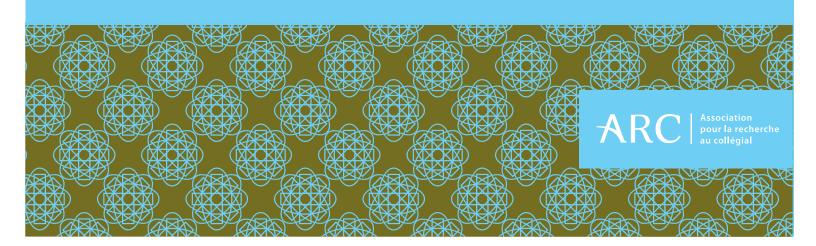2024-2025 EDITION

ARC Student Prizes

The purpose of the ARC Student Prizes is to promote and acknowledge the value of student participation in college research-learning activities across all programs and disciplines. The first prize is a $1,500 scholarship, the second a $1,250 scholarship, and the third a $1,000 scholarship. In addition, four *Relève étoile* designations, each accompanied by a $1,000 prize, are awarded in each of the three research sectors—namely Society and culture, Health, and Nature and technologies—while the fourth designation is intersectoral.

Deadline for submitting an application: Monday, April 14, 2025

ARC | Association pour la recherche au collégial

WHAT IS ARC?

The mission of the Association pour la recherche au collégial, founded in 1988, is to promote college research by representing the interests of individuals and groups engaged with such research, by organizing activities to recognize excellence in college research, and by providing services to the college research community.

Eligibility

Eligible research is any research conducted within a public or private Québec college or Canadian French-language school by a candidate enrolled in a program of college studies, in one of the three following research sectors: Society and culture, Health or Nature and technologies, or even an intersectoral project.. With respect to the Relève étoile designations, only Québec students are eligible to be candidates. However, a Québec student enrolled in an institution outside Québec is also eligible to be a candidate, if that person provides evidence of residence in Québec. Research may have been conducted by an individual or a team as part of a program of college studies, a course, an internship, an extracurricular activity, or employment as a research assistant, during the academic year 2023-2024 or 2024-2025. For the purpose of the competition, research is considered to be any approach aimed at advancing knowledge through a structured study or systematic investigation by students. Research projects that did not receive one of the three ARC Student Prizes may be submitted a second time. Applications that are incomplete or that do not meet the requirements set out in this document will be considered ineligible.

Conditions for participation and evaluation criteria

The ARC Student Prizes competition involves two stages: the first is an evaluation of the portfolios submitted; the second is an evaluation of the oral presentations by the students who submitted the three best portfolios.

—First stage

The first stage involves submitting a portfolio, in French or English, which ARC must receive by **Monday, April 14, 2025**. The portfolio will contain two or three documents, depending on whether the candidate is submitting it for an ARC scholarship, or for an ARC scholarship and the *Relève étoile* designation.

The portfolio must contain two types of documents:
1. One participation form per student
2. A research project description in popular-science language (maximum of five pages, in 11-point Times or Arial font, with 2.54 cm margins) per candidate
   - A summary of the research activity (clear issue, concise methodology, final or preliminary research results, and conclusion of the research activity) maximum of 1,500 characters, including spaces, which must be provided in French; English version is optional
   - A description of the research activity (summary of the research issue, the objectives, the methodology, and the results obtained), in French or in English
   - In the case of a joint research project by two or more people, a specific description of the contribution of each team member, in French or in English
   - A description of the dissemination of research results, where applicable, in French or in English

Five criteria are used to evaluate the portfolio in this first stage of the competition.
- Choice of subject studied (originality, complexity, and relevance): 10 points
- Description of research issue and target objectives: 15 points
- Description of methodology used and results obtained: 15 points
- Attention given to overall presentation (for example, relevance and identification of the visuals, timeliness and completeness of references): 5 points
- Correctness of language used (vocabulary and syntax): 5 points

If an individual wishes to submit his or her application for the *Relève étoile* designation, the portfolio for the ARC Student Prizes must contain two other documents:
3. A letter (maximum of two pages in 11-point Times or Arial font, with 2.54 cm margins) in which the student explains his or her interest in research, aptitudes for research, and intentions regarding further academic study, in French or in English
4. A curriculum vitae (education, experience, and publications)

Four criteria are used to evaluate the letter and the curriculum vitae.
- Education and experience
  o Education: 5 points
  o Experience: 10 points
- The candidate's motivation
  o Interest in research: 10 points
  o Aptitudes for research: 10 points
  o Intentions regarding further academic study: 5 points
- Attention given to presentation of the document (originality, creativity, personalization): 5 points
- Correctness of language used (vocabulary and syntax): 5 points

Lastly, there must be coherence between the research portfolio submitted and the applicant's future project.

—Second stage

The second stage of the competition will take place at the annual ARC and Réseau des CCTT –Synchronex colloquium held as part of the 92nd Acfas conference, in person and online, on **Tuesday, May 6, 2025**. This is when the finalists must present their research findings in person, at the École de technologie supérieure, in an oral presentation of a maximum duration of 13 minutes, in either French or English. Any visual aids (transparencies, PowerPoint presentations, etc.) must be in French.

