Université du Québec

Ten universities across Québec driven by excellence

Founded in 1968 by the Government of Québec, Université du Québec is a network of ten institutions whose mission is to provide access to undergraduate, and graduate studies and further the scientific development of Québec and of the province’s regions through research.

The Université du Québec network comprises

- UQAM Université du Québec à Montréal
- UQTR Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières
- UQAC Université du Québec à Chicoutimi
- UQAR Université du Québec à Rimouski
- UQO Université du Québec en Outaouais
- UQAT Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- INRS Institut national de la recherche scientifique
- ENAP École nationale d’administration publique
- ÉTS École de technologie supérieure
- TÉLUQ Télé-université

Université du Québec fosters cooperation and collaboration among its member universities, channeling their resources and initiatives into state-of-the-art expertise.

Part of the global community

Active members of the global scientific community, Université du Québec research professors partner with researchers in a wide variety of fields in Asia, Europe, the Americas, Africa and Oceania. In 2017, 51.7% of scientific papers produced by Université du Québec researchers were the product of international cooperation. International collaborative output in the natural sciences and engineering alone was as much as 56.6%. And joint projects with the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) more than tripled between 2000 and 2017, to account for 11% of all scientific papers. In fall 2017 over 8,500 foreign students attend Université du Québec, 50.2% of whom are graduate students.

Scientific publications co-authored by Université du Québec and international institutions

More than 1,300 undergraduate, and graduate programs

Twenty-seven percent (27%) of Québec’s university professors teach at Université du Québec, making it a significant player in higher education in the province. Member universities offer more than 1,300 undergraduate and graduate programs to 102,000 students in 60 towns and cities across Québec.

To help students stay in school and succeed, Université du Québec institutions offer programs tailored to the needs of their students. They offer part-time programs so students can achieve a healthy work/life/school balance, and they welcome non-traditional students (adults, first-generation university students, etc.).

Member institutions make it easier for students to integrate university studies into their plans for the future in a variety of other ways. Custom graduate programs and flexible class schedules are tailored to meet the unique needs of working professionals and a broad range of short programs allow students to build their career path step by step.

There are a world of options for students looking for a quality university education in French—both in traditional academic and professional development programs.

Standout universities

With $186.5 million in research grants in 2016–2017, Université du Québec member institutions together ranked 11th in the nation in terms of research volume [sponsored research funding], 23rd for research intensity [average funding per professor], and 24th among Canadian universities without a school of medicine. It boasts over 500 research groups and laboratories, including 200 research chairs.

In terms of research volume and intensity:
- Eight member institutions rank among Canada’s top 50 research universities for research intensity. INRS ranks 3rd for this indicator.
- Eight member institutions rank among Canada’s top 50 research universities for research volume: UQAM, INRS, ÉTS, UQAC, UQTR, UQAR, UQAT, and UQO.
- Among universities offering mainly undergraduate programs, UQAT, UQAC and UQAR are 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively in Canada for research intensity.

Université du Québec member universities have a special focus on scientific, technological, social, artistic, and cultural innovation, and their reputation now extends across Québec and around the world both as major research institutions and for their research transfer activities.

The Université du Québec system has made a name for itself by leading the way in new disciplines. Take for instance the field of environmental sciences. Université du Québec research professors played a leading role in the development of the discipline by bringing together a variety of research fields like microbiology, botany, engineering, hydrobiology, ecology, geology, Earth sciences, atmospheric sciences, oceanology, limnology, and marine biology. Because of their leadership, they receive 40% of all environmental research funding in Québec. Université du Québec universities are also renowned for their intimate knowledge of Québec’s reality, whether it is related to its territory, economy, or social issues.

Université du Québec’s culture of openness and sharing also makes it a leader in the area of cooperation. Nearly 40% of Université du Québec scientific output is the result of partnerships with researchers from other organizations in Québec.

Original, community-specific research

Keenly aware of the needs of the professional, social, economic, and geographic communities they belong to, Université du Québec research professors develop original research projects with a view to finding solutions to problems facing local citizens. Examples of such community-specific areas of research include art and design and urban development at UQAM; sustainable energy, forest resources, and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMES) at UQTR; aluminum, mineral resources, population studies, and icing studies at UQAC; marine sciences, northern studies, and regional development at UQAR; languages and language technologies, community development, psychology, and cyberpsychology at UQO; and forest, mineral, and water resources, digital media, and First Peoples services at UQAT.

INRS focuses on topics of national interest such as water and land resources, nanoscience and nanotechnology, photonics, telecommunications, energy, social science, and health, while specialized institutions such as ENAP, ÉTS, and TÉLUQ conduct research into thematic and conceptual fields such as: health system change management, the analysis, development, and evaluation of public policy and programs, public administration, and the analysis of the impact of globalization at ENAP; research in partnership with industry, construction and restoration of municipal and urban infrastructures, and roads and bitumen at ÉTS; and cognitive computing, learning environments, communications, work organization, the knowledge-based economy, distance learning, industrial clusters, knowledge cities, and work/family balance at TÉLUQ.

2. Compiled and processed from RE$EARCH Infosource Inc. 2017, Canada’s Top 50 Research Universities.
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