

**ACCESSIBILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND
HARMONIOUS INTERORDER TRANSITIONS**
MONTRÉAL, JANUARY 19TH, 2025

PROPOSALS PRESENTATION GUIDE

Support for new collaborative projects from PIM
CEGEPS and Universities
2025-2027

PIM Pôle interordres
de Montréal
● TRANSITIONS ET ACCESSIBILITÉ

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General information

The Pôle interordres de Montréal (PIM) is an initiative of Montréal's CEGEPs and universities, supported by the Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur, to promote cooperation between public colleges and universities in the Montréal area. The aim of PIM is to promote the accessibility and success of the student population in higher education.

All regional clusters (such as PIM) must focus their activities on at least three of the five ministerial objectives for success in higher education:

1. Promote accessibility for people in higher education, especially underrepresented groups (Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, first-generation students, people from disadvantaged backgrounds, immigrants, etc.)
2. Improve the fluidity of training courses and smooth, quality transitions in higher education
3. Deploy practices and measures adapted to the needs of the student community in order to support it in its diversity
4. Respond to national and regional training employment matching needs
5. Promote the rapprochement of CEGEPs and universities with secondary education in order to attract young people, especially girls, to study programs related to information technologies

For this call for projects, the PIM is focusing on the first two objectives. It invites players in the ecosystem to develop projects lasting a minimum of one year and a maximum of two years, in line with these objectives.

The PIM wishes to support five collaborative CEGEP / university projects to which it can allocate up to \$80 000 per project at the rate of \$40 000 paid respectively in May 2025 and May 2026.

Who can submit a project?

A project must be submitted, in collaboration, by a team from at least one CEGEP and one university, both members of the PIM (the list of member institutions is in appendix 1).

The team proposing the project can join organizations external to the pole, other establishments, or companies. There is no limit to the number of partners.

Each project must have obtained the support of the management of the partner institutions. These methods are provided for in the proposal presentation form and specified in the rest of this guide.

Themes and expected results

The two themes are as follows:

Themes	Objectives	Problematics
<p>Accessibility in higher education</p>	<p>Promote accessibility for people in higher education, especially underrepresented groups (Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, first-generation students, people from disadvantaged backgrounds, immigrants, etc.).</p>	<p>For many years, research has shown that certain social categories of people have difficulty accessing higher education, thus reinforcing inequality of opportunity. For example, gaps in CEGEP and university graduation rates persist between non-natives and First Nations; young people from disadvantaged backgrounds are more likely to lack support to navigate through the prerequisites and requirements of higher education; young people with disabilities in their first college session have more difficulty knowing whether they want to continue their education.</p>
<p>Harmonious transitions in higher transition</p>	<p>Improve the fluidity of training courses and smooth, quality transitions in higher education.</p>	<p>Students who experience a positive integration into their educational institution are more likely to succeed in their first term of college or first semester of university, a period known to promote long-term perseverance.</p>

The Ministry also identifies outcome indicators for the activities implemented for the objectives of accessibility in higher education and harmonious transitions:

- The number of students from secondary schools affected
- The number of college and/or university students affected
- The number of participants concerned (other than students)
- The number of high schools reached or engaged
- The number of organizations other than schools reached or engaged

Eligibility requirements

Projects must be submitted using a form provided for this purpose. Certain terms used in this guide and in the form are defined in Appendix 2 of this document.

To be eligible, the proposal must meet the following conditions:

- Involve members of at least one CEGEP and one university that is part of the Pôle interordres de Montréal (PIM)
- Designate a project manager institution
- Have the support of the management of each partner educational institution in the project
- Submit an allocation formula for the project that does not require a financial contribution of more than \$80 000 from PIM
- Before a minimum period of one year and a maximum of two years between the month of May 2025 and the end of June 2027
- Register under one of the two themes presented in the previous section

Budget items and eligible expenses

SALARIES AND HUMAN RESOURCES

- Principal investigator and collaborators: fees or salaries for time dedicated to the project
- Research assistants: remuneration for students or professionals supporting the project
- Technical and administrative staff: salaries for technicians, project managers or coordinators

PARTICIPANT-RELATED EXPENSES

- Participant allowances: compensation for their time (in the case of surveys, experiments, etc.)
- Travel or meals for participants

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY EXPENSES

- Travel for data collection (field studies, archive visits, etc.)
- Participation in conferences or seminars to present results
- Meetings with project partners

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

- Purchase of specific equipment, e.g. specialized software
- Consumables: office supplies, paper, ink, experimental equipment
- Maintenance or rental of equipment (e.g. expensive analytical instruments)

COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION

- Publication of results in scientific journals (open access)
- Organization of workshops, conferences or seminars to share findings
- Production of communication media (reports, computer graphics, videos)

EXTERNAL SERVICES

- Consultants or experts: fees for specific services
- Specialized analyses: use of external laboratories or technical services
- Translation, transcription or editing: services related to the preparation of reports or articles

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

- Registration for training courses or workshops required for the project
- Teaching or learning materials

Evaluation criteria

Any project proposal meeting the eligibility requirements described in the previous section will be subject to the evaluation of an independent jury and evaluated according to the following criteria:

ISSUE / CHALLENGE IDENTIFIED

- The needs and the theme are clearly defined.