There are four evaluation criteria at the second stage of the competition:
- Quality of the presentation (quality and correctness of the language used and clear explanation of the science): 10 points
- Attention given to overall presentation (liveliness, attitude and, where applicable, coordination among participants): 5 points
- Mastery of the subject (accuracy of discourse, scientific approach, and coherency among the participants): 5 points
- Relevance and quality of visual or other techniques used (method of presentation and use of selected medium): 5 points

The first, second, and third prizes will be awarded based on the evaluation of the oral presentation. It is therefore necessary to participate in both stages of the competition in order to be awarded a prize. The *Relève étoile* designation will be awarded based on the quality of both the letter and curriculum vitae.

Evaluation methods

The first jury, made up of previous winners of the ARC Student Prizes as well as representatives from the research community, will study the portfolios and choose the top three. It is also tasked with selecting the recipients of the *Relève étoile* designation—one per research sector, and a fourth from an intersectoral perspective. All applications will be processed in keeping with ethical principles that are strictly adhered to by ARC staff and jury members. The second jury participates in the second stage of the competition by attending the oral presentations and choosing the prize winners.

Prizes

The ARC Student Prizes are supported by the Fonds de recherche du Québec, Acfas, and COOPSCO. The first prize offered is a $1,500 scholarship, the second a $1,250 scholarship, and the third a $1,000 scholarship. Prizewinners also receive a gift card from COOPSCO as well as non-cash prizes. The Association agrees to produce a scientific poster in French for each one of the three winning projects. Acfas will cover the conference registration fees for each finalist, and ARC will cover travel and accommodation expenses for finalists studying in institutions that have made a contribution to ARC this year. Winners will also become members of both ARC and Acfas for one year. As a sign of appreciation for their work in training and supervising students, those responsible for the course or activity within which the activity was conducted will also receive a one-year ARC membership. Furthermore, the Fonds de recherche du Québec's three sectors each award a *Relève étoile* designation, along with a $1,000 prize, to one recipient. A fourth designation is reserved for an individual who stands out for their interest and involvement in an intersectoral approach.

Awarding of prizes

The 2024-2025 ARC Student Prizes, including the *Relève étoile* designations, will be awarded in Montreal, on **May 6, 2025**, during the ARC and Réseau des CCTT –Synchronex colloquium (*La recherche collégiale, un moteur pour l'action*) held as part of the 92nd Acfas conference.

Le présent appel de candidatures est disponible en français sur le site Web de l'ARC.

PRIZES AND DESIGNATIONS FROM LAST YEAR

2023-2024

1st prize
Maïkan Bruel-Pilon, cégep de La Pocatière, for *Effets de l'utilisation de différents biochars sur la croissance du mycélium du ganoderme luisant (*Ganoderma lucidum*) et sur les propriétés des mycomatériaux*. Supervisor: Andréanne Boisvert (Biology professor at Cégep de La Pocatière)

2nd prize
Chloé Bergeron, cégep Édouard-Montpetit, for *Perception des cégépiennes et des cégépiens de l'influence de leurs habitudes de vie sur leurs réussite et persévérance scolaires.* Supervisor: Isabelle Cabot (Psychology teacher at Cégep Édouard-Montpetit)

3rd prize
Antoine Fortier, Louis-Félix McGee, Maxime Sauvageau, Aryane St-Germain et Émilie Tremblay, cégep de Saint-Laurent, for *Variation de l'abondance de la faune aviaire forestière dans des milieux agricoles, urbains et forestiers du Sud du Québec*. Supervisor: Dominique Dufault (Biology professor at Cégep de Saint-Laurent)

***Relève étoile* designation for the Society and culture sector**
Chloé Bergeron, Humanities student, Individual profile, at Cégep Édouard-Montpetit.

***Relève étoile* designation for the Nature and technologies sector**
Léane Lebel, Natural Sciences student, Pure and Applied Sciences profile, at Cégep André-Laurendeau.

***Relève étoile* designation for the Health sector**
Rukun Dou, Natural Sciences student, Health profile, at Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf.

If the proposal is submitted by a group and the names of the group members are to appear in an order other than alphabetical (based on the level of contribution to the project), please indicate the rank in which the following name should appear ☐.

If the proposal is also submitted for a *Relève étoile* designation, please check this box ☐.

255, rue Ontario Est, local A7.67
Montréal (Québec) H2X 1X6
arc@cvm.qc.ca

Candidate

Last name	First name

Gender   ☐ Woman   ☐ Man   ☐ Diverse gender identities   ☐ I prefer not to answer.

Teaching institution

Program of study

Email	Phone

Mailing address

Course or activity supervisor

Last name	First name

Gender   ☐ Woman   ☐ Man   ☐ Diverse gender identities   ☐ I prefer not to answer.

Supervisor's position	Discipline

Email	Phone

Mailing address

Research activity

Title of the research project

Year research was conducted   ☐ 2023-2024   ☐ 2024-2025

Research sector   ☐ Society and culture   ☐ Health   ☐ Nature and technologies   ☐ Intersectoral

Type of activity ☐ Internship * ☐ Extra-curricular activity * ☐ Employment * ☐ Comprehensive examination in the program

* Explain context:

☐ Course   Provide title:

Relève étoile designation

Research sector   ☐ Society and culture   ☐ Health   ☐ Nature and technologies   ☐ Intersectoral

Signature (student)

Signature (supervisor)

Signature (Academic Dean)