



Universidad
Zaragoza



Resolution of 14 December 2023, of the Rector of the University of Zaragoza, approving the call for grants for pre-doctoral contracts within the framework of the State Plan for Scientific, Technical and Innovation Research 2021- 2023.

On 3 January 2023, an extract of the Order of 30 December was published in the Official State Gazette approving the call for early processing for the year 2022 of the procedure for granting aid to "Knowledge Generation Projects", and actions for the training of pre-doctoral research personnel associated with these projects, within the framework of the State Programme to Promote Scientific and Technical Research and its Transfer, in the framework of the State Plan for Scientific, Technical and Innovation Research 2021-2023. This order is approved under Order CIN/1025/2022, of 27 October, published in the Official State Gazette of 29 October, which approves the regulatory bases for the granting of public aid corresponding to various programmes and sub-programmes of the State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation 2021-2023.

An important modification has been made to the aid architecture for pre-doctoral training associated with projects, integrating aid for research projects for the generation of knowledge and actions for the training of pre-doctoral research personnel in training associated with these projects into a single award procedure. These actions aimed at pre-doctoral training are the continuity of the aid for pre-doctoral contracts for the training of doctors that have been called since 2013 within the framework of the different state plans.

The process of evaluation and selection of the person to be recruited, which must guarantee the principles of competition, publicity and transparency, will be the responsibility of the beneficiary entity, which may carry out these activities prior to the publication of the award decision.

This important new feature will improve the efficiency and flexibility in the implementation of pre-doctoral grants, as it will speed up the incorporation of pre-doctoral trainees in the implementation of projects, and will also make the use of funds more versatile, as it will make it possible to use them for replacements in the event of resignations.

In view of the report issued by the evaluation committee, the Planning and Administrative Management Branch, as the body in charge of the call, issued the provisional resolution proposal, published on 17 July 2023 on the Agency's website, identifying the grants with proposed funding for which pre-doctoral contracts are proposed for funding.

On 16 October 2023, the final resolution proposal is published on the Agency's website, identifying the grants with proposed funding for which pre-doctoral contracts are proposed for funding.

On 13 December 2023, the ORDER is published by which the grants corresponding to the 2022 call for proposals for KNOWLEDGE GENERATION PROJECTS and ACTIONS FOR THE TRAINING OF PREDOCTORAL RESEARCH PERSONNEL ASSOCIATED WITH THESE PROJECTS, within the framework of the State Programme to Promote Scientific-Technical Research and its Transfer, of the State Plan for Scientific, Technical and Innovation Research 2021-2023, is published.



Consequently, this Rector, acting on behalf of the University of Zaragoza in accordance with Article 50 of Organic Law 2/2023, of 22 March, on the University System and with Article 62 of the Statutes of the University of Zaragoza, approved by Decree 1/2004, of 13 January and modified by Decree 27/2011, of 8 February and by Decree 84/2016, of 14 June, of the Government of Aragon, and appointed to this position by Decree 1/2021, of 13 January, of the Government of Aragon, published in the "Official Gazette of Aragon" number 10 of 18 January 2021, resolves to approve the following.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL ASPECTS

Article 1. Object and purpose of the aid.

The purpose of this resolution is to approve the call for applications for grants for pre-doctoral contracts awarded to the University of Zaragoza in the list of selected projects with proposed funding for pre-doctoral contracts published on the website of the State Research Agency on 13 December 2023.

2. Grants for the training of pre-doctoral research personnel (hereinafter, pre-doctoral grants) are intended for the training of new doctors through the completion of a doctoral thesis associated with a research project, in the form of a pre-doctoral contract. The funding includes the costs of hiring pre-doctoral research staff, stays in R&D centres and the tuition fees for doctoral studies.

Likewise, within the framework of the grants, a period of post-doctoral orientation (hereinafter POP) will be financed, once the doctoral degree has been obtained, aimed at the professional improvement and specialisation of these research personnel, provided that the degree is obtained during the period of execution of the action for the training of pre-doctoral research personnel.

3. 27 grants are called for. The projects are listed in Annex II of this resolution, published on the Official Bulletin Board of the University of Zaragoza (<https://ae.unizar.es/?app=touz>) (hereinafter TOUZ).

Article 2. Granting regime and applicable regulations.

