



IRB
BARCELONA

INSTITUTE
FOR RESEARCH
IN BIOMEDICINE

2010 application call for the IRB Barcelona PhD Fellowship Programme (ref.02/10/IRB)

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Section II, article 6, letters c) and q) of the Statutes of the *Fundació Privada Institut de Recerca Biomèdica* (hereafter referred to as IRB Barcelona) establish that this institution will promote activities that address collaboration and knowledge transfer and also make calls for fellowship (herein referred to as grant) applications and subsequent awards of the same.

Accordingly, this document is to publicize a grant call, which is included in the IRB Barcelona PhD Fellowship Programme. The grants are assigned to students on a PhD programme and writing their PhD thesis under the supervision of group leaders at IRB Barcelona.

I. Objective

These Terms and Conditions serve to regulate the award of PhD grants for the academic year 2010-2011.

II. Grant Call

10 PhD grants are offered for the academic year 2010-2011 within the IRB Barcelona PhD Fellowship Programme.

1. The grant will cover the period 1 September 2010 - 31 August 2011.
2. The training programme will last 4 years provided that the grant awardee complies with all the requirements of point XI of this call. The grant will be renewable on a yearly basis and will last 2 + 2 years, as established in the Law 63/2006 of 27 January 2006 (BOE num. 29, 3 February 2006). Therefore the first two years will be covered by a grant, after which this initial period and after having obtained the DEA or equivalent administrative document in accordance with the European Higher Education Area, the Grant will be evaluated for renewal for a maximum of two more years through an employment contract. During the 4-year training period, IRB Barcelona :
 - Will concede the stipend corresponding to the grant in monthly payments at the end of each month. The stipend will be proportional to days worked at IRB Barcelona. In the case of grant renouncement, the awardee will have the right to receive only the amount owed for the days of the month in course up to which he/she renounced the grant.
 - Will include the awardee in the Social Security System as stipulated in Royal decree 63/2006, 27 January.



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During the contract period, IRB Barcelona:

- Will draw up a training contract with the awardee for doing his/her doctoral thesis. This contract is governed by article 11.1 of the *Estatuto de los Trabajadores* (Royal Decree 1/1995, 24 March). Will fulfil its obligations with the Social Security System.

3. The training programme will last 4 years. However, although the training programme lasts for 4 years, the grant provided by IRB Barcelona is temporary until the PhD student obtains alternative funding to complete his/her thesis. IRB Barcelona will assist the student in all affairs concerning applications to calls organised by other private and public organisations.

In this regard, the awardee will be fully assisted by his/her group leader and also by the IRB Barcelona administration team with respect to the paperwork involved in these applications. (The awardee will not be able to apply for a fellowship from the “la Caixa”/IRB Barcelona PhD programme due to call requirements of said programme).

4. Each fellowship provides 13,600 € gross per year, during the grant period and 15,000 € gross per year during the contract period.

5. The supervisor of the awardee will be the group leader at IRB Barcelona, previously assigned and agreed with the awardee before signing the grant. This group leader will oversee that the duties assigned to the awardee are fulfilled and will notify IRB Barcelona management of students who do not fulfil these duties and of other pertinent circumstances, in order to start proceedings to withdraw the grant.

III. Additional funds

The awardees of IRB Barcelona grants will have the right to receive additional funding of up to 2,000€ gross funding is destined to cover the fees for PhD or Masters courses required to enrol in a PhD, as well as (subject to renewal of the grant) academic fees.

IV. Requirements and selection criteria for IRB Barcelona grant call

1. Applicants should have finished by September 2010 one of the following options:

- a. the studies that lead to the official Spanish title of “licenciado”
- b. a degree in a non-spanish university not adapted to the European Higher Education Area that give access to doctoral studies in Biology, Biochemistry, Pharmacy, Physics, Medicine, Chemistry or related areas.
- c. To have obtained a degree within the European Higher Education Area of a minimum of 240 ECTS in Biology, Biochemistry, Pharmacy, Physics, Medicine, Chemistry or related areas.

2. Applicants should have obtained the degree after January 2007



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3. Those students that are already PhD students at IRB Barcelona are not eligible to apply.

Candidates are selected exclusively on merit, on the basis of their curricula. Academic grades and the curriculum of applicants are evaluated as well as recommendation letters and motivation letter. No selection criteria for positive or negative discrimination are applied. Candidates will be selected exclusively on the basis of:

- Academic record
- Curriculum Vitae" specifying education and previous experience in research, and supported by pertinent documents.
- Two recommendation letters from university lecturers or scientists with who the applicant has studied or worked.
- Letter of intent.

V. Application Procedure

1. Students can make an online application at www.phd.irbbarcelona.org. The application deadline is **24:00h on 31 May 2010.**
2. For more information, applicants can consult IRB Barcelona's webpage or contact phd@irbbarcelona.org

VI. Applications

Applicants should complete the online application attaching the following documents:

1. Academic certificate or certified copy of the academic report corresponding to degree studies completed. These documents must show the grades attained in exam periods of February, June and/or September.

Non-Spanish nationals should present: 1) a certified copy in the original language and a sworn translation of their academic records into English or Spanish. The sworn translation can be done by the student himself/herself.

- 2."Curriculum Vitae" specifying education and experience, and supported by pertinent documents.

3. Letter of intent.

4. Two recommendation letters from university lecturers or scientists with who the applicant has studied or worked.

VII. Selection

After the application deadline:

1. The Director of IRB Barcelona will set up a Review Board that will comprise a member of each IRB Barcelona research programme.



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This board will be charged with drawing up a preliminary list of candidates. On the basis of the students' academic merits and supporting documents, the Board will then draw up a list of candidates to come to IRB Barcelona for an interview.

2. Group leaders will interview the candidates and will make a final selection.
3. Applicants can follow the status of their application online.
4. Applicants who have not been successful but have received a positive evaluation will be put on a waiting list to cover possible renunciations.

VIII. Documentation

Candidates selected during the interviews must present the following documentation to complete the selection.

- 1.- Degree certificate or official notification of degree award.
Non-Spanish nationals must present: 1) certified copy and sworn translation of the degree certificate or equivalent level obtained in a university abroad, 2) certified copy and sworn translation of the certificate showing the subjects studied.
- 2.- A sworn statement expressing intention to register on a university doctoral programme.
- 3.- A sworn declaration stating that he or she does not receive any other funding or grant.

IX. Communication of grant award

1. The Director of IRB Barcelona will issue an official grant award certificate to successful candidates.

X. Rights of the awardee

1. Each awardee will have the following general rights:
 - a) To count on collaboration from IRB Barcelona and be provided with the necessary assistance to perform his/her studies and research activities.
 - b) To become a member of the research programme in which he/she will be performing his PhD.
 - c) To participate in student governing and representative bodies.
 - d) To participate in complementary calls for funding to attend scientific congresses or to spend training periods in other centres. The awardee will be able to spend up to 3 months performing research work in another laboratory upon approval of his/her supervisor and the director of IRB Barcelona.

- e) To exercise intellectual property rights derived from his/her training activity and in accordance with his/her contribution, as established in the Intellectual Property Law of Royal Decree 1/1996, 12 April. These rights will be independent, compatible and accumulable with other rights that may arise from the research developed, without negatively affecting the rights of the joint effort when the awardee participates in or is associated with a joint research project.
- f) Regarding possible industrial property rights of the awardee, these will be regulated by Patent Law 11/1986, 20 March, and Royal Decree 55/2002, 18 January, governing the exploitation and license of rights on discoveries made in public research organisations. Said rights will not be linked to salary.

2. As established in point II.2 of the present call, the awardee has the right to receive the grant within the established time period, as set out in the terms of this call, without it being considered as salary, and to be registered in the Social Security system, in the terms established in section 1 of the first legal order of Royal Decree 63/2006, 27 January. In addition, the awardee has the right to the same holiday leave and special leave as research staff at IRB Barcelona.

3. In the contract stage, the awardee, has employment and Social Security rights derived from the formal employment contract with IRB Barcelona.

XI. Responsibilities of the awardee

- 1. To fulfil the terms and conditions established in this call.
- 2. To perform his/her research activity under the supervision of a thesis director at IRB Barcelona while the grant is effective. In addition, he/she must perform the activities foreseen in the research training and specialization programmes of this institute.
- 3. To satisfactorily fulfil the objectives of the training programme.
- 4. To comply with the internal regulations of IRB Barcelona, particularly regarding working conditions and the prevention of occupational risks.
- 5. To prepare a report each year informing on the scientific progress of his/her thesis. Moreover he/she will present this report to his/her Thesis Advisory Committee, named by the Institute.
- 6. To inform IRB Barcelona in advance of articles that carry his/her name and are published in scientific journals.
- 7. To undertake the duties that correspond to him/her as a result of being included in the Social Security System and in addition, in the



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case of students with an employment contract, to undertake the duties established in said contract.

8. To apply for funds from other public or private organisations during the training period. To inform IRB Barcelona if he/she receives other grants or funding for PhD Studies, which are not compatible with the funds provided through this call.

9. In the event that the awardee receives a grant from another funding source, he/she is required to renounce the IRB Barcelona fellowship.

XII. Termination of grants

The grants will be revoked in the case that the awardee has withheld or falsified information.

The grant will also be revoked if the awardee does not fulfil the responsibilities described in point XI.

XIII. Incompatibility

The awardees will be devoted exclusively to the research or technical training and specialisation activities defined in this call. The grants included in this call are not compatible with any other of grant from other public or private organizations.

XIV. Funding

The grant stipends included in this call are covered by IRB Barcelona intramural funds for a maximum of one year (the first). In the event that the awardee does not obtain alternative funding, as of the second year this grant will be charged to the budget of the group to which the awardee has been assigned.

XV. Legal regime

The award of the IRB Barcelona grant does not imply a legal employment agreement between the awardee and IRB Barcelona.

XVI. Dissemination

Any information regarding this grant will be placed on the announcement board on the IRB Barcelona web site.

XVII. Clarification

The President of the Board of Trustees of IRB Barcelona will be responsible for clarifying queries regarding these terms and conditions.

Barcelona, 23 April 2010

Joan J. Guinovart Cirera
Director of IRB Barcelona



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ANNEX 1

IRB Barcelona research groups offering predoctoral positions:

- Ferran Azorín - Chromatin structure and function
- Antonio Celada- Macrophage biology: regulation of gene expression
- Ernest Giralt - design, synthesis and structure of peptides and proteins
- Ángel R. Nebreda- Signalling and Cell Cycle Laboratory
- Marco Milán- Development and Growth Control Laboratory
- Modesto Orozco - Molecular modelling and bioinformatics
- Miquel Pons - Biomolecular NMR: Structure and dynamics of proteins and protein complexes
- Lluís Ribas-Gene translation laboratory
- Antoni Riera - Research unit on asymmetric synthesis
- Xavier Salvatella - Laboratory of Molecular Biophysics
- Eduardo Soriano - Developmental neurobiology and regeneration