

2012 CALL. IRB BARCELONA INTERNATIONAL POSTDOCTORAL PROGRAMME (ref. 01/12/IRBPostPro)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The IRB Barcelona International Postdoctoral Programme (IRBPostPro), supported by IRB Barcelona and an EU Marie Curie Actions Cofund grant, aims to project the attractiveness of our Institute to highly talented scientists, by increasing and facilitating European-wide mobility opportunities for training and career development in an interdisciplinary research environment.

I. Objective

These Terms and Conditions serve to regulate the award of IRB Barcelona International Postdoctoral fellowships for 2012-2014.

II. Grant call

1. Ten (10) postdoctoral fellowships are offered for a period of two years within the IRB Barcelona International Postdoctoral Programme. Candidates should start by 31 October 2012.
2. The grant will be 31,000 € gross per year for junior fellows (<3 years postdoctoral experience) and 36,000 € for senior fellows (>3 years of postdoctoral experience).
3. Additional benefits:
 - Social security benefits and health insurance
 - 1,800 € on arrival to IRB Barcelona to cover relocation expenses
 - 880 €/year in meal vouchers
 - Part of the research costs funding.

III. Eligibility criteria

1. Applicants must hold a doctorate degree before the start of the fellowship (October 2012).
2. Candidates are eligible for a period of 5 years following successful completion of their PhD at the date of the interviews. Extensions to the 5-year rule are allowed for applicants whose academic career has been interrupted for maternity (or paternity) leave or illness or other special circumstances such as mandatory military service. Those circumstances will be indicated in the application form in the field "Additional Notes" and must be documented. Extensions will be of one year per birth in case of maternity (or paternity) leave. The extension in the case of illness will depend on its duration.

3. Researchers who have resided or carried out their main activity in Spain for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to the call deadline are not eligible. Short stays, such as holidays, will not be taken into account.

4. Candidates who have previously done research at IRB Barcelona for more than four (4) months before the application deadline will not be eligible.

IV. Application procedure

Applications must be completed and submitted online at www.postdoc.irbbarcelona.org. **The application deadline is 6 March 2012, 23.59 pm local time.**

Applicants will be asked to attach the following documents:

1. PhD certificate or official notification of the award. If the applicant does not have the doctorate degree at the time of the application, he/she must provide an official academic record of the studies completed (degree or MSc) and a letter of commitment stating that he/she will have obtained the PhD by 31 October 2012.
2. CV specifying education and experience.
3. Statement of Research Interests, including a short proposal of a prospective research project to be carried out at IRB Barcelona. Candidates for the IRB Barcelona International Postdoctoral Programme are invited to select one of the listed projects and discuss their application with the prospective IRB Barcelona group leaders (2012 Predefined projects available on the web). Alternatively, applicants may suggest an unlisted project.
4. At least two letters of reference. Referees will send their confidential letters directly to IRB Barcelona using the online application. Alternatively, referees may send the letters by telefax, e-mail, or airmail to:

Clara Caminal, PhD

Research and Academic Department

Institute for Research in Biomedicine
Parc Científic de Barcelona
C/ Baldiri i Reixac, 10
08028 Barcelona, Spain
email: postdoc@irbbarcelona.org
Fax: +34 934037114

All personal data requested by IRB Barcelona from applicants will be treated in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act (15/13 December 1999).

Applicants should submit information in English (CV, Statement of Research Interests, summary of work experience). If the certified academic records are not in English, Spanish or Catalan, applicants should also attach a sworn translation in one of these languages.

Candidates should ensure all information, including letters of reference, is submitted before the deadline. **Incomplete applications will not be eligible.**

Candidates will be informed of the status of their application at every step of the selection process via the online application tool.

For more information, please contact us at: postdoc@irbbarcelona.org

V. Selection procedure

Candidate selection will be performed by an independent international peer review selection committee. Evaluation will be based on academic qualifications and skills as well as research excellence. The selection committee will comprise a total of 10 external experts from recognized national and international universities and research centres.

When assessing each application, the selection committee will take into account diverse knowledge and qualifications as well as the prospective research project. Evaluation will be based on criteria detailed in point V.2.

V.1. Pre-evaluation of candidates

Proposals will be checked for eligibility and distributed in panels. Each application will then be independently reviewed by three experts from the selection committee. In the first stage, experts will remotely evaluate each assigned candidate against the criteria described in point V.2 and will draw up a list of short-listed candidates to be invited for an interview.

V.2. Evaluation criteria

The applicants will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Criteria for the evaluation of previous scientific achievements (weight 45/100): Candidate's scientific results (publications, patents), reference letters, research experience, scientific-technological experience and skills, as well as fellowships and awards received.
2. Criteria for the evaluation of the Statement of Research Interests (weight 25/100): Scientific-technological quality and originality of the project. Research potential and future impact of the project presented. Motivation of the candidate regarding the goals of the project. Match between the fellow's profile and the project. Proposals with an interdisciplinary project will be evaluated positively.
3. Criteria for the evaluation of skills (weight 30/100): Independent thinking and leadership qualities, capacity to transfer knowledge, potential to acquire new knowledge, potential or demonstrated scientific-technical contribution of the candidate to the field of research.



V.3. Oral interviews

Selected candidates will be invited to IRB Barcelona for a two-day interview. The evaluation will be based on an individual presentation by each candidate to the members of the committee. This presentation will focus on the candidate's current research and interests and will be followed by interviews of the candidate with the selection committee and also with the group leader/s of the research group/s in which the candidate wishes to carry out his/her research. The final decision will be taken in a consensus meeting composed of members of the selection committee.

The top ten candidates will be offered an IRB Barcelona International Postdoctoral contract and invited to sign an acceptance letter. They will be requested to provide the original or certified copies of the documents requested in section IV.1. Candidates should start by 31 October 2012.

Barcelona, 16 January 2012

Joan J. Guinovart Cirera
Director
IRB Barcelona

