

3. Research staff training and recruitment programme

Action 3.2. Call for postdoctoral grants for the recruitment of researchers to Universitat Jaume I research groups.

[\[Forms: 17, 18, 19, 37, 38 and 39\]](#)

1. Purpose

These grants are aimed at promoting the employment of young PhD holders under a two-year contract, during which they will complete their postdoctoral research training at the Universitat Jaume I of Castelló.

As an exceptional measure, under two type-B calls for the two-year period 2017–2018, this measure will consider the recruitment of candidates who obtained their doctorate before the period established in the standard type of grant. Furthermore, type-B calls are intended to provide researchers who in recent years received grants supporting UJI research groups as part of the call for research staff holding a doctorate, with the opportunity to complete or redirect their education, helping them to subsequently join companies, universities or research centres.

2. Characteristics of the call

2.1 This call aims to recruit postdoctoral research staff to a research group or individual researchers registered in the public register of “Research Groups” at the Universitat Jaume I (hereinafter “research group”).

2.2 Two types of grants are established herein: the standard type (type A), and an exceptional type for the 2017–2018 two-year period (type B):

Type A: 9 postdoctoral grants offering employment contracts to young postdoctoral research staff wishing to complete their training in a research group.

Type B: 3 postdoctoral grants offering employment contracts for young postdoctoral research staff wishing to enhance their skills or redirect their research careers by working with a research group.

2.3 The grants will be awarded for a 2-year period from the date the contract is signed. The annual grant will be 21,500 euros (gross).

In applications for type A grants, the periods in which researchers have been subject to a contract in one of the following programmes will be discounted from the term of the contract: the Postdoctoral Programme of the Government of the Valencian Community, the Juan de la

Cierva Programme and the MINECO Postdoctoral Training Programme, and postdoctoral grants from the EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie Programme, or other programmes that are deemed to be equivalent in terms of their nature, purpose, amount, selection process, etc.

2.4 Contract research staff may take part in supplementary mobility programmes, funded by UJI Promotion Plan or by any other source of funding for a maximum period of 8 months during the grant period.

2.5 Contract research staff selected in this call will be attached to one of the knowledge areas of the members of the research group they join, and will for all intents and purposes be considered full-time members of the teaching and research staff in the department to which the group is attached.

The knowledge area to which the contract is assigned may not be changed.

2.6 The award of grants and the signing of a contract do not mean or imply that the Universitat Jaume I is bound to subsequently recruit the recipient of the grant as a member of the UJI staff.

2.7 Contracted research staff selected in this call will teach up to 9 credits per academic year, subject to authorisation from the coordinator of the research group and from the head of the department, and after approval of a request for the *venia docendi* (teaching authorisation).

2.8 The contracts will not enter into force before 1 January 2019.

3. Requirements

3.1 Research staff must meet the following requirements:

Type A:

a) Holders of a doctorate, obtained between 1 January 2016 and the deadline for submission of applications. The date of the successful defence of the doctoral thesis will be considered as the date on which the doctorate was obtained.

Holders of qualifications obtained outside Spain must have accreditation that they have been officially recognised. Applicants holding qualifications obtained in EU countries must submit the document or credential stating that the candidate is entitled to undertake the relevant profession. These documents can be submitted when the contract enters into force.

In any of the circumstances listed below, the deadline for having obtained the doctorate mentioned above (1 January 2016) will be extended, provided that the periods of interruption resulting from the circumstances in question took place between the deadline for grant

applications and 1 January 2016.

1. Maternity or paternity leave, in accordance with the situations covered by the General Social Security System. A period of one year per child will be applied.

2. Accident or serious illness, involving sick leave of 3 or more months. An extension for the same sick leave period, rounded up to full months, will be applied.

3. Care of dependents, in accordance with Law 39/2006 of 14 December, on the promotion of personal autonomy and care of dependents, for a minimum period of 3 months. An extension equivalent to the period accounted for, rounded up to full months, will be applied. These periods must be duly notified and accredited when submitting the application.

b) Not having used (or received) a grant in calls similar to this one (the Postdoctoral Programme of the Government of the Valencian Community, the Juan de la Cierva Programme and the MINECO Postdoctoral Training Programme, or postdoctoral grants from the EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie Programme). “Beneficiaries” of these grants will be understood to be research staff who have been selected to receive the grants mentioned above, regardless of whether they started work at the R&D centre.

Type B:

a) Holders of a doctorate obtained between 1 January 2004 and 31 December 2015. The date of the successful defence of the doctoral thesis will be considered as the date on which the doctorate was obtained.

Holders of qualifications obtained outside Spain must have accreditation that they have been officially recognised. Applicants holding qualifications obtained in EU countries must submit the document or credential stating that the candidate is entitled to undertake the relevant profession. These documents can be submitted when the contract enters into force.

b) Holders of a doctorate at a university other than the Universitat Jaume I or those providing proof of postdoctoral stays for a period of 8 or more months at research institutions other than the Universitat Jaume I. Only stays longer than 2 months will be taken into consideration for these purposes.

c) Applicants who have not been beneficiaries of a type-A grant in this call.

3.2 If an applicant holds more than one doctorate, the one that obtained first will be considered for this call.

3.3 Candidates may only submit one application. Failure to meet this requirement will

invalidate all the other applications submitted.

3.4 Applications must be endorsed by the research group the researcher wishes to join. Research groups that are included in the public register of Universitat Jaume I “research groups” at the time of the publication of this call may support applications.

3.5 A research group may only endorse one application in this call. If a research group or registered researcher endorses more than one application, only the one which is submitted first will be considered.

3.6 Research groups which endorsed a grant awarded the previous year call may not endorse any applications under this call if that grant is still in force.

3.7 The requirements must be met by the deadline for the submission of applications, and throughout the entire period of the action.

4. Submitting applications

4.1 Applications must be addressed to the Office of the Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral Studies, and submitted to the General Registry Office of the Universitat Jaume I directly, or by means of the procedures provided for in Article 16.4. of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, concerning the ordinary administrative procedure of public agencies, and must enclose the documents below:

- a. Duly completed application form (form no. 18).
- b. Standardised CV of the applicant.
- c. Scientific-technical research history of the group to be joined by the applicant for the last 5 years, including predoctoral and postdoctoral training capacity of the candidate, and the activities or training plans undertaken by them (form no. 17).
- d. Copy of national or foreigner identity document or valid passport.
- e. Copy of the doctoral degree certificate or academic transcript, clearly stating the date on which the doctorate was obtained.
- f. Applicants subject to the interruption circumstances stipulated in Section 3.1.a must mention this on the application form, and enclose the document accounting for it.
- g. Certificate of postdoctoral stays (for type-B grants).
- h. For the purposes of the evaluation process, only the information included in the CV and

in the scientific-technical history of the research group up to the deadline for the submission of applications will be taken into consideration. The information contained in those documents cannot subsequently be updated. If an amendment, rectification or clarification regarding those documents is necessary, the information provided must refer to facts or situations occurring by or before the deadline for submission of applications.

4.2 The period for submission of applications will begin on the day following the publication of this call, and will end on 2 March 2018.

4.3 Application forms are available at <http://ujiapps.uji.es/serveis/ocit/gestio/conv/pinv18/>.

5. Amendment of applications

5.1 Following the deadline for submission of applications, and after verifying the documents submitted, a provisional decision on the admitted and excluded applications will be published on the Universitat Jaume I Official Noticeboard (TAO). The period for appeals against this decision, or for making amendments or submitting omitted documents or information, will be 10 working days after the publication date.

This procedure for amendments does not include the possibility of changing the endorsing research group, or the type of grant applied for.

5.2 After this amendments period, the Committee for the Monitoring of Registered Research Groups will issue the final decision on the accepted and rejected applications, which will be published on the Official Noticeboard of the Universitat Jaume I.

6. Evaluation and selection of applications

6.1 The applications submitted will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

a. The candidate's academic merits. From 0 to 75 points.

- 1. Contributions. The relevance and contribution of the candidate in articles published in scientific journals, books and chapters in scientific and technical books, papers presented at conferences, patents awarded or licensed, and in general, any other research-related contributions, including technology transfer, will be considered. From 0 to 50 points.
- 2- Participation in international activities. Direct participation in activities related to international programmes and projects, especially those related to international predoctoral mobility programmes, as well as publications, participation or funding in projects and contracts made within the framework of international cooperation, will be considered. From 0 to 20 points.
- 3. Other academic merits. Among other aspects, the award of prizes, honours and

distinctions, scientific dissemination activities and any other contributions enabling the assessment of research merits that have not been included before will be considered.

b. Scientific-technical history of the research group to be joined by the candidate. From 0 to 25 points.

- 1. Contributions. The relevance and contribution of the group in articles published in scientific journals, books and chapters in scientific and technical books, papers presented at conferences, patents awarded or licensed, the capacity to obtain resources (national projects, contracts with companies, etc.) and, in general, any other research-related contributions, including technology transfer, will be considered. From 0 to 12.5 points.
- 2. Participation in international activities. Direct participation in activities related to international programmes and projects, as well as funding obtained throughout the aforesaid participation, will be considered. From 0 to 10 points.
- 3. Other merits. Any other contributions enabling the assessment of research merits that have not been included previously and in particular, the training abilities and activities developed in the research group, will be considered. From 0 to 2.5 points.

6.2 The applications will be subject to a scientific-technical assessment report by an external scientific assessment agency (ANEP, AVAP, AGAUR, etc.).

7. Provisional decision proposal and hearing of the person concerned

7.1 The Committee for the Monitoring of Registered Research Groups will make a proposal for the selection of candidates.

7.2 The Office of the Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral Studies will publish the provisional score obtained in the external evaluation process on the Official Noticeboard of the Universitat Jaume I. After its publication, a period of 10 days will be given for appeals. These will be heard by the Committee for the Monitoring of Registered Research Groups, which may ask the assessment agency for a report.

7.3 The Committee for the Monitoring of Registered Research Groups will propose a provisional decision on the selected applications to the Office of the Rector. This will contain the applications that have obtained a score of 70 points or more, covering the number of grants for which funding is available in each of the two types.

If two applications have the same score, priority will be given to the application with the higher score in the criteria and subcriteria established in Section 6.1, in the order in which they are listed. If the score remains the same, the Committee for the Monitoring of Registered Research Groups will make a specific justified decision.

7.4 Applicants not selected who have obtained a score of 70 points or higher will be placed on a reserve list for each type of grant.

8. Decision

8.1 The Office of the Rector will be entirely responsible for decisions for this call, which will be published on the Official Noticeboard (TAO) of the Universitat Jaume I.

9. Contracts and incorporation of the researchers

9.1 The beneficiaries shall accept the grant in writing, within 10 working days of the publication of the award decision.

9.2 The contract shall start within 3 months of the publication of the award decision. If the grant is awarded in 2018, this period of 3 months will be counted as starting on 1 January 2019.

Upon their incorporation, beneficiaries shall present a report including the work plan to be carried out for a two-year period, which will include a description of the research lines and the projects in which they will participate, emphasising the purpose and interest of the research as well as its contribution to the goals of the research group they are joining (form no. 19).

9.3 If the beneficiary fails to accept the grant or join the research group within three months of the first award decision, a candidate from the reserve list may be selected.

10. Scientific-technical supervision

10.1 For the purposes of the research groups register, the contracted research staff will be fully assigned to the research group that endorsed their application, and which they join.

10.2 Contracted research staff may undertake temporary stays at other research centres for a maximum period of 8 months. This must be approved by the coordinator of their research group, and authorised by the Office of the Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral Studies (form no. 37).

10.3 Contracted research staff must prepare a scientific-technical monitoring report on the first year of activity, using form no. 38. This report must include the description of the tasks undertaken and the accomplishment of goals, and must be approved by the coordinator of the research group.

10.4 Contracted research staff must prepare a scientific-technical monitoring report on the two years of activity, using form no. 39 and including a description of all the research undertaken and the accomplishment of goals during the period covered by the grant. This report must be approved by the coordinator of the research group.

10.5 The result of the assessment of the scientific-technical monitoring report referred to in section 10.3., will determine whether funding of the contract continues.

10.6 During the different evaluation processes of the scientific-technical monitoring, the Office of the Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral Studies will be able to assess the need to interview some or all of the candidates. The results of these interviews will be reflected in the record concerning the monitoring and results of the grant.

11. Interruption of the grant

11.1 In the event that contracts entered into within the framework of this call for grants are suspended as a result of temporary incapacity for a period of at least three consecutive months, maternity or paternity, risks during breastfeeding of a minor under nine months, and adoption or fostering while the contract is in force, an application may be made to the Office of the Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral Studies for the interruption and/or extension of the grant for a period equivalent to that of the suspension of the contract.

11.2 The aforementioned suspension and/or extension must be authorised by the Office of the Vice-Rector for Research and Doctoral Studies, which may ask for the reports it deems appropriate.

11.3 When a suspension and/or an extension is authorised, the year during which the suspension takes place will be extended for a period identical to that of the suspension, for the purposes anticipated herein.

11.4 The suspension of the employment contract set forth by Article 45.1.a of the Workers' Statute will not be admitted while the contract is in force.

12. Appeals

An appeal can be lodged before the Contentious-Administrative Court of Castelló against this decision, which is the final administrative action that can be taken, within a period of two months following its publication, in accordance with Articles 8, 14 and 46 of Law 29/1998 of 23 July, regulating contentious-administrative jurisdiction. Optionally, an appeal for reversal may also be lodged before the Office of the Rector of the UJI, within a month following its publication or notification, in accordance with Articles 123 and 124 of Law 39/2015 of 1 October, regulating common administrative procedures of public agencies. In that case, a contentious-administrative appeal may not be lodged until there is a specific decision or dismissal of the appeal for reversal. All the above is without prejudice to any other appeals that may be lodged if deemed appropriate.