

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE URV'S FUTURE
RESEARCHERS AWARDS FOR THE 2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR
(AFI2023)
Commission on Scientific Policy and Transfer - 9th of October, 2023**

1. Object

The Universitat Rovira i Virgili (URV), in collaboration with the Social Council, announces these awards with the aim of encouraging students interested in research and with a good academic record to undertake a doctoral thesis.

2. Beneficiaries

These awards are aimed at students registered for a university master's degree at the URV or any other university during the 2022-23 academic year or 2021-22 academic year who wish to continue their training during the 2023-24 academic year on one of the URV doctoral programmes specified in Annex 1.

The awards are also available to university graduates who, having previously passed the entrance exam onto a specialized health training course, have completed two years of a training programme leading to an official qualification in one of the health science specialities.

The awards are also available for candidates with a Spanish grade's degree of at least 300 ECTS credits, in agreement with the European regulations. These candidates will have to assist to research training courses, unless their grade's degree includes research training credits, which are equivalent in training value to those credits of a master's degree.

3. Requisites

Students who wish to apply for an award must:

- Be registered during the 2022-23 or 2021-22 academic years for a university master's degree or in a grade's degree of at least 300 ECTS or have completed a training programme leading to an official qualification in one of the health science specialities during the 2022-23 or 2021-22 academic years.
- Be able to meet the requirements for access to doctoral studies for the 2022-23 academic year.
- Have a minimum average grade of 7 on the academic transcripts of their university master's degrees (or Grade's degree of at least 300 ECTS), or the equivalent grade on the Spanish university grading scale if they completed

their master's degree abroad, or have been awarded a "high pass" if they have completed one of the health science specialities.

4. Award conditions

The award will cover the cost of academic tuition for the first academic year of the doctoral degree and for the three subsequent academic years (to be taken consecutively) provided that the beneficiary passes the annual doctoral programme evaluation. The beneficiary must begin the doctoral degree at latest in the 2023-24 academic year. The award will not include administrative fees or compulsory insurance, which must be paid by the student.

The number of awards is determined by the funds assigned by the University for this purpose. This will be specified in budget item 87.SB.00.04.00.

These awards are funded by a maximum amount of €30,000.00, of which €20,000.00 are contributed by the URV and €10,000.00 are contributed by the Social Council of the URV.

The number of awards on offer may be increased through other funds proposed by the academic committee of the doctoral programme provided that this is done in accordance with the procedure established for this purpose. This means that any doctoral programme can participate in these awards and can provide its own additional funds to increase the number of awards available, provided that these funds correspond to the amount specified in point 4 of these conditions.

5. Presentation of applications

Students who wish to apply for an award must present their application using the official template (see Annex 2). The application must be addressed to the Doctoral School.

The application form, duly completed and signed, must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- a) Students who have studied in a master's degree at the URV:
 - i. Curriculum vitae and documentation accrediting the qualifications and achievements specified therein.
- b) Students who have studied for an interuniversity master's degree at the URV but who registered at one of the other participating universities must provide copies of the following documentation:

- i. Curriculum Vitae and documentation accrediting the qualifications and achievements specified therein.
 - ii. Registration document(s) for the master's degree in the 2022-23 or 2021-22 academic year.
 - iii. Academic transcript showing the subjects that they studied, the grades awarded, the number of hours/credits for each subject and the final average grade.
- c) Students who have completed a master's degree at a Spanish university other than the URV must provide copies of the following documentation:
- i. Curriculum Vitae and documentation accrediting the qualifications and achievements specified therein.
 - ii. Registration document(s) for the master's degree in the 2022-23 or 2021-22 academic year.
 - iii. Academic transcript showing the subjects that they studied, the grades awarded, the number of hours/credits for each subject and the final average grade.
- d) Students who have completed a master's degree at a foreign university must present:
- i. Curriculum Vitae and documentation accrediting the qualifications and achievements specified therein.
 - ii. Registration document(s) for the master's degree in the 2022-23 or 2021-22 academic year.
 - iii. The "Declaration of grade equivalence" issued by the ANECA. This document may be requested by following the procedure described at: <https://www.educacionyfp.gob.es/servicios-al-ciudadano/catalogo/gestion-titulos/estudios-universitarios/titulos-extranjeros/equivalencia-notas-medias.html> . The declaration must be accompanied by the original academic transcript or attested copy of the original academic transcript and the corresponding translation, if necessary.
- e) Students who have completed a grade's degree with at least 300 ECTS or have specialized in a complete health training course leading to an official qualification in one of the health science specialities a foreign university must present:
- i. Curriculum Vitae and documentation accrediting the qualifications and achievements specified therein.
 - ii. Registration document(s) for the master's degree in the 2022-23 or 2021-22 academic year.

- iii. Academic transcript showing the subjects that they studied, the grades awarded, the number of hours/credits for each subject and the final average grade or a certified document of the health training course.

The period for presenting the application is from 18th until 31th of October 2022.

In the event that there are vacant or desert grants, a second period will be opened to submit applications from 12th of December to 20th of January 2023.

The application form and the documentation must be presented to the General Registry of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili (c/ de l'Escorxador, s/n, post code 43003, Tarragona) or at any of the auxiliary registries of the URV. The locations and opening hours of the URV's General Registry and auxiliary registries can be found at <https://seuelectronica.urv.cat/registre.html>.

The application form and the documentation may also be presented via the URV's Online Registry provided the student has the necessary valid certificates. For more information on these certificates, go directly to the URV's Online Office at <https://seuelectronica.urv.cat/certificats.html>. To access the URV's Online Registry, go to <https://seu-e.cat/ca/web/urv/tramits-i-gestions>.

Finally, the documentation may be presented in accordance with article 16 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, regarding Public Administrations and the Common Administrative Procedure. In this case it is recommended contacting futurs.investigadors@urv.cat notifying of this procedure of sending.

If the documentation is not presented within the specified period it will not be taken into account when the application is evaluated.

6. Selection procedure

The Doctoral School will publish the provisional list of candidates who have been admitted or excluded by 4th of November 2023 at the latest. Once the provisional list has been published, candidates will have 10 working days to make any necessary amendments to their applications. After the ten days have expired and by 18th of November 2022 at the latest, the definitive list of admitted and excluded candidates will be published.

The Doctoral School will provide the academic committees of the university doctoral degrees (CAD) with the documentation of the candidates who have been admitted.

Each CAD will establish the criteria and scales that it will use to prioritise the candidates. The CAD will evaluate the documentation and will present a list, in order of priority, of the candidates who they propose as beneficiaries. These lists will be presented using the official form provided for this purpose. The CAD will evaluate the candidates on the basis of the following criteria.

- The student's academic transcript for the master's degree (or grade's degree with at least 300 ECTS). The student must have obtained an average grade of 7 or above, or the equivalent grade on the Spanish university grading scale if they completed their master's degree abroad, or have been awarded a "high pass" if they have completed one of the health science specialities.
- Specific merits of the student.
- The relevance of the thesis project within the lines of research of the doctoral programme.

In parallel to this, from 18th of October 2022, candidates must pre-register for their preferred URV doctoral programme and attend an interview with the programme coordinator. The coordinator will assess the suitability of each candidate and the likelihood of being able to assign them to a thesis supervisor in accordance with the candidate's research interests.

After the candidates have been interviewed and before 30th of November 2022, each CAD will provide the Postgraduate and Doctoral School with a list, in order of priority, of the candidates who they propose as beneficiaries of the awards and details of the criteria and scales used to prioritise the candidates. These proposals will be evaluated by the Management Committee of the Doctoral School (CDE).

7. Resolution of the selection process

The CDE will analyse the proposals presented by each of the CAD and, on the basis of this analysis, will assign the Future Researcher Awards in accordance with the number of awards available and the numbers of candidates proposed for each doctoral programme.

The CDE may propose that some or all of the proposals are rejected and that the awards are not awarded.

The final assignation of awards will be published on the website of the Doctoral School on 1st of December 2022:

<http://www.doctor.urv.cat/doctorands/matricula-ayudas-y-becas/ajudes-i-premis/>
(doctoral awards website)

Once the final assignation of the awards has been published, the successful candidates will have ten calendar days to confirm whether they wish to accept the award or not. To do this, they must use the template in Annex 3. If confirmation from the successful candidate is not received within this period, it will be understood that they do not wish to receive the award.

Should candidates wish to do so, they can appeal against this resolution to the rector of the URV within one month of the day after the decision is published on the website

of the Doctoral School. This does not affect their right to lodge any other type of appeal.

In the event that some grants remains deserted or vacant, and a second application submission period opens, the selection and resolution procedure will be the same. It following the calendar indicated in point 13 of this call.

8. Payment of the award

When registering for the doctoral degree, the beneficiaries will be exempt from paying the academic tuition fees. This exemption will be applied annually. The student will still have to pay all other fees.

The Doctoral School will transfer the amount corresponding to the academic tuition fees to the Academic Management Service for the 2023-24 academic year and the four consecutive academic years. The student will only have to pay the corresponding administrative fees and compulsory insurance and for any bridging courses, if the latter have been stipulated by the doctoral coordinator. If the student have had already paid the tuition fees for the registration in the doctoral programme at the moment of the resolution of this call, this amount will be returned to the student and the AFI call will pay the tuition fees.

9. Obligations of the beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of the awards must register for the doctoral programme in the 2023-24 academic year and within the ordinary registration period (see the schedule indicated in point 13 of these conditions).

As doctoral students they must meet the academic requirements stipulated by the Academic and Matriculation Regulations governing Doctoral Degrees.

At the end of each academic year students must receive a pass grade for their Doctoral Student Activities Document and Research Plans in order to receive the award for the subsequent academic year.

The beneficiaries must sign the publications derived from the doctoral thesis in the name of the URV. In addition, the beneficiaries must acknowledge in the doctoral thesis the support received, as well as in the publications derived from the doctoral thesis.

10. Termination

Students who fail to comply with these requirements or who falsify any information will have their award terminated and will be required to repay all money received up that point.

11. Incompatibilities

This award is incompatible with any other grant or award that has similar characteristics or that is intended for the same purpose. It is also incompatible with any other grant or award to undertake activities that, in the opinion of the Office of the Vice-Rector responsible for research, would prevent the student concerned from dedicating himself/herself exclusively to the doctoral degree. This provision does not include mobility grants to enable the student to travel to seminars and conferences or to undertake research visits at other institutions because such grants are considered complementary to the student's doctoral studies and are intended solely for the purposes of student mobility. These awards are incompatible with any other grant for trainee predoctoral researchers or any other grants or awards aimed at doctoral training.

Students who are beneficiaries of another grant or award with the same characteristics or of a grant or award that prevents them from dedicating themselves exclusively to their doctoral studies must renounce their Future Researcher Award in writing. If it comes to the URV's attention that a beneficiary has failed to renounce an award to which they are not entitled, the URV will take all necessary measures to recover all money paid.

Any other potential case of incompatibility that is not covered by the present conditions will be evaluated and resolved by the Office of the Vice-Rector responsible for research.


12. Additional provision

It is the responsibility of the CDE to interpret the regulations governing these awards. If there exist discrepancies between the English and the Catalan version of this call, the Catalan version will prevail.

AFI Awards are conditioned to the approval of the Consell Social for the corresponding funding before the first awards resolution.

13. Calendar

The schedule for the Future Researcher Awards is as follows:


 ESCOLA DE DOCTORAT
 Universitat Rovira i Virgili
 Approval of the call for applications for the Future Research Awards (CPCT)

17th of October 2023

Dissemination of the call for applications via the internet, information sent to the coordinators

From 10th of October 2023

Presentation of applications

From 16th to 31th of October 2023

From 11 of December to 19th of January 2024

Publication of the provisional list of applications

3rd of November 2023

29th of January 2024

Period for making amendments to applications (10 calendar days)

Until 17th November 2023

Fins 12nd of February 2024

Publication of the definitive list of applications

21st November 2023

Until 13rd of February 2024

Pre-registration and interview with the coordinator of the doctoral programme at the URV

From 10th October to 3rd November 2023

From 19th of January to 16th of February 2024

Presentation of the prioritised lists of candidates by the CAD to the Doctoral School

From 22nd to 24th of November 2023

From 19th to 23rd of February 2024

Evaluation of the CAD reports by the CDE

27th of November 2023

28th of February 2024

Publication of the list of successful candidates

29th of November 2023

29th of February 2024

Period for beneficiaries to renounce or withdraw from awards

Fins el 13th of December 2023

Until 14th of March 2024

Deadline for registration on the doctoral programme

Until 19th of December 2023; Until 22nd of March out of term enrolment (paying fee).

Until 22nd of March 2024; Until 14th of June out of term enrolment (paying fee).

ANNEX 1

**DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES PARTICIPATING IN THE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
FOR THE FUTURE RESEARCHERS AWARDS OF THE URV 2022-23**

Doctoral programme	Awards
Anthropology and Communication	4
Classic Archeology	4
City, Territory and Sustainable Planning	2
Economy and Business	1
Nursing and Health	1
Nanoscience, Materials and Chemical Engineering	1
Neuroscience	1
Quaternary and Prehistory	1
Health, Psychology and Psychiatry	4
Social Work	2
Tourism and Leisure	1
TOTAL	22

ANNEX 2
APPLICATIONS FOR URV FUTURE RESEARCHERS AWARDS 2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR

PERSONAL INFORMATION			
Name:		First surname:	Second surname:
Identity card/Passport number:		Address for written correspondence:	
Post code	Town/City of residence:	Country:	Telephone:
Email:			

I STATE
<p>That during the 2021-22 or 2022-23 academic year, I completed a university master's degree (or any other title specified in this call) at</p> <p>That during the 2023-24 academic year I meet the requirements to be admitted onto the doctoral programme:</p> <p>Brief summary of the candidate's doctoral thesis proposal:</p> <p>Full name of the supervisor of the proposed doctoral thesis:</p> <p>Reasons for pursuing a doctoral programme at the URV:</p>

I REQUEST
A Future Researcher Award for the doctoral programme in:

_____ 20__

[Signature of the interested party]

In compliance with Article 5 of Organic Law 15/1999, of 13 December, on Personal Data Protection, we inform you that the data provided by you will be stored and handled in a file for the purpose of administering and processing the applications for these awards. The individual responsible for this file is the General Manager of the Universitat Rovira i Virgili, who is based in Tarragona at Carrer de L'Escorxador, s/n. Under the existing law, you have the right to access, rectify and, if necessary, remove your data and to appeal against their being handled. To exercise this right, you must submit a written request addressed to the Academic Management Service either in person to the Registry of the URV at Carrer de l'Excorsador, s/n - 43003 Tarragona, or online at <https://seuelectronica.urv.cat/registre.html>

ANNEX 3
ACCEPTANCE OF THE FUTURE RESEARCHER AWARD
2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR

I, [Full name], with identity card/passport number [...], accept the 2023-24 Future Researcher Award for the doctoral programme in [...] at the Universitat Rovira i Virgili.

I understand the conditions of the 2023-24 Future Researcher Award and I agree to:

- Present all the access and admissions documentation within the period specified by the 2023-24 Academic and Registration Regulations governing Doctoral Studies (NAM).
- Register full-time for each academic year within the period specified by the 2023-24 NAM until I have defended my thesis.
- Register for the doctoral programme before the corresponding deadline.
- Complete the training activities offered by the doctoral programme.
- Inform the Postgraduate and Doctoral School if I am awarded any other grant or award.

I also agree to return to the URV any money that I may receive from the Future Researcher Award if I fail to comply with any of the present conditions, abandon my studies, or do not pass the evaluation by the academic committee of the doctoral programme.

_____, _____ 20_

[Signature of the interested party]

Send a scanned copy to futurs.investigadors@urv.cat by 13th December 2023 (for the awards given during the first resolution) or by 14th of March 2024 (for the awards given during the second resolution) and present the original to the department that supports the doctoral programme for which you have registered so that the department can send it onto the Doctoral School. In the case you sign with a valid digital certificate, the pdf you sent is the original document.

ANNEX 4
WITHDRAWAL OF THE FUTURE RESEARCHER AWARD
2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR

I, [Full name], with identity card/passport number [...], withdraw the 2023-24 call Future Researcher Award for the doctoral programme in [...] at the Universitat Rovira i Virgili.

The reasons for this withdrawal are:

I also agree to pay to the URV all registration fees that I was exempted to pay due to this grants programme, in the case the Doctoral School it is necessary after this withdrawal is evaluated.

_____, _____ 20__

[Signature of the interested party]

Send a scanned copy to futurs.investigadors@urv.cat at any moment while you are the beneficiary of this grant and present the original to the department that supports the doctoral programme for which you have registered so that the department can send it onto the Doctoral School. In the case you sign with a valid digital certificate, the pdf you sent is the original document. The Doctoral School will evaluate the reasons of this withdrawal, and may require, if appropriate, you to pay all the registration fees previously covered by this call.