1. The granting of the aid provided for in this call for applications will be carried out on a competitive basis, in accordance with the principles of publicity, transparency, objectivity, equality and non-discrimination, seeking effectiveness in the fulfilment of the objectives and efficiency in the allocation and use of public resources, established in article 8.3 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, General Law on Subsidies.

2. The aid is subject to the regulatory bases contained in Order CIN/1025/2022, of 27 October, published in the Official State Gazette of 29 October, which approves the regulatory bases for the granting of public aid corresponding to various programmes and sub-programmes of the

State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation 2021-2023, the management of which corresponds to the State Research Agency (hereinafter, regulatory bases).

They are also regulated by the Order of 30 December, which approves the call for early processing for the year 2022 of the procedure for granting aid to "Knowledge Generation Projects", and to actions for the training of pre-doctoral research personnel associated with these projects, within the framework of the State Programme to Promote Scientific-Technical Research and its Transfer, in the framework of the State Plan for Scientific, Technical and Innovation Research 2021-2023.

3. Pre-doctoral contract grants shall be co-financed by the European Social Fund Plus (hereinafter referred to as ESF+) and shall therefore be governed by the Community rules and the national rules implementing or transposing them set out below:

a) Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, as well as the financial rules for those Funds and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy.

b) Regulation (EU) 2021/1057 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 establishing the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1296/2013.

(c) Ministerial Order determining the expenditure eligible for ESF+ for the programming period 2021-2027.

4. In addition to the rules provided for in paragraphs 2 and 3, the following national rules shall apply in addition to those laid down in paragraphs 2 and 3:

a) Law 38/2003 of 17 November 2003 on General Subsidies and its Regulations, approved by Royal Decree 887/2006 of 21 July 2006.

b) Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation, as amended by Law 17/2022, of 5 September.

c) Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations.

d) Law 40/2015, of 1 October, on the Legal Regime of the Public Sector.

e) Organic Law 3/2018 of 5 December on the Protection of Personal Data and Guarantee of Digital Rights.

f) Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March, approving the Statute of pre-doctoral research personnel in training, in the case of pre-doctoral grants.

5. The European Commission Recommendation (2005/251/EC) of 11/03/2005 ('Official Journal of the European Union' L75 of 22/03/2005) on the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers will apply to grants under this call.

Article 3. Bodies competent for the investigation and resolution of the procedure.



1. The competent body for the instruction of the procedure for the awarding of the grants covered by this call for applications will be the Vice-Rectorate for Science Policy of the University of Zaragoza.
2. The body responsible for the assessment and selection of applications shall be the Evaluation Committee, composed for each grant as indicated in Article 12. The composition of each Evaluation Committee shall be published together with the final list of applications admitted and excluded.
3. The body responsible for issuing the decision to award the grants shall be the Rector of the University of Zaragoza.

Article 4. Communications between the University of Zaragoza and the persons concerned.

1. The communications of all the actions carried out in the procedure for the award of grants will be carried out through the electronic means established in this call for applications.
2. The use of the established electronic means shall be compulsory both for the notification and for the publication of the administrative acts to be issued.
3. Those acts to be notified to applicants shall be published in the TOUZ.
4. This publication will replace the notification, with the same effects, in accordance with the provisions of Article 45.1.b) of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations. Thus, the dates of publication of the different acts and resolutions in said TOUZ will be those that determine the start of the calculation of deadlines. The University of Zaragoza may request the interested party to remedy the lack or enclose the required documents, with a warning that, if they fail to do so, they will be considered to have withdrawn their application, in accordance with the provisions of Article 68 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations. The decision issued in this regard shall be notified to the interested party by means of the system provided for in the previous paragraph.

CHAPTER II

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

Article 5. Requirements for applicants.

Applicants may be anyone who is enrolled or admitted to a doctoral programme for the academic year 2023/2024 at the time the application is submitted. Applicants may also be all those who, at the time of submission of the application, are not enrolled or admitted to a doctoral programme but are in a position to be enrolled or admitted on the date on which the contract is formalised.

Those who meet any of the following circumstances are not eligible to be applicants, nor to access the recruitment incentive:

- a) Have begun their pre-doctoral training with funding from other grants for pre-doctoral training through the development of a doctoral thesis that have been awarded within the framework of the State Plan for Research, Development and Technological Innovation or any of the previous National Plans.

