

RESOLUTION REU/3320/2024, of 16 September, approving the rules governing the Joan Oró Grants for the recruitment of predoctoral researchers in training in Catalonia (FI) for the year 2025.

Law 7/2001, of 31 May 2001 (DOGC no. 3407 of 12.6.2001), created the Agència de Gestió d'Ajuts Universitaris i de Recerca (Agency for the Management of University and Research Grants —hereinafter “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.

It is AGAUR's responsibility to implement grant, loan and subsidy programmes, as well as 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 115/2022, 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, regarding 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 887/2006, of 21 July 2006, approving the regulations of the aforementioned Law 38/2003, of 17 November 2003, on general subsidies, shall all apply.

Law 9/2022, of 21 December 2022, on science shall also apply.

Law 19/2014, of 29 December 2014, on transparency, access to public information and good governance; Decree 8/2021, of 9 February 2021, on transparency and the right of access to public information; Law 17/2015, of 21 July 2015, on the effective equality of women and men; Law 19/2020, of 30 December 2020, on equal treatment and non-discrimination; and Law 11/2014, of 10 October 2014, to guarantee the rights of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgenders and intersex persons and to eradicate homophobia, biphobia and transphobia shall all apply.

Order VEH/79/2020, of 9 June 2020 amending Order ECO/172/2015, of 3 June 2015, on the forms of subsidy justification, shall also apply.

In addition, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities shall apply, in accordance with Decision 2010/48/EC of the Council of the European Union.

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (2016/C 202/02) of 7 June 2016 shall also apply.

Regulation (EU, Euratom) no. 2020/2093 of the Council, of 17 December 2020, establishing the multi-annual financial framework for the period 2021-2027 shall also apply.

Regulation (EU) no. 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 24 June 2021, establishing the common provisions relating to the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and to the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund, as well as the financial rules for these Funds and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Financial Support Instrument for Border Management and the Visa Policy shall apply.

Likewise, regulation (EU) no. 2021/1057 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 24 June 2021, relating to the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and repealing Regulation (EC) no. 1296/2013 of the Council shall apply.

Order TES/106/2024, of 8 February 2024, establishing the eligible expenses under the European Social Fund Plus during the 2021-2027 period shall also apply.

Finally, all other regulations for the period 2021-2027 established in the framework of the Program of the European Social Fund Plus of Catalonia 2021-2027 (CCI 2021ES05SFPR011) approved through the European Commission's Executive Decision of 15 December 2022 shall 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 and deciding on calls for grants and subsidies. These powers have been delegated to the Executive Committee for Research Grants or the President of such committee, according to the Agreement of the Board of Directors of 28 April 2022 (Resolution REU/1421/2022, of 10 May 2022, DOGC No. 8668, of 16.5.2022).

Now, therefore,

it is hereby resolved:

Sole Article

To approve the rules governing the Joan Oró Grants for the recruitment of predoctoral researchers in training (FI), the conditions of which appear in the Appendix to this Resolution.

Derogatory Provision

Resolution REU/3056/2023, of 5 December 2023, approving the rules governing the Joan Oró Grants for the recruitment of predoctoral researchers in the science and technology system of Catalonia (FI), opened through Resolution REU/3156/2023, of 13 January 2023, which will, however, maintain its effects until the grants awarded in the framework of the corresponding call have been processed.

Final Provision

An appeal for reconsideration may be lodged with the President of the Executive Committee for Research Grants (CEAR) against this Resolution, which exhausts administrative channels, within one month of the day following publication of the Resolution in the *Official Gazette of the Government of Catalonia* (DOGC), in accordance with the provisions of Articles 123 and 124 of Law 29/2015, of 1 October 2015, on the common administrative procedure for public administrations. An appeal for judicial review may also be lodged directly with the administrative courts of Barcelona, within two months of the day following publication in the DOGC, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 8, 14 and 46 of Law 29/1998, of 13 July 1998, regulating judicial review.

Barcelona,

p. p. (Resolution REU/1421/2022, of 10 May 2022, DOGC No. 8668, of 16.5.2022)

Joan Gómez Pallarès

President of the Executive Committee for Research Grants

Appendix

I Preamble

The Joan Oró predoctoral grants for the recruitment of predoctoral researchers in training (FI), together with the FI SDUR predoctoral grants programme, are integrated into the Strategic Grants Plan of the Ministry of Research and Universities of the Government of Catalonia for the period 2022-2025 (PES22-25_REU0057), to enhance

research, innovation and the transfer of knowledge to place Catalonia at the level of the most advanced countries, promoting research as the backbone of the country. Together with the FI SDUR predoctoral grants programme, this programme facilitates access to doctoral studies within the Catalan research system for the completion of a high-quality doctoral thesis that contributes to the training and professionalisation of researchers. In this way, the Government of Catalonia proposes to strengthen the Catalan research and development system, encouraging international mobility, intersectorality and the attraction of researchers with potential, giving them the opportunity to start their professional careers in any scientific field. Following the agreements of the National Pact for the Knowledge Society (PN@SC), these specific programmes for the recruitment of researchers contribute to strengthening the attraction and retention of talent in the knowledge system. They also help to overcome the limitations and improve the progression of qualified researchers with merits that can be approved by international standards.

The two predoctoral programmes mentioned above are co-financed by the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) and align with the political priorities of the European Union to build a greener, more digital and resilient Europe. At the same time, they are aligned with the EU's strategic research objectives established in Horizon Europe, promoting ethical, responsible and innovative research that considers the transfer of knowledge, the applicability of research and the social, economic and scientific impact of the research developed. Therefore, in accordance with what is established in article 73 of Law 9/2022, of 21 December 2022, on science, the promotion of research managed by AGAUR takes into account European guidelines, plans and programmes and contributes directly to shaping the European Research Area.

In order to promote the European Commission's recommendations and good practices regarding the recruitment of researchers, this programme also aims to promote that the institutions receiving the aid take due account of the principles and general requirements of the European Researcher Charter and of the Code of Conduct for the recruitment of researchers, especially ensuring the correct implementation of a continuous training plan and professional development aligned with the European Competence Framework for research staff.

On the other hand, this Joan Oró grant programme for the recruitment of staff in training encourages lifelong learning and promotes high-quality continuing education and training, based on inclusion and equal opportunities, to provide researchers with the qualifications and abilities necessary for meaningful participation in a democratic and intercultural society and to successfully manage the transition to the work market. At the same time, the programme pursues the same general objective of the Marie

Skłodowska-Curie d'Horitzó Europa actions, as it promotes the training of innovative researchers capable of facing current and future challenges and turning knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit, while providing transversal skills that offer professionalisation prospects, both in academic and non-academic fields, with a perspective of international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral mobility oriented towards innovation.

II. Recruitment Grants

—1 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of these rules is to regulate the Joan Oró Grants for the recruitment of predoctoral researchers in training to carry out doctoral studies within the Catalan university system. These grants must contribute to promoting the training and research activity of the hired researchers and to increase their qualification and professionalisation during the initial phases of their research career, and thus strengthen the generation and transfer of research knowledge.

1.2 The subsidised action corresponds to the recruitment of predoctoral researchers in training through the specific contract type provided for in Law 14/2011, of 1 June 2011, on science, technology and innovation, and in Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March 2019, approving the Statute of predoctoral researchers in training, or in the current applicable regulations.

1.3 Taking into account the recommendations of the European Commission and the European strategic goals to move towards a greener, more digital, resilient and fair socio-economic model, the doctoral theses of the researchers in training subject to these grants must be aligned with the objectives and strategic orientations for transformative and responsible research and innovation, as defined by the Horizon Europe programme and, in particular, with some of the thematic areas of intervention defined by the Strategic Plan 2025-2027, which can be found at <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/6abcc8e7-e685-11ee-8b2b-01aa75ed71a1>. Therefore, and with the aim of improving its effectiveness, at least 60% of the grants shall be directed to priority areas of science aligned with those that have been identified at the European level, such as the green economy and the digital world. These include priority areas 4 (digital and industrial side), 5 and 6 of the Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy 2021-2027, and an additional 20% shall address the priority areas established by the Strategy for the Intelligent Specialisation of Catalonia RIS3CAT 2030.

To guarantee these percentages of alignment with the priority areas of science identified at the European level, all applications submitted for these grants must select the thematic area of intervention that best suits the proposed research and justify its relevance.

1.4 The grants derived from this resolution that are co-financed by the European Union within the framework of the 2021-2027 European Social Fund Plus Programme of Catalonia (CCI 2021ES05SFPR011) approved through the European Commission's Executive Decision of 15 December 2022 will contribute to achieving the following specific objective, provided for in Regulation (EU) 2021/1057 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 24 June 2021, establishing the ESF+ and repealing Regulation (EU) no. 1296/2013: promote equal access for all, in particular for disadvantaged groups, to quality, non-segregated and inclusive education and training from early childhood education and care, by means of general and vocational education and training to tertiary level, as well as by means of adult education and learning, and facilitate learning mobility for all and accessibility for persons with disabilities.

—2 Beneficiary Entities

2.1 The public and private universities of the Catalan university system, research centres, hospital foundations and the Unique Scientific and Technical Infrastructures (ICTS) can benefit from these grants.

Science and technology parks, technology activity support centres and technology dissemination centres are excluded from these rules.

2.2 To obtain the status of aid beneficiary entities, applicant entities must have operational headquarters in Catalonia and meet the general requirements and conditions established by Article 13 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November 2003, on subsidies, and those described below:

- Comply with tax obligations to the Government of Spain and the Government of Catalonia, as well as with Social Security obligations. This compliance must be maintained throughout the process.
- Submit a statement on whether other public or private grants have been requested or obtained for the same activity and state the detailed relationship with the granting entity and the amount requested or obtained.

- Duly justify the grants and subsidies previously granted at the expense of the budgets of the Government of Catalonia.
- Have the administrative, financial and operational capacity to fulfil the obligations provided for in these rules.
- If the activity covered by the grant uses any element likely to generate copyright, comply with the regulations on intellectual property rights.
- If the beneficiary has workplaces, it must comply with language policy regulations by displaying at least in Catalan the signs and fixed information containing text that must be displayed inside workplaces for the people who work there.
- If the beneficiary has centres and establishments open to the public, it must comply with language policy regulations by assisting consumers in any of the official languages of Catalonia and by writing at least in Catalan the signs and fixed general information posters and the documents offering services for users and consumers in establishments open to the public.
- For companies with 50 or more employees, comply with the legal quota for the reservation of positions in the company's workforce provided for in Article 42.1 of the consolidated text of the General Law on People with Disabilities and their Social Inclusion, approved by Royal Legislative Decree 1/2013, of 29 November 2013, or the exceptional alternative measures provided for by Royal Decree 364/2005, of 8 April 2005 , and by Decree 86/2015, of 2 June 2015.
- For entities with a workforce of 25 people or more, comply with the obligation, in agreement with social partners, to indicate the means they use to prevent and detect cases of sexual harassment and gender-based harassment and to take action. Such entities must also have protocols for dealing with and preventing sexual and gender-based harassment, in accordance with Law 5/2008, of 24 April 2008, on the right of women to eradicate gender-based violence.
- Never have been subject to final administrative sanctions or final convictions for having engaged in or tolerated gender discriminatory work practices, in accordance with the provisions of Law 17/2015, of 21 July 2015, on effective equality between women and men.

- In the event that the entity has a workforce of more than 50 people, it must have an equality plan in place, in accordance with Organic Law 3/2007, of 22 March 2007, for the effective equality between women and men.
- Comply with the terms of Law 19/2020, of 30 December 2020, on equal treatment and non-discrimination and, therefore, not promote inequalities on any of the grounds referred to in Article 1 of the aforementioned law and adopt measures aimed at avoiding actions or behaviour that may violate the dignity of individuals and free development and expression, without any kind of discrimination of one's own personality and personal abilities.
- Use language in a way that is non-sexist, non-stereotypical and non-androcentric, that takes diversity into account, that is respectful, non-classist, non-racist, non-xenophobic and non-LGBT-phobic, that avoids any discriminatory image of women or sexist stereotypes, and that promotes values of equality, balanced presence, diversity and co-responsibility.
- Not commit, incite or promote acts of LGBT-phobia.
- Be registered in the census of the tax on economic activities or in the corresponding register wherever required.
- Foundations and associations must have adapted their Statutes to Law 5/2011, of 19 July 2011, amending Law 4/2008, of 24 April 2008, on the third book of the Civil Code of Catalonia, relating to legal persons.
- Foundations must have submitted their annual accounts to the Protectorate.
- Where applicable, beneficiary entities must have an organisation and management system for the prevention of occupational hazards, in accordance with Law 31/1995, of 8 November 1995, on the prevention of occupational hazards, and the regulations that implement it.
- Respect the principles of equality between men and women, equal opportunities and non-discrimination, accessibility and sustainable development and take into account the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, in accordance with Articles 9 and 73 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, and Articles 3, 6 and 28 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1057.

- Entities benefiting from public aid must adopt ethically exemplary behaviour, refrain from engaging in, encouraging, suggesting or promoting any corrupt practices and bring to the attention of the competent bodies any manifestation of such practices which, in their opinion, is present or may affect the procedure. In particular, they shall refrain from any action that may violate the principles of equal opportunity and free competition. In general, they must assume the following obligations:
 - Observe the principles, rules and ethical standards specific to the activities, trades or professions eligible for the grant or public aid.
 - Not carry out actions that put the public interest at risk.
 - Report irregular situations that may arise in calls for subsidies or aid or in the processes derived from these calls.
 - Immediately notify AGAUR of possible situations of conflict of interest.
 - Not request, directly or indirectly, that a public official or employee influence the award decision.
 - Not offer or facilitate personal or material advantages to public officials or public servants, neither for themselves nor for third parties with the intention of influencing the grant awarding procedure.
 - Cooperate with AGAUR in the actions it carries out for the monitoring and assessment of compliance with the obligations established in these rules and the call for applications, particularly by providing the information requested for these purposes related to the receipt of public funds.
 - Comply with the obligations to provide information imposed on awardees by transparency regulations, without prejudice to compliance with the transparency obligations applicable to them directly by legal provision, in the cases established in Article 3 of the Catalan Transparency Act.

In the event of non-compliance with the ethical principles and rules of conduct, the sanctions regime provided for in Law 19/2014, of 29 December 2014, and the sanctions provided for in Article 84 as regards beneficiaries of public aid shall be applicable, without prejudice to other possible consequences provided for in the current legislation on subsidies.

These requirements must be evidenced by the corresponding declaration or affidavit, which must be included in the application form.

- Only provide the personal data of third parties when it is strictly necessary to achieve the required purpose and, in case of providing them, inform the third parties of the purpose and treatment of their data in the terms provided for by the current regulations.

Compliance with the general requirements and conditions described above must be proven by signing the responsible declaration that includes the confirmation of the

requests submitted by the entity's legal representative in accordance with Rule 6.1 of Section II of the Appendix to this resolution.

The submission of the declaration or certificate of responsibility as part of an administrative procedure entitles the competent body to verify the conformity of the data contained or declared