

For Immediate Release

**THE ETHICS REVIEW OF COURSE-BASED RESEARCH
ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY COLLEGE STUDENTS**

Montreal, September 7, 2021. – On September 23, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. (Montreal time), the [Association pour la recherche au collégial](#) (ARC) will be holding an online event on the ethics review of course-based research activities carried out by college students. This event, part of the first Canada-wide meeting on the responsible and ethical conduct of college-level research organized by ARC, is open to anyone involved in education or the ethical conduct of research involving humans.

The ethics review of course-based research activities intended primarily for pedagogical purposes is a very clear obligation set out in the TCPS 2 (2018). The rationale for this requirement is irrefutable. Many college-level institutions offer pre-university or technical programs in which thousands of students are initiated every year to research involving humans, and it's entirely conceivable that several Research Ethics Boards (REBs) will delegate the review of such research activities. While there is very little literature on the ethics review of these student projects, the few papers that do exist reveal shortcomings. In light of this, ARC, Cégep de Granby, Cégep de Jonquière, and Cégep Garneau have partnered to provide a conceptual and consensual graphics of the key concepts for setting up sound institutional projects and, more importantly, for making the fruits of that joint effort available to all colleges across Canada.

The September 23 event aims to bring together research administrators—whether they are members of the institutions' executive or professional staff or whether they are novices or have some experience in the ethical conduct of research involving humans—and REB members, regardless of their role on the committee. Since the applicable regulatory frameworks are the same across Canada, this training, developed based on practice in the Québec college network, appears to be transferable and useful to the entire research community in Canadian colleges, from coast to coast. This event was made possible thanks to a Secretariat on Responsible Conduct of Research Education and Training Support grant, awarded by the Interagency Advisory Panel on Research Ethics and the Panel on Responsible Conduct of Research on behalf of the three federal research funding agencies: the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

The event will be bilingual (French and English). Simultaneous interpretation will be available for all plenary sessions and workshops, and participants are invited to participate in discussions in either English or French. [The ethics review of course-based research activities carried out by college students](#) is a must-attend event! Anyone interested in registering can fill out the following form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeuzOGYrapahfELz8jSNajyQdwnHiG8dq8TyYWal4cD9a90Yg/viewform>. Applicable fees are as follows: \$70 (plus taxes) for members of ARC and of the research teams, units, and committees of institutions that have made a contribution to the Association; \$150 (plus taxes) for non-members.

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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.

Cégep de Granby is a higher education institution actively engaged in the ongoing development of individuals, leading to the acquisition of qualifications and degrees and thus contributing to the development of society as well as the Montérégie and Estrie regions. The institution has 2,400 students enrolled in a variety of programs and is renowned for its *École nationale de la chanson*, which is a little Francophone gem.

Every year, Cégep de Jonquière admits over 3,000 students into its 28 programs. It is renowned for its *École supérieure en Art et technologie des médias*, available only in Québec, its nine programs in the field of science, technology and the environment, and its research activities.

Located in the heart of Québec City, Cégep Garneau admits about 6,000 students in the regular sector and 2,000 in the continuing education sector. Its primary mission is to train both youth and adult students who are competent, committed, and responsible. It encourages the sharing of knowledge and expertise, as well as the development of new knowledge.

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