- b) Hold a doctorate degree from any Spanish or foreign university.
- c) Have held a pre-doctoral contract for more than twelve months prior to the submission of the application.

CHAPTER III

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ACTIONS AND ECONOMIC REGIME

Article 6. Characteristics of the actions.

1. The actions aimed at the training of pre-doctoral research personnel contemplated in this call will be univocally linked to one of the funded research projects. The actions will have a maximum duration of four years, and the period of execution will begin on the date of incorporation of the contracted research personnel to their post at the University of Zaragoza, without prejudice to the provisions on interruptions and extensions of the period of execution. However, when the contract is for a person with a disability, the contract may have a maximum duration of six years, including extensions, taking into account the characteristics of the research activity and the degree of limitations in the activity. Within the framework of the actions and within the maximum duration indicated in the previous paragraph, a period of post-doctoral orientation will be financed once the doctoral degree has been obtained, provided that the degree is obtained during the period of execution of the action, with a maximum duration of twelve months, aimed at the professional improvement and specialisation of this research personnel, without prejudice to the provisions on interruptions and extensions of the execution period.

2. Actions shall finance the following items: the cost of recruitment, the cost of compensation at the end of the contract and the costs of stays in R&D centres and of enrolment in doctoral studies. The financing of actions for the training of pre-doctoral research personnel will take the form of a grant.

3. The evaluation process shall comply with the following criteria and sub-criteria:

Academic and/or scientific-technical background of the candidate (up to 50 points).

Sub-criterion 1.a): Scientific and technical contributions (up to 45 points). The academic record and other curricular merits of the candidate will be assessed, as well as their suitability to the tasks to be performed in terms of training and professional experience.

Sub-criterion 1.b): Mobility and internationalisation (up to 5 points). The relevance and impact of the candidate's stays in national and international centres and/or in the industrial sector on his/her research career will be assessed, taking into account the prestige of the entity receiving the stay and the activity carried out there.

Criterion 2. Suitability of the candidate to the research activities to be carried out (up to 50 points). The suitability of the candidate for the programme, project or research activities to be carried out will be assessed on the basis of his/her previous training and experience. To this end, the added value that carrying out the project will represent for his/her research career will be taken into account, as well as the value contributed to the centre and the receiving team.

4. The amounts of the pre-doctoral grants shall be as follows:



a) With regard to the aid for the financing of the contract, the annual aid will be 21,923 euros for the first year, 23,137 euros for the second year, 28,575 euros for the third and fourth years. These grants will be co-financed by ESF+ funds.

With regard to the aid to cover the cost of compensation at the end of the contract, the total amount of aid will be 2,688 euros. The aid will be distributed as follows: EUR 566 for the first year, EUR 606 for the second year, and EUR 758 for the third and fourth years.

Without prejudice to the foregoing, the remuneration of the contract may not be less than 56% of the salary set for equivalent categories in the collective agreements in its scope of application during the first year, 60% during the second year, and 75% during the third and fourth years. Nor may it be less than the minimum interprofessional wage established each year, in accordance with Article 27 of the Consolidated Text of the Workers' Statute Law. For the establishment of the aforementioned remuneration, the minimum reference will be taken as the category corresponding to Group 1 of the salary table of the salary table included in the single agreement of the labour staff of the General State Administration.

The gross remuneration includes social security contributions (employer and employee) and taxes payable by the contracted staff.

b) With regard to the aid to cover expenses arising from stays in R&D centres and enrolment in doctoral studies, the total amount of the aid shall be 6,860 euros and may be used for:

1. The financing of stays carried out by researchers contracted throughout the period of execution of the grant, both in the pre-doctoral stage and in the POP phase, in R&D centres other than those to which they are assigned, so that they can carry out activities beneficial to improving their training and promoting the development of their thesis, as well as completing and consolidating the research training acquired. Stays must ensure a degree of mobility and/or internationalisation that would not have been possible due to previous academic training or other factors such as residence or nationality, and under no circumstances must they cause a delay in the completion of the doctoral studies. In the POP phase, these stays may be used to complement pre-doctoral training and to guide future lines of work in the post-doctoral phase.

