

1. Call Opening

1.1. Introduction

The *Biomedical Research Institute of Lleida - Fundació Dr. Pifarré (IRBLleida)* is pleased to announce the launch of its second call for junior postdoctoral researcher contracts.

1.2. Summary

The objective of this action is to attract talented junior postdoctoral researchers who can contribute to strengthening the capacities of the research groups at IRBLleida.

2. Call Description

2.1. Scope

The work to be carried out by the beneficiaries during the grant will be framed within the research lines of the research group that hosts the postdoctoral researchers.

2.2. Funding & Payment

Up to two contracts will be awarded for hiring post-doctoral researchers for a maximum period of two years.

Each grant will consist of €25,000 per year, intended to cover the gross salary of the beneficiary. In addition, IRBLleida will cover the corresponding amount of company Social Security for the two years.

2.3. Duration & Important Dates

The start date of the two-year contracts will be between September 2024 and January 2025. The salary (and social security costs) associated with these contracts can be supplemented by the hosting research groups if funds are available.

Call Opening: May 8th 2024

Call Deadline: May 31st 2024

Estimated provisional award decision: July 2024

Estimated final award decision: July 2024

3. Candidates profile

3.1. Eligibility

Requirements of the candidates are:

- Have a doctorate in biomedical or experimental sciences that allow them to carry out the tasks set out in the workplan in the research group of choice at IRBLeida.
- The doctoral degree of the candidates must be obtained after 1st January 2022. This deadline can be extended as detailed in Annex I.
- Candidates cannot have previously obtained external postdoctoral grants from programs such as Juan de la Cierva, Sara Borrell, Beatriu de Pinós, or similar.
- A minimum of two publications in the first quartile, or one publication in the first decile where the candidate is listed as the first or corresponding author, is required to apply for these positions.

3.2. Incompatibility

Each candidate may submit a single application linked to a principal investigator (PI) from any of the IRBLeida research groups. A principal investigator (PIs) may only support a single application to this call.

These grants require full-time commitment and are not compatible with any other employment, except for teaching collaborations in university settings (maximum of 40h/year).

4. Application & Award Decision

4.1. Proposal Submission

The required documentation must be submitted through the link provided for this purpose on the IRBLeida website in the intramural calls section (<https://www.irbllleida.org/es/convocatorias-intramurales/>).

To formalize their application, the candidates will have to submit:

- Completed and signed application form (available on the IRBLeida website, in the research section – intramural calls). A summary of the scientific background of the last five years (or extensions as described in Annex I) of both the candidate and the responsible PI must be provided in the standardized format available on the IRBLeida website.
- CV of the candidate and of the hosting PI (CVA FECYT format).
- Document certifying possession of a doctoral degree.

- A letter from the hosting PI endorsing the candidate's proposal, acknowledging the terms and evaluation criteria of this call, and confirming the availability of the resources required for the successful execution of the candidate's work plan.
- Supporting documentation (certificate of the host institution in the international mobility).

4.2. Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated by the IRBLeida Internal Scientific Evaluation Commission (CIAC), which will issue a reasoned report with the corresponding score for each of the candidates.

IRBLeida has adhered to the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) with the conviction that we are at an optimal moment to move towards a new culture of evaluation of research activity in all its diversity. These criteria will be applied during CVA evaluation.

Criteria	Definition		Points
Candidate Merits (last 5 years)	Publications DORA Criteria		50
	Mobility outside Lleida	Mobility 90 days or more: 3 points	10
		Mobility 180 days or more: 6 points Mobility 365 days or more: 10 points	
PI Merits (last 5 years)	Publications DORA Criteria		25
	Competitive Projects		10
	PI belongs to an emerging group, or the PI was born in 1979 or later		5
Maximum	Total sum		100

4.3. Award Decision

After completing the evaluation process, the CIAC will present a prioritization list to the director of IRBLeida (or designee), including the selected candidates and those placed on reserve. The director (or designee) will then issue a provisional funding decision detailing the selected candidates and prioritized reserves. After the provisional funding decision, applicants will have 5 working days to submit any possible allegations to the decision by sending an email to projects@irbllleida.cat. The allegations will be studied by the panel and a response will be given to the allegations within a maximum period of 10 business days. Once the allegations are resolved, the final funding decision will be made public.

Within one month of the publication of the final funding decision, the candidates selected must sign a document accepting the grant and stating the anticipated start

date. Failure to accept the position within this period will be considered a renouncement. Exceptions to the start date beyond January 2025 may be granted by IRBLeida management upon written request, subject to CIAC assessment. Any resignations post-acceptance must be notified to IRBLeida in writing (projects@irbllleida.cat). If the resignation occurs within the first six months of the contract, the next candidate not funded in the initial priority list with a score ≥ 75 points may assume the grant for the remaining duration.

