

Resolution REU/136/2024 opening the call for Beatriu de Pinós postdoctoral grants (BP 2023).

Law 7/2001, of 31 May 2001 (DOGC no. 3407 of 12.06.2001), created the Agència de Gestió d'Ajuts Universitaris i de Recerca (Agency for the Management of University and Research Grants —hereinafter, “the Agency” or “AGAUR” as per its acronym in Catalan) as a public law entity whose actions are governed by private law, with its own legal personality, full capacity to act and its own assets for the fulfilment of its functions.

The Agency is responsible for implementing programmes involving grants, loans, subsidies and other activities to promote university studies, scientific and technical research and technological innovation in Catalonia.

AGAUR is attached to the Catalan Ministry of Research and Universities, in accordance with the provisions of Decree 115/2002, of 14 June 2022, on the restructuring of the Ministry of Research and Universities.

The provisions of Chapter IX of Legislative Decree 3/2002, of 24 December 2002, approving the consolidated text of the Catalan Public Finance Act, in relation to the legal system for subsidies and transfers from the Government of Catalonia; Law 38/2003, of 17 November 2003, on general subsidies; and Royal Decree 887/2003, of 21 July 2006, approving the regulations of the aforementioned Law 38/2003, of 17 November 2003, shall all apply.

Article 11 of AGAUR's Statutes, approved by the Government of Catalonia by means of Decree 168/2002, of 11 June 2002, states that the Board of Directors is responsible for approving calls for grants and subsidies, as well as resolving them. These powers were delegated to the President of the Executive Committee for Research Grants (CEAR as per its acronym in Catalan) on 28 April 2022.

On 19 December 2023, Resolution REU 4244/2023 of 12 December 2023 was published in the Official Gazette of the Government of Catalonia (DOGC) no. 9063, approving the regulatory bases for the Beatriu de Pinós (BP) postdoctoral grants.

Therefore,

It is hereby resolved:

Article 1

To open the call for the award of up to 60 Beatriu de Pinós postdoctoral grants (BP 2023) on a competitive basis.

Article 2

2.1 This call is funded by the Directorate General for Research of the Catalan Ministry of Research and Universities. The overall amount is 9,171,882.00 euros, which shall be charged to item 409.0001, 440.0001, 442.0001, 443.0001, 448.0001, 449.0001 i 482.0001 of the AGAUR budget for the years 2024, 2025 and 2026.

2.2 The granting of aid is conditional on the existence of adequate and sufficient credit at the time of the award decision.

2.3 The maximum amount may be increased by 20% before the decision to award the grants is taken, without the need to publish a new call for applications.

2.4 The grant may be reduced in whole or in part before the final award decision is issued as a result of restrictions arising from compliance with the objectives of budgetary stability and financial sustainability.

2.5 Once this call is resolved, if the maximum amount set in Article 2 has not been exhausted, or if surplus funds are generated as a result of waivers or revocations of the grants awarded, new grants may be awarded to applications that are finally approved as a result of an administrative appeal, or to applications on the reserve list, provided that such projects can be carried out within the deadlines set out in the regulatory bases.

Article 3

The grants provided for in this call are governed by:

RESOLUTION REU/4244/2023, of 12 December 2023, approving the regulatory bases for Beatriu de Pinós (BP) postdoctoral grants.

b) The provisions on grants in Chapter IX of the consolidated text of the Catalan Public Finance Act, approved by Legislative Decree 3/2002, of 24 December 2002, as well as the basic regulations on grants and other applicable regulations.

Article 4

4.1 Candidates must have obtained their doctoral degree between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2021 (the date of completion of the doctoral degree is understood to be the date of reading and approval of the thesis).

4.2 The period for obtaining the doctoral degree shall be between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2021 if any of the following circumstances can be justified during this period:

- Having taken a period of maternity or paternity leave.
- Having had dependent children under 6 years of age.
- Having had dependents with a legally recognised physical, mental or sensory disability.
- Have suffered a serious illness or accident requiring major surgery or treatment in a hospital and causing temporary incapacity for the person's usual occupation or activity for a continuous period of at least 6 months. Minor surgery and outpatient surgery and rehabilitation treatments carried out outside the hospital system are excluded.
- Being a researcher with recognised refugee status according to the 1951 Geneva Convention.
- Having suffered any of the situations provided for in Article 1 of Organic Law 1/2004, of 28 December 2004, on comprehensive protection measures against gender-based violence.

4.3 The period for obtaining a doctoral degree for candidates with a degree of disability equal to or greater than 33% issued by the assessment and guidance team of the centres for people with functional diversity of the Government of Catalonia or equivalent shall be between 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2021.

Article 5

5.1 The grants awarded have a duration of 3 years.

5.2 The beneficiary entities of the aid must employ the candidates and formalise the contract in accordance with the relevant regulations in force within the period between the date of publication of the award decision on the electronic board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>>) and 1 April 2025.

In the case of grants awarded in substitution from the reserve list, whose resolutions are notified as of 01/01/2025, the candidates shall be employed until 01/07/2025 at the latest.

Article 6

6.1 The amount of the aid for the recruitment of research staff is 137,423.10 euros (one hundred and thirty-seven thousand four hundred and twenty-three euros and ten cents). This amount finances the cost of each research contract for the period of time provided for in this call for applications and includes the remuneration to be received by the research staff and the employer's Social Security contributions. The minimum remuneration to be received by the research staff, which must be stated in each contract, shall be 34,416.00 euros gross per year (thirty-four thousand four hundred and sixteen euros).

Grants are subject to the tax regime in force at the time of the award.

6.2 In addition, the aid also includes an amount for the costs of compensation for termination of the contract due to expiry of the agreed time, with an amount equivalent to that provided for fixed-term contracts in Article 49 of the consolidated text of the Workers' Statute Law, with a maximum of 3,441.60 euros per aid (three thousand four hundred and forty-one euros and sixty cents).

6.3 The amount of the supplementary aid is 12,000.00 euros (twelve thousand euros).

In the event of a partial waiver that involves the justification of a contract period of less than 18 months, the maximum justifiable amount of supplementary aid shall be 6,000.00 euros (six thousand euros).

Article 7

7.1 During the lifetime of the project, the beneficiary individuals and entities must take appropriate measures to maintain fluid communication with the public and the media in relation to the project and to highlight the financial support of the Government of Catalonia.

7.2 In the publications and other results that may be produced thanks to this call, the support of the Beatriu de Pinós postdoctoral programme of the Catalan Ministry of Research and Universities must be mentioned, including the reference number of the grant. The beneficiary entity must include on its website the corresponding logo contained in the Visual Identification Program (PIV), published on the website <http://www.gencat.cat/piv/>.

Article 8

8.1 The deadline for submission of provisional applications for research candidates starts on the day following the date of publication of this Resolution in the DOGC and ends on 5 March 2024 at 2:00 p.m. local Barcelona time.

8.2 The deadline for the institutions to confirm or reject the submission of provisional applications runs from 15 March to 27 March 2024.

8.3 Applications can be submitted in accordance with the provisions of base 10 of Resolution REU/4244/2023, of 12 December 2023, approving the regulatory bases of the Beatriu de Pinós (BP) postdoctoral grants.

Article 9

The acceptance form must be submitted to the AGAUR electronic register through the EACAT platform or through the procedure associated with an AGAUR file (submission of documentation and other requests), which can be found in the "Procedures" section of the website of the Government of Catalonia (<<http://web.gencat.cat/ca/tramits/>>), within a maximum period of two months from the day following the publication of the decision to award the grants on the electronic board of the Government of Catalonia.

Article 10

10.1 The competent body for the organisation and instruction of this call for applications is the head of AGAUR.

10.2 The resolution of the call corresponds to the AGAUR Board of Directors and, by delegation, to the CEAR or the person who holds its presidency, according to the agreement of the Board of Directors of 28 April 2022 (Resolution REU/ 2022, of 10 May 2022, DOGC no. 8688 of 16.05.2022).

10.3 The Beatriu de Pinós postdoctoral grants are awarded on a competitive basis.

10.4 The maximum legal deadline for resolving this call for applications is six months from its publication in the Official Gazette of the Government of Catalonia (DOGC). Once this period has elapsed without an express decision, the grant applied for is deemed to have been rejected by administrative silence.

10.5 The award decision shall be notified by publication on the electronic board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia. For wider dissemination and information purposes, the result of the decision may be consulted on the AGAUR website.

10.6 The interested parties may lodge an appeal for reconsideration against the award decision, which exhausts administrative channels, with the President of the CEAR within a period of one month from the day following its publication on the electronic board of the Government of Catalonia, or they may lodge an appeal directly with the judicial review court of Barcelona within two months of the day following its publication, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 123 and 124 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October 2015, on the common administrative procedure for public administrations, and Articles 8, 14 and 46 of Law 29/1998, of 13 July 1998, regulating judicial review.

Article 11

The interested parties may lodge an appeal against this Resolution, which exhausts administrative channels, with the President of the CEAR within a period of one month from the day following its publication in the DOGC, or they may lodge an appeal directly with the judicial review court of Barcelona within two months of the day following its publication, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 123 and 124 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October 2015, on the common administrative procedure for public administrations, and Articles 8, 14 and 46 of Law 29/1998, of 13 July 1998, regulating judicial review.

Barcelona, 18 January, 2024

p. p. (Resolution REU/1421/2022 of 10.05.2022, DOGC no. 8668, of 16.05.2022)

Joan Gómez Pallarès
President of the Executive Committee for Research Grants

NOTE: THE CATALAN CALL IS THE AUTHORITATIVE VERSION