Stays may be carried out in other R&D centres, public or private, including companies, foreign or Spanish, as long as the centres are located in a different locality to that of the centre where the activity is carried out. Stays must have a minimum duration of at least one month without interruption, counted from the date of joining the receiving centre and within the period of execution of the aid. The choice of the R&D centre for the stay, the activities to be carried out there and the authorisation for the execution of the stay will be the responsibility of the beneficiary entity.

In accordance with the provisions of article 17.1.d of Law 35/2006, of 28 November, on Personal Income Tax and partial modification of the laws on Corporate Income Tax, Non-Resident Income Tax and Wealth Tax, the financial allocations covered in this section are intended to compensate for travel, living and subsistence expenses arising from temporary stays at universities and research centres other than those to which they are assigned in order to complete the research training of pre-doctoral research staff, living and subsistence expenses arising from temporary stays in universities and research centres other than those of their assignment to complete the



research training of pre-doctoral research staff in training shall not be considered as income from work and shall therefore be exempt from Personal Income Tax.

2. Funding shall be provided for tuition fees for doctoral studies for pre-doctoral research staff recruited for the courses in which they are enrolled during the period of the grant for recruitment at the pre-doctoral stage.

For the purposes of the concurrence of the duration of the aid and the academic years, each academic year will run from 1 September of the corresponding year to 30 June of the following year, both days inclusive. Notwithstanding the above, tuition fees for the academic year 2023/2024 are considered eligible regardless of the period of validity of the recruitment grant.

With regard to the additional aid intended to finance tuition fees for doctoral studies, the eligible expenditure may not exceed the maximum amounts of public prices for the provision of university academic services established by the corresponding autonomous community for public universities.

The expenditure may correspond to the payment by pre-doctoral research staff in training of the corresponding public prices or to the compensation to the universities of the amounts of the public prices due to the exemption of pre-doctoral research staff in training from the payment of the same.

In accordance with the provisions of article 7.j) of Law 35/2006, of 28 November, and article 2 of the Personal Income Tax Regulations, approved by Royal Decree 439/2007, of 30 March, these financial endowments intended to finance the cost of pursuing regulated studies are exempt from withholding Personal Income Tax.

Article 7. Eligible items.

1. In relation to the aid for the financing of the contract, the personnel costs derived from the contracting (salary remuneration and employer's social security contributions) generated by the pre-doctoral research staff in training contracted during each of the annual periods, considered independently, are considered as eligible items.

2. Funding will be provided for expenses arising from stays in R&D centres and enrolment in doctoral studies, in accordance with the Order of 30 December approving the call for early processing for the year 2022 of the procedure for granting aid to "Knowledge Generation Projects", and to actions for the training of pre-doctoral research personnel associated with these projects, within the framework of the State Programme to Promote Scientific-Technical Research and its Transfer, in the framework of the State Plan for Scientific, Technical and Innovation Research 2021-2023.

Article 8. Concurrence and cumulation of aid.

1. Pre-doctoral support may not be financed by funding sources incompatible with the ESF+, in accordance with the specific rules of that fund.

2. Contracts financed with the pre-doctoral grant shall be incompatible with the validity of any other employment contract on the part of the pre-doctoral research staff in training contracted and with the receipt of any amount of a salary nature, when this is detrimental to the research



and training purpose of the grant and/or occurs during the same working hours, as well as with the receipt of other grants with a similar purpose.

Notwithstanding the above, contracted pre-doctoral research staff in training may receive non-salary complements from R&D projects and contracts, complements for teaching tasks that do not imply a contractual link, as well as complementary aid to promote the mobility of research staff, provided that this aid does not imply the formalisation of employment contracts, or other aid intended for attendance at scientific congresses, meetings or conferences. In any case, the activities from which the aforementioned complements or aid derive must not undermine or interrupt the purpose of the pre-doctoral aid.

3. Staff contracted under the pre-doctoral grant who carry out their work at a university may collaborate in teaching tasks in a university department, subject to prior authorisation from the university itself, up to a maximum of 180 hours during the total duration of the grant, and in no case may the number of hours per year exceed 60. When the work is carried out in non-university centres, the pre-doctoral research staff in training may carry out these tasks in the university with which the centre has an agreement in this respect. Under no circumstances may the teaching tasks detract from the dedication to the research and training purposes of the contract.

CHAPTER IV

PRE-TRIAL PROCEDURE

Article 9. Deadline for submission of applications.

The deadline for submitting the application will begin on the day following the publication of this resolution in the Official Gazette of Aragon and will end on 9 January 2024.

Article 10. Applications.

Applications must be addressed to the Research Management Service of the University of Zaragoza. In order to formalise the application, access must be gained through the use of an electronic certificate, the Cl@ve identification system or the agreed keys (PIN and password) valid at the University of Zaragoza, at the address <https://sede.unizar.es/?app=solicita>, by following the steps below:

1. Select the menu Options/Start new application.
2. Identify yourself.
3. Select from the catalogue of applications "outstanding and frequently used procedures" the one marked with the title "Predoctoral contracts associated with PID2022 projects", indicating the number of position the candidate wishes to apply for (according to the number indicated in the individualised annexes II published in the TOUZ).

Interested foreigners not resident in Spain should write to registro@unizar.es to request an access code, indicating the selection process they are applying for and providing a copy of their valid national identity document and/or a copy of their valid passport, at least three days before the deadline for submitting applications, or failing this, they should make the request through a representative.



Each person may only submit one application. The application will refer to one of the research projects awarded to the University of Zaragoza with proposed funding for pre-doctoral contracts published on the website of the State Research Agency on 13 December 2023, and published in the TOUZ as Annex II to this call. In the case of submission of several applications, the last one submitted through the above-mentioned procedure will be considered valid.

The following documentation shall be attached to the application in Pdf format:

a) Valid DNI, NIE or passport. Passports may only be presented in the case of foreigners who are not resident in Spanish territory.

b) University qualifications, or proof of having paid the fees for issuing them, and official academic certificates corresponding to the qualifications passed on the date of submission of the application, issued by the academic institution. The certificate must show the grades obtained and the dates on which they were obtained for the subjects that make up the programme of the qualifications or courses being applied for.

If the academic certificate is issued in a language other than Spanish or English, it must be accompanied by the corresponding sworn translation into one of these two languages.

In the case of certificates issued by foreign institutions, the maximum and minimum grades within the corresponding evaluation system and the minimum passing grade shall also be stated.

c) Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae, in Spanish or English, with a maximum length of four pages in standard format.

d) Official documents accrediting all the merits of the curriculum vitae.

e) Document of enrolment or admission to a doctoral programme for the academic year 2023/2024.

f) Candidate's declaration of responsibility according to the standard form (Annex I)

g) Persons with a degree of disability equal to or greater than 33% must attach a document accrediting said disability.

The submission of the application entails consent to the processing of the personal data of the applicants for the purpose of the resolution of the call, within the framework of Organic Law 3/2018, of 5 December, on the protection of personal data and guarantee of digital rights, as well as consent to check or obtain from other bodies, Administrations or providers, by electronic means, information on circumstances of the applications that, in accordance with the call and the applicable regulations, are relevant for the instruction of the procedure.



Presentation in the competition implies the declaration that the documents and merits provided are true, and the University of Zaragoza may request at any time before or after the evaluation of the applications that the original supporting documentation be provided. Failure to provide the required documentation or the verification of the existence of falsehoods in the documentation or merits provided will entitle the University of Zaragoza to initiate the legal actions it deems appropriate against the applicant and, where appropriate, the rescission of the contract in the event that it has been awarded.

Article 11. Review and correction of applications.

1. The provisional list of persons admitted and excluded will be published in the TOUZ, and a period of 5 working days will be granted from that publication for interested persons to rectify any defects, provide the required documentation or present the allegations they deem appropriate. Applicants who fail to provide the required documentation or to rectify the defects will be considered to have withdrawn their application.
2. Once the allegations and documentation submitted have been reviewed, the definitive list of admitted and excluded applications will be published in the TOUZ, and the admitted files will be sent to each Evaluation Commission.

Article 12. Evaluation and selection of applications

1. Each Evaluation Committee shall draw up a report describing the evaluation and selection process and justifying the suitability of the person selected, on the basis of the above criteria and sub-criteria. This report will remain in the possession of the beneficiary entity, as its depositary, and may be requested at any time during the period of implementation or justification of the grant, without prejudice to the information to be provided in the interim monitoring report of the linked project. Reports may be requested from such external experts as may be deemed appropriate.
2. Applications will be the subject of a report on the suitability of the candidates' curricula for the research activities to be carried out by the Evaluation Committee, in accordance with the published evaluation criteria. They shall assess all applications assigned to their project and shall draw up an evaluation report for each application. This report will state the reasons for the result of the evaluation carried out.
3. For each of the grants associated with each research project, the application with the highest score in each of the projects shall be proposed for funding, provided that the applications have a score equal to or greater than 75 points. In the case of applications that obtain equal points and it is necessary to resolve the tie, the tie will be resolved in favour of the application with the highest score in Criterion 1 of Article 6 (Academic and/or scientific-technical background of the candidate). If the tie persists, priority will be given to the beneficiary being a woman.

Likewise, a list of reserve applications will be drawn up to replace the applicant proposed for award in the event of the latter's resignation, for each of the grants associated with each research project, ordered according to their score with all those applications that have a score equal to or higher than 75 points and that have not been proposed for funding.

Article 13. Resolution and publication.

1. The reasoned provisional proposal of decision shall be published in the TOUZ, and a period of 5 working days from the day after its publication shall be granted for the presentation of allegations against it.

2. After the assessment and resolution of any allegations presented against the provisional award decision, the final award decision shall be published in the TOUZ and, where appropriate, the list of reserves for each place shall be published. Persons who do not appear on this list will be considered not to have been definitively awarded a place. The contracts offered may be declared not to be filled if the candidates do not reach the minimum score or if there are no valid applications.

Article 14. Acceptance and signature of the contract.

Predoctoral research staff shall necessarily take up their posts on the first day of the corresponding month within a maximum period of 3 months from the day following the day of publication of the project award decision on the Agency's website.

In exceptional cases, duly accredited, an extension of the deadlines established in the call for applications may be authorised for the formalisation and presentation of the contracts and for the incorporation of the recruits to the University of Zaragoza.

The modification of the initial conditions for the granting of aid and the deadlines for its execution must be authorised by the granting body, which may request the reports it deems appropriate and give rise to the modification of the terms of the grant by means of a new resolution, in application of the provisions of Article 25 of the Order of regulatory bases (Order CIN/1025/2022 of 27 October 2022).

1. Once the final award decision has been published, the beneficiaries shall accept the contracts within 3 days.

2. In order to sign the contract, each beneficiary must provide proof of enrolment in the doctoral programme.

Article 15. Resignations and incorporation of reserves.

1. The resignations of the selected persons that occur prior to the start of their contract may give rise to the incorporation of reserve candidates. Non-compliance with the necessary requirements for recruitment by the selected persons during the corresponding period for the formalisation of contracts may also give rise to the incorporation of reserve candidates.

2. The recruitment of reserve candidates shall be carried out in accordance with the following procedure:

a) In the event of resignation or non-fulfilment of the selected person, the reserve candidate placed first in the project in question will be taken into consideration.

b) If the vacancy cannot be filled by the first reserve, the next reserve(s) in the project, if any, shall be taken over in the order in which they are ranked.

c) If the vacancy cannot be filled by a reserve candidate from the research project, a reserve candidate from another research project may be requested to join.

CHAPTER V

MONITORING AND CONTROL OF AID

Article 16. Obligations of the beneficiaries.

1. The obligations on the part of the beneficiaries shall be as follows:

- Incorporation into the centre where the activity that is the object of the contract is to be carried out.
- Mention the funding bodies in the publications and activities derived from the activity.

For this purpose, the reference to the funding by the State Research Agency should be made as follows: "The contract/publication/result/equipment/video/activity/other is part of the grant AID REFERENCE, funded by MCIN/AEI/10.13039/501100011033 and ESF+", as appropriate, where: AID REFERENCE is the reference of the grant as stated in the award decision; MCIN is the acronym of the Ministry of Science and Innovation; AEI is the acronym of the State Research Agency; 10.13039/501100011033 is the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) of the Agency; and ESF+ is the acronym of the European Social Fund Plus.

The following logos must also be included, in the order listed below:

1. The logo of the Ministry of Science and Innovation.

The emblem of the European Union and, next to the emblem of the Union, the text "Co-financed by the European Union".

3. The logo of the State Investigation Agency.

The graphic standards of the emblem of the Union and the standard colours set out in Annex IX of the Common Provisions Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 shall be taken into account. This mention must appear visibly and always distanced and prominently from the other logos of other entities that have made a smaller financial contribution. Instructions and graphic rules in this respect may be provided on the agency's website.

- Provide any other information or documentation requested by the University of Zaragoza in order to justify the aid granted.
- The contracted personnel must provide the information necessary for the correct preparation of indicators required by the ESF+, in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2021/1057, of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 24 June 2021, based on the instructions given on the website of the State Research Agency. The provision of information may be required before, during and after the end of the action.
- Communicate to the University of Zaragoza any incident that prevents or hinders the development of the activity that is the object of the contract.



Article 17. Modification of the award decision.

1. The beneficiary entities may request the interruption and extension of the period of execution of the pre-doctoral grant for the duration of the interrupted contract due to any of the situations or enjoyments listed in the fourth paragraph of article 21.c) of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, modified by Law 17/2022 of 5 September 2022.

Situations of temporary incapacity and periods of time spent on full-time leave due to pregnancy, pregnancy, risk during pregnancy, pregnancy and breastfeeding, birth, maternity, paternity, adoption for the purpose of adoption or foster care, or breastfeeding accumulated on a full-time basis, or for similar situations related to the above, as well as the enjoyment of full-time leave for reasons of conciliation or care of minors, family members or dependent persons, and the time spent on leave of absence to care for a child, a family member or due to gender violence during the duration of the contract shall interrupt the calculation of the duration of the contract.

In other cases of temporary incapacity, the interruption and extension of the execution period of the action may be requested when the temporary incapacity is for a period of at least 2 consecutive months. Interruptions for reasons other than those listed above will not give rise to an extension of the execution period.

Periods of time spent on part-time leave for birth, maternity, paternity, adoption for the purpose of adoption or foster care, and the reduction of the working day for reasons of breastfeeding, birth of a premature or hospitalised child after birth, legal guardianship, care of minors affected by cancer or serious illness, care of family members affected by accident or serious illness, or care of dependents, or gender violence, or reductions in the working day for similar situations related to the above, as well as for reasons of reconciliation or care of minors, family members or dependents, or of dependent persons, or due to gender violence, or reductions in the working day for similar situations related to the above, as well as for reasons of conciliation or care of minors, family members or dependent persons, during the duration of the contract, shall give rise to the extension of the contract for the time equivalent to the working day that has been reduced.

2. The request for interruption and extension of the period of execution of the action must be made within a period of 2 months from the date on which the event causing the interruption occurs. Requests shall be made in accordance with the instructions published on the website of the State Research Agency. The interruption and extension must be authorised by the awarding body, which may request the reports it deems appropriate.

3. During the execution of the actions for the training of pre-doctoral research personnel, a change of beneficiary entity may be requested. The awarding body, when in its opinion there are exceptional circumstances that make it advisable to authorise the change, will decide to amend the award decision. In any case, the conditions stipulated in the terms and conditions of the call for applications must be met.

In the application, the new receiving establishment must expressly declare that it will comply with the requirements and obligations imposed on beneficiary entities and that it accepts the conditions imposed on them.



If, together with the change of centre, there is a change of assignment project of the research staff in training, the new project must be financed within the aids for R&D&I projects of the State Sub-programme for Knowledge Generation and the State Programme for Research, Development and Innovation Oriented to the Challenges of Society or for "Knowledge Generation Projects" of the State Programme to Promote Scientific-Technical Research and its Transfer.

Applications must be made by the beneficiary centre, using the form available on the agency's website and following the instructions indicated therein, and must include the acceptance of the change by the researcher and the new centre he/she wishes to join, as well as a justification of the reasons for the change.

In the event that the modification of the resolution is granted, the new beneficiary centre will have a period of 20 working days from the day following receipt of the resolution to formalise the contract with the trainee researcher and inform the awarding body of the date of his/her incorporation.

4. Likewise, for the year in which the change takes place, the initial beneficiary institute shall transfer to the new receiving institute the amount intended to finance the cost of hiring the researcher that, proportionally over time, corresponds from the date of termination of the researcher's contract until the end of the year. The aid corresponding to the following years will be paid to the new receiving centre. With regard to the aid to cover the cost of indemnities and additional aid, the amount resulting from the difference between the aid granted and what was spent by the initially beneficiary centre, on the date the change was granted, must be transferred by the latter to the new receiving centre.

In the case of requests for a change of research project within the University of Zaragoza, the requests will be made by the centre through the electronic headquarters of the Ministry of Science and Innovation, using the model available on the agency's website and following the instructions indicated there, and will include the acceptance of the change by the researcher, as well as a justification of the reasons for the change.

Notwithstanding the above, if the project to which the trainee researcher is assigned ends during the term of the pre-doctoral grant, authorisation for a change of project will not be required if the trainee researcher is assigned to a new project or line of research coordinated by the researcher responsible for the project that ends. In this case, the organisation must only inform the awarding body of this circumstance in the corresponding monitoring report, indicating the new project or line of research and other information considered relevant. When the circumstances described in this paragraph do not apply, the application must be made in accordance with the previous paragraph.

Article 18. Scientific and technical monitoring.

1. The scientific-technical monitoring of the work carried out by pre-doctoral research staff in training shall be the responsibility of the awarding body, which shall carry it out through the Scientific-Technical Thematic Programmes Branch. The awarding body shall establish the appropriate procedures for this purpose and may designate the bodies, committees or experts it deems necessary to carry out the appropriate monitoring of the implementation of the grant and to request the submission of any additional information it deems appropriate.



2. The pre-doctoral research personnel in training contracted must draw up two scientific-technical monitoring reports, one intermediate and one final, the latter relating to the entire period of implementation of the aid, including the POP phase where appropriate, using the models available for this purpose on the website of the State Research Agency. The beneficiary R&D Centres must submit to the granting body the interim report during the period comprising the twentieth and twenty-first month of implementation of the aid, and the final report during the month following the end of the aid implementation period, respectively, with the calculation starting on the day of effective incorporation of the contracted research personnel into the R&D Centre.

These reports will include a description of what has been done and of compliance with the training programme during the period covered by the report and, where appropriate, the work plan for the remainder of the period of implementation of the grant, with specific reference to the status, progress and completion of the doctoral thesis. The reports will include, in the case of stays, a description of the stay (receiving centre and group, duration, etc.) and the activities carried out.

In addition, together with the monitoring reports, the updated curriculum vitae of the trainee research staff shall be attached.

The outcome of the evaluation of the interim report indicated above will be decisive for the continuation of the financing of the contract.

3. In addition to what is indicated in point 2, together with the final report, the trainee or doctoral research staff must complete the form of scientific-technical indicators defined by the State Research Agency to assess the impact of the action. The values indicated must coincide with those referenced in the curriculum vitae attached.

4. Additionally, the beneficiary R&D centres must provide the necessary information for the preparation of the indicators required by the ESF+, in accordance with the instructions given on the website of the State Research Agency. They may be required at any time, even once the action has been completed, to submit any data necessary for the preparation of the indicators required.

CHAPTER VI

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

First additional provision. Supplementary regulations. In all matters not foreseen in these rules, the Resolution of 16 May 2019, of the Rector of the University of Zaragoza, establishing the general rules of the calls for applications for contracts that will govern the procedures established for the incorporation of researchers with work contracts of the specific modalities of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, into the University of Zaragoza, will be applicable in a supplementary manner.

Second additional provision. Urgent processing. In accordance with the provisions of article 33 of Law 39/2015, on the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations, it is agreed to process this selection procedure as a matter of urgency, whereby the deadlines established for the ordinary procedure are halved, except for those relating to the submission of applications and appeals. This measure is adopted for reasons of public interest, due to the limited selection



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period, which require a selection process that, while guaranteeing the principles of equality, merit, capacity and publicity, also responds to the principle of speed.

The present resolution, which puts an end to the administrative process, may be appealed by means of an appeal for reconsideration before the Rector of the University of Zaragoza within a period of one month, starting from the day following its publication in the Official Gazette of Aragon, in accordance with the provisions of articles 123 and 124 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, or it may be challenged directly before the contentious-administrative jurisdiction within a period of 2 months, starting from the day following its publication.