

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
TRANSFO:INNO SCHOLARSHIPS
2026 EDITION

The use of the masculine gender was adopted to facilitate reading with no intent to discriminate

OBJECTIVES OF THE TRANSFO:INNO SCHOLARSHIPS 2026 EDITION

This annual scholarship program from Initia Foundation, presented by INAF, aims to promote the new generation of scientists in fields of interest to Quebec's food processing industry.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Recognize excellence and engagement of students interested in food science at the collegial and university level;

Recognize the relevance of the proposed research for the Quebec food processing industry;

Financially reward students enrolled in graduate studies.

TARGET CLIENTELE

The Transfo:Inno scholarships are intended for students pursuing their studies in the following areas: food science, microbiology, chemistry, engineering, or any other specialization related to food processing.

SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORIES

1. EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

These scholarships will be awarded to students that demonstrate a strong focus in their pursuit of studies in food science with excellent academic results. This component aims to recognize both academic performance as well as the interest and aptitude of exceptional students.

- 3 x \$750 scholarships at the collegial level
- 3 x \$1250 scholarships at the bachelor level
- 2 x \$2000 scholarships at the master level
- 2 x \$2000 scholarships at the doctoral level

2. LEVIER SCHOLARSHIP

One graduate student at the master level and one graduate student at the doctoral level will benefit from personal financial assistance allowing them to continue their graduate degrees. This financial contribution will cover part of the student's salary when he is not a nominative scholarship holder from funding agencies. Funding for the experimental part of the project will have to be provided by other sources of funding. The applicant and their research supervisor should clearly demonstrate how essential is the support requested.

- \$5500 at the master level
- \$5500 at the doctoral level

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The applicant must meet all the eligibility requirements by the deadline of the edition 2026: **April 6nd 2026.**

- The applicant is registered full-time in winter 2026 in a program leading to a collegial, bachelor, master or doctoral diploma in a recognized Quebec institution.
- The applicant is registered in one of these programs: food science, microbiology, chemistry, engineering, or any other specialization related to food processing.
- The research project must be related to food processing.

GENERAL RESTRICTIONS

- For the Levier scholarship, the applicant must not hold a nominative¹ scholarship from a funding agency.
- The applicant cannot present more than one application (he must choose between the Excellence or Levier scholarships).
- The applicant cannot receive more than one Transfo:Inno scholarship for the same project.

OVERVIEW OF THE APPLICATION

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Filled Transfo:Inno 2025 application form.
- Transcripts (of each member of the team if applicable) and cumulative average. They must be organized chronologically from most recent to most ancient.
- One recommendation letter
 - For **Levier scholarships**, the recommendation letter from the project director must also explain the financial support to the student and the project.
- For the **collegial and bachelor level of Excellence scholarship only**: letter of intent on the importance of the research, development and innovation in food science.
- CV to demonstrate your industry implications (jobs, committees, internships, events, etc.) and your communications and publications (if applicable).

Please build your application file by providing information for each of the evaluation criteria mentioned below. The page layout should be as follows: font type "Arial", size 12 points. The presentation of a clear and concise document is part of the evaluation criteria.

FILLING PROCESS

The student must submit their application themselves **BY APRIL 6nd 2026**.

- Only electronic submission will be accepted. They must be sent in a single PDF file containing all sections to: bourses@initia.org

¹ Scholarship obtained by the candidate as part of a competition from an organization to which he has applied, as opposed to a scholarship granted by a researcher, a team, etc., as part of a source of funding for research activities (subvention...)

APPLICATION REVIEW

EVALUATION PROCESS

A preliminary analysis of the applications received will be made based on the eligibility criteria. The evaluation and final selection will be made by the review board members based on the evaluation grids (out of 100 %).

Detailed evaluation criteria

1. BOURSES EXCELLENCE - Collegial

Academic record (45 points)

- Cumulative average and transcripts (35 points)
- Awards, scholarships, honors obtained (5 points)
- Social implications for academic purposes (5 points)

Involvement and leadership in the community (45 points)

- Letter of opinion on the importance of the research in food science (30 points)
- Involvement with the industrial sector (jobs, internships, committees, events, etc.) (5 points)
- Recommendation letter (10 points)

Quality of the application (10 points)

- Coherent set of ideas (5 points)
- Clear expression and language quality (5 points)

2. BOURSES EXCELLENCE – Bachelor degree

Academic record (45 points)

- Cumulative average and transcripts (30 points)
- Awards, scholarships, honors obtained, communications and publications (10 points)
- Social implications for academic purposes (5 points)

Involvement and leadership in the community (45 points)

- Letter of opinion on the importance of the research in food science (25 points)
- Involvement with the industrial sector (jobs, internships, committees, events, etc.) (10 points)
- Recommendation letter (10 points)

Quality of the application (10 points)

- Coherent set of ideas (5 points)
- Clear expression and language quality (5 points)

3. BOURSES EXCELLENCE – Master's and doctorate

Academic record (25 points)

- Cumulative average and transcripts (15 points)
- Awards, scholarships, honors obtained, communications and publications (10 points)

Involvement and leadership in the community (30 points)

- Internships in the practice and research environment (15 points)
- Involvement with the industrial sector (jobs, internships, committees, events, etc.) (10 points)
- Recommendation letter (5 points)

Quality of the research project and sector benefits (40 points)

- Project summary (2 points)
- Problem (2 points)
- Methods and analysis (2 points)
- Novelty (5 points)
- Feasibility and schedule (2 points)
- Expected results (2 points)
- Contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the research field (10 points)
- Impact on the Quebec's food processing industry (10 points)
- Impact on the need for highly skilled workforce (5 points)

Quality of the application (5 points)

- Coherent set of ideas (2.5 points)
- Clear expression and language quality (2.5 points)

4. BOURSES LEVIER – Master’s and doctorate

Academic record (25 points)

- Cumulative average and transcripts (15 points)
- Awards, scholarships, honors obtained, communications and publications (10 points)

Involvement and leadership in the community (20 points)

- Internships in the practice and research environment (5 points)
- Involvement with the industrial sector (jobs, internships, committees, events, etc.) (10 points)
- Recommendation letter (5 points)

Quality of the research project and sector benefits (40 points)

- Project summary (2 points)
- Problem (2 points)
- Methods and analysis (2 points)
- Novelty (5 points)
- Feasibility and schedule (2 points)
- Expected results (2 points)
- Contribution to the advancement of knowledge in the research field (5 points)
- Impact on the Quebec’s food processing industry (10 points)
- Impact on the need for highly skilled workforce (10 points)

Impact of the scholarship on the candidate (15 points)

The financial contribution will cover part of a student’s salary when not on a grant. The experimental part of the project will need to be funded by other sources.

- Explain your financial situation and how the scholarship will allow you to continue your graduate studies.

APPLICATION EVALUATION GRID

1. EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP		
Evaluation grid	Excellence Collegial	Excellence Bachelor
Academic record	45 %	45 %
Involvement and leadership in the community	45 %	45 %
Quality of the presentation	10 %	10 %
Evaluation grid	Excellence Master	Excellence Doctoral
Academic record	25 %	25 %
Involvement and leadership in the community	30 %	30 %
Quality of the research project and sector benefits	40 %	40 %
Quality of the presentation	5 %	5 %

2. LEVIER SCHOLARSHIP	
Evaluation grid	Master and Doctoral
Academic record	25 %
Involvement and leadership in the community	20 %
Quality of the research project and sector benefits	40 %
Impact of the scholarship on the candidate	15 %