than September 30, 2024** by e-mail to the attention of Louis Flamand, Head of the Department of Microbiology-Infectiology and Immunology, at: louis.flamand@crchudequebec.ulaval.ca

The application must include the following items:

- Cover letter (1-2 pages)
- Curriculum vitae (max. 50 pages)
- Career break and special circumstances (1 page-if necessary)
- Research plan (5 pages)
- Training and collaboration philosophy (1-2 pages)
- Names of three references
- UL [self-identification form](#) (French only)

Competition stages and evaluation criteria

- September 30, 2024 at 4 p.m. (Quebec City time): End of the period for receiving external applications for selection by the Department.
- October 24, 2024: Submission of a [notice of intent form](#) to the Vice-Rector for Research, Creation and Innovation (VRRCI).



- November 11, 2024 at 4 p.m. (Quebec City time): Applications sent to VRRCI for evaluation #1 of the institutional competition, depending on the [CIHR competition](#) or [NSERC competition](#).
- Week of February 3, 2025: Announcement of the results of evaluation #1 by VRRCI.
- April 7, 2025: Faculty letters sent to VRRCI for evaluation #2.
- Early May 2025: Announcement of results of evaluation #2 by VRRCI, depending on the CIHR or NSERC competition.
- Before October 21, 2025: Submission of applications to the Interagency Programs for Institutions Secretariat (SPIIE-federal).

Hiring for a professorship is conditional on obtaining a Canada Research Chair, and therefore on successfully completing all stages of the selection process.

Start date: July 1, 2026.