OBJECTIVES PURSUED AND RELEVANCE

- The objectives pursued are clear.
- The objectives pursued are pertinent to the needs identified.

METHODOLOGY

- The way in which the expected results are to be measured is clearly described.
- The proposal is based on pedagogical, scientific or technological knowledge mastered by the members of the project team.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CONTRIBUTORS (INCLUDING EXTERNAL, IF APPLICABLE)

- The project is the outcome of a consultation and collaboration between the participating CEGEP and university.
- The roles and responsibilities of project team members are well defined.
- If the project includes external collaborations, the contribution of these partners is well described.

EXPECTED IMPACT / INFLUENCE, BENEFITS AND FINDINGS CONSIDERING, IN PARTICULAR, THE RESULTS INDICATORS IDENTIFIED BY THE MINISTÈRE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR

- Expected results are clearly described and take into account the results indicators defined by the Ministry of Higher Education.
- The benefits of the project for the partner institutions and the Montréal region are clearly demonstrated.

PROMOTION, INTERVENTION AND DISSEMINATION PLAN OF DELIVERABLES

- The proposal includes a plan for the promotion, intervention or dissemination of the deliverables within the networks of PIM member institutions (and beyond, where applicable).

PROJECT TIMELINE

- The schedule demonstrates the quality of the project planning.

BUDGET

- The budget is realistic, taking into account the objectives pursued.

Jury composition

The jury will be made up of members of the PIM steering committee and one external member. It will recommend the best projects to the PIM steering committee, which will make the final decision, up to the maximum funds available.

Funding

The PIM provides for a maximum funding of \$80 000 per project. Proposals must present an allocation formula that does not require a financial contribution greater than this amount for a period from spring 2025 to June 2027 at the latest.

An amount of \$40 000 will be paid to each of the projects accepted in the spring of 2025 for the purposes of starting the project. A second instalment of up to \$40 000 will be transferred in May 2026.

Project presentation

To submit a project, proposers must use a dedicated form downloadable from the PIM website: <https://pim.quebec/appels-de-projets>

Timeline

Steps	Dates	Actions or content
1.	Week of January 20 th , 2025	Launch of the call for projects <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publication of the Proposal Presentation Guide• Publication of Participation Form
2.	February 28 th , 2025, at midnight	Deadline for submitting projects Projects are addressed to llopez@rcm.quebec
3.	March 1 st to 16 th	Project evaluation
4.	March 14 th , 2025	Jury meeting. Recommendation to PIM steering committee
5.	March 21 st , 2025	Regular meeting of PIM steering committee. Awards of grants to CEGEP-university joint projects

6.	Week of March 24 th , 2025	<p>Sending rejection and acceptance letters. Preparation of contracts.</p> <p>Public announcement of the projects selected, the establishments awarded funding and the other partners associated with each projects</p>
7.	May 2025	Issuance of the first instalment of the project start-up
8.	May 2026	Submission of a progress report. Payment of the balance of the grant.
9.	June 2027	<p>Submission of the final account statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial report • Activity report

Information request

For further information, please contact Lilian Lopez, development advisor, at llopez@rcm.quebec or Benoit Pagé, PIM director, at bpage@pim.quebec

Appendix 1 – List of PIM member institutions

The PIM brings together nineteen higher education institutions on the Island of Montréal.

CEGEPS	UNIVERSITIES
Collège Ahuntsic	École des Hautes études commerciales Montréal
Cégep André-Laurendeau	École Polytechnique Montréal
Collège de Bois-de-Boulogne	École de technologie supérieure
Dawson College	Concordia University
Cégep Gérald-Godin	Université de Montréal
John Abbott College	Université du Québec à Montréal
Cégep de Maisonneuve	McGill University
Cégep Marie-Victorin	
Cégep de Rosemont	
Cégep de Saint-Laurent	
Vanier College	
Cégep du Vieux Montréal	

Appendix 2 – Definitions

These definitions refer to certain terms used in the entry form.

MANAGING INSTITUTION	The institution managing the project is the trustee of the PIM grant.
CONTRIBUTORS	Contributors shall be the individuals who carry out the project. They shall also take part in a community of practice activities and agree to present findings at an official PIM activity or event designated by PIM.
EXTERNAL PARTNERS	External partners shall be representatives from organizations and companies other than the 19 PIM member institutions (12 colleges and 7 universities).