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**GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF  
FULL PROJECT APPLICATION  
CQDM/ALSACE BIOVALLEY JOINT PROGRAM  
2012**

**DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

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## 1) SCOPE OF THE PROGRAM

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The main goal of the CQDM/Alsace BioValley joint program is to strengthen biomedical research in Quebec and Alsace by the alignment of international resources. This collaborative program also gives the opportunity for SME based in Quebec and Alsace to open up to new markets.

This program is not intended to fund research on new drugs for specific therapeutic segments. Rather, it is meant to finance the development of new technologies and processes that will have the power to facilitate the discovery or the development of new drugs.

This program promotes creativity, innovation, multidisciplinary and collaborative efforts between academic institutions and private organizations [biotech/contract research organizations (CRO)]. Please note that multinational pharmaceutical companies are not eligible to this program.

## 2) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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For this joint program, CQDM and Alsace BioValley are seeking collaborative research proposals on the development of novel and potentially transformative enabling technologies or tools for biopharmaceutical research.

Each research proposal should:

- Generate clear deliverables with direct applications in the drug discovery and/or development process of new drugs.
- Be highly innovative with a strong and wide potential impact on biopharmaceutical research.
- Include at least one private organization in Alsace. In Quebec, the participation of a private organization is highly encouraged, but not mandatory.
- Include research to be performed both in Quebec and Alsace and involve strong multidisciplinary and collaborative interactions between research teams (academic institutions and/or private companies (biotech/CRO)) from Quebec and Alsace. If possible, the project contribution from Quebec and Alsace should be comparable (in terms of resources and impact on the project).
- Multinational pharmaceutical companies cannot be considered as eligible private collaborators in this program.

Please note that the proposals can be submitted from either private organizations or academic institutions.

### 3) PRIORITY AGENDA

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The priority will be given to enabling technologies that are designed to:

- The development of new diagnostic tools.
- Imaging tools and technologies for the discovery of new drugs.
- Instruments and medical devices platforms.

It is understood that the technologies developed in the funded research project will help to accelerate or facilitate the discovery or development of new drugs.

### 4) FUNDING SPECIFICS

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CQDM and Alsace BioValley plan to finance 1 project in this competition.

**Duration:** Maximum 3 years

**General terms of financing:**

- The research done in Quebec will be directly financed by the CQDM as a grant.  
A maximum of 700K\$ could be attributed to the Quebec component.  
If needed, it is the CQDM's right to make grant applications to secure some funding.
- The research performed in Alsace could be funded by local authorities (European, national or local) and by Oséo (an agency that supports SMEs). The financial package will depend on the amount budgeted, and, most importantly, on the type and number of partners involved (academic/private).  
If possible, it is preferred that the funding request of the Alsace component be comparable to that of the Quebec component.  
This funding may take the form of grants or repayable advances, covering part of the project costs, according to European regulations.

Further details will be provided by each organization on request.

### **Eligible costs**

Eligible costs are defined as reasonable costs for items that directly support the objectives of the project. Budget must not include items for which funding has already been approved from other sources.

### **Eligible costs may include the following:**

- Salaries of research personnel (students, post-doctoral fellows, technical/professional assistants) and support staffs (e.g. project managers) needed for the completion of the project.
- Material and laboratory supplies necessary for the realization of the project.
- Travel expenses (field work, collaborations, conferences).
- Intellectual property costs (patent application, patent maintenance fees for the duration of the project).

Further details will be provided by each organization on request.

### **Payment schedule**

Disbursements are subject to milestone achievement and satisfactory follow-ups (financial and scientific progress reports).

## **5) REVIEW AND DECISION PROCESS**

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### ***Scientific evaluation***

The scientific excellence, the applicability and the feasibility of the project will be evaluated by an external peer review committee nominated jointly by the CQDM and Alsace BioValley. The members of this committee will be chosen for their specific scientific and/or industrial expertise in the field of the submitted projects.

### ***Evaluation criteria***

The following criteria will be used for the evaluation of the applications:

- scientific excellence
- creativity and innovation
- socio-economic impact of the project for the collaborators
- clear deliverables, milestones and schedule
- feasibility of the project (deliverables, timetable, human and financial resources)
- capacity to generate applicable deliverables at the end of the project

- potential of applications in drug research
  - direct impact on drug discovery or development
  - capacity to address important unmet needs
- track record of the participants (principal investigator and co-investigators)
- multidisciplinary and multi-organizational aspects of the research candidates

A strong emphasis will be put on the capacity to generate applicable results (after the funding period) with an immediate impact for biopharmaceutical research.

Given that this funding program implies large scale projects oriented towards applicable results that will require significant multidisciplinary resources, the project management aspect will also be an important criteria in the evaluation.

CQDM and Alsace BioValley will evaluate aspects linked to intellectual property, potential ethical problems, corporate information (in the case of private companies) as well as any potential risks that could jeopardize the research project.

The partners will orally present the project before a Scientific and Technical Review Committee which will meet in Alsace during the month of March 2012.

## **6) LICENSING POLICY**

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- A research agreement must be signed by all research entities involved in the project within 3 months after the funding confirmation.
- Intellectual property generated under this funding program will be managed according to the policies of the financial partners involved.
- A license option will be granted to the CQDM industrial sponsors (the parent organization and its subsidiaries) for the use of all the results for R&D purposes only. The main conditions of the end-user license option will be negotiated before the beginning of the project and will take into account pre-existing IP as well as contribution from each party.
- CQDM industrial sponsors will have no rights to commercialize the IP resulting from the project or the pre-existing IP.

## **7) TIMETABLE**

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To create relationships between researchers in Alsace and Quebec and to facilitate the preparation of a joint application, the CQDM and Alsace BioValley will host a networking event that will be held in Montreal on October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (details to come). Researchers interested in meeting their future collaborators or potential partners at this

event must absolutely communicate their interest to the CQDM or Alsace BioValley before September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Interest in the networking event	September 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2011
Networking event in Montreal	October 13-14 <sup>th</sup> , 2011
Deadline to submit full proposals	February 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2012
Confirmation of the final funding decision	May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2012
Signature of the research agreement	October 2012
Funding release & beginning of the projects	October 2012

## 8) SUBMISSION PROCEDURE FOR FULL APPLICATIONS

An electronic version must be submitted before **February 8<sup>th</sup> 2012, at 5:00 PM**, on the secure CQDM site (<https://cqdm.firmex.com>).

Please communicate with Lise Beauchemin ([lbeauchemin@cqdm.org](mailto:lbeauchemin@cqdm.org)) before **February 1<sup>st</sup> 2012** in order to obtain your user name and password to gain access to the secure site and to submit your proposal.

### The electronic applications must include the following documents:

- The signed PDF version of the application form. The document must be labelled as follows: Name of the principal investigator in Quebec\_Name of the principal investigator in Alsace\_Application.
- The electronic PDF version of the CV of all applicants (PI and co-investigators). The document must be labelled as follows: Name of the principal investigator in Quebec\_Name of the principal investigator in Alsace\_CV.
- The electronic .xls version of the financial annex. The document must be labelled as follows: Name of the principal investigator in Quebec\_Name of the principal investigator in Alsace\_AF.

Please disable all security parameters of the PDF documents to be submitted.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### For further information, please contact:

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