Project « *Compétences et Métiers d'Avenir* » QuanTEdu-France 2026/2027 Call – PhD fellowship

Context and objectives:

The Institute for Quantum Technologies in Occitanie (IQO) brings together all the Occitan key-players in the field, including academic research institutions but also private companies. It aims at fostering knowledge sharing and to achieve scientific excellence in this research field, strengthening research transfer and preparing students and engineers around quantum technologies.

The IQO, through Montpellier University, INSA Toulouse and Toulouse University, participates in the QuanTEdu-France project within the framework of the National Strategy on Quantum Technologies. This project includes the allowance of full PhD grants for a three-year period. The present call of the IQO is for the award of three doctoral scholarships within this QuanTEdu-France project: two based in Toulouse and one based in Montpellier. Funding of up to €117,000 is available for each three-year PhD scholarship. Awarded research teams will be required to cover any additional costs arising from an increase in PhD scholarship rates.

The PhD topics shall focus on the following specific topics: quantum computing, quantum communications, quantum sensing and quantum simulation.

Beneficiaries:

The thesis will have to be carried out in public higher education and / or research institutions and organizations in the Occitanie region. Eligible research units include:

- Montpellier campus: L2C (UMR 5221), IES (UMR 5214), LIRMM (UMR 5506), IMAG (UMR 5149), IGCM (UMR 5253), LUPM (UMR 5299)
- Toulouse campus: LPCNO (UMR 5215), LAAS (UPR 8001), CEMES (UPR 8011), LCAR (UMR 5589), LPT (UMR 5152), IMT (UMR 5219), LCPQ (UMR 5626), LNCMI (UPR 3228)

Collaborative projects, involving more than one partner at the Region level, are encouraged.

The research topic will have to target, in a short, mid or long run, applications in one or several of the following research fields:

- quantum computing,
- quantum communications,
- quantum sensing,
- quantum simulation.

Eligibility rules:

The project shall last for a maximum duration of 3 years (in case of extension, the amount of aid will remain unchanged).

The eligible expenses concern solely the gross salary of the doctoral student on the basis of the wages of the PhD supervisor's associated University for a three-year period.

How to apply:

Download the call application form here. Fill in the document in English. Save the document in a single pdf file with a maximum size of 5 Mo. The file name should be the following:

2026_IQO_Quantedu_PhD_Acronym_SupervisorFamilyName.pdf

Send the pdf file by email to bureau@iqoc.fr, by **15 January 2027, 11:59 PM**.

Applications will be acknowledged within five working days.

Selection procedure:

After verifying its eligibility, each application will be sent to two independent reviewers. A steering committee session will be held in March 2027, in order to select the projects on the basis of the reviewers' reports. Final results will be announced by 31 March 2027. Non-preselected projects will receive a report thereafter.

Contact:

For more information about the call, please contact Virginia Fernández by email to bureau@iqoc.fr.

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