5. Beneficiaries' obligations

5.1. Project Follow-up

Candidates must be affiliated (or requested to be affiliated) with the hosting research group at the time of accepting their position.

5.2. Project Outputs

To ensure appropriate protection of possible intellectual and/or industrial property derived from this action, the hosting PIs must inform the IRBLeida innovation office (innovacio@irbllleida.cat) about any communication and/or dissemination related with the work of the Postdoctoral fellows.

The hosting PIs are responsible for ensuring that the [guidelines](#) for the accurate identification of IRBLeida's scientific output are followed.

In any communication or publication arising from the research conducted under this grant, acknowledgment of IRBLeida's support must be included with the following statement: "(XXXXX held a junior postdoctoral fellowship IREP 2024 from IRBLeida)."

5.3. Final Reporting

A full report must be sent to the IRBLeida Projects Unit (projects@irbllleida.cat) within two months after the end of the grant. This report must include details of the scientific objectives achieved, as well as any publications and communications resulting from this action.

6. Other Clauses

Participation in this call implies full acceptance of the rules, both by the candidates and by the hosting PI. Failure to adhere to the rules or conditions outlined in the call may result in termination of the postdoctoral contract and/or a two-year suspension from future IREP call applications for the hosting PI. Additional clauses are:

6.1. Proposal Documentation Confidentiality

The documentation associated with the proposals will be treated as confidential information, being obliged to maintain the confidentiality of the information to all persons involved in the evaluation and assessment of the proposals, and may be used for informative and dissemination purposes, subject to the prior consent of the applicants.

6.2. Terms and Conditions, Industrial and Intellectual Property

The intellectual or industrial property and exploitation rights that may derive from the implementation of the granted idea will belong to IRBLleida, recognizing as authors or inventors the people who have conceived and implemented these ideas and applying the intellectual and industrial property regulations of IRBLleida.)

6.3. Personal Data Collection Purpose and Processing Information

Responsible party: Institut de Recerca Biomèdica de Lleida Fundació Dr. Pifarré (IRBLleida).

Purpose: Management of calls and, where appropriate, the awarding and delivery of the prize.

Legitimation: The legal basis of the processing is the carrying out of a selection process to provide financial support for research projects.

Addressees: The data will not be transferred to third parties, except in the legal obligations established by law.

Rights: Access, rectification, and deletion of data, as well as other rights, as explained in the additional information.

Additional information: You can consult additional and detailed information on Data Protection on our website <http://www.irblleida.org/en/legal-notice/>.

The data provided by applicants will be incorporated into the processing system owned by IRBLleida to manage and resolve the selection process, and will be processed in a lawful, fair, transparent, adequate, relevant, limited, accurate, and up-to-date manner in compliance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and Organic Law 3/2018, of 5 December (LOPDGDD). The legal basis for the processing of data is the fulfilment of a legal obligation on the part of the controller reinforced with the consent of the data subject.

This data must be kept for the period strictly necessary to fulfil the purpose, respecting in all cases the period determined by these rules and regulations governing the call for applications and the applicable archiving regulations.

Certain data may be communicated to third parties in the public or private sphere, either because the intervention of these entities during the aid management process may be necessary because it is correctly resolved, or because it is provided for in a regulation with the status of law.

As long as the interested party does not communicate otherwise, it will be understood that their details have not been modified and that they undertake to notify the IRBLleida of any variation.

Applicants may exercise their rights of access, rectification, limitation of processing, suppression, opposition to the processing of their data or exercise their right to portability by writing to IRBLleida (Avda. Rovira Roure, 80, 25198 Lleida), to the e-mail address protecciodedades@irbllleida.cat or to the IRBLleida's Data Protection Delegate, dpd@ticsalutsocial.cat. You must attach a photocopy of your ID card or sign the e-mail with a recognized electronic signature. In the event of disagreement with the processing, you also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Catalan Data Protection Authority.



7. Annexes

7.1. Annex I

Important aspects that will be evaluated in this call are inputs (funding, industry contracts, etc.) and outputs (publications, patents, etc.) of the candidates and hosting PIs during the last 5 years. This period of 5 years can be extended due to the following situations:

- Six months for each maternity/paternity leave
- Temporary incapacity during pregnancy for reasons related to it. An extension of the same duration as the sick leave will be accumulated to the extension included in section a).
- For temporary disability due to serious illness or accident of the applicant, with medical leave equal to or greater than three months, the extension period will be the same as the disability duration (certified with official leave).
- Care of people in a situation of dependency, in accordance with the provisions of the Law 39/2006, of December 14, on the Promotion of Personal Autonomy and Attention to people in a situation of dependency. An extension will be applied in weeks resulting from the number of weeks of activity as a non-professional caregiver.

All the leaves must be correctly credited at the time of filing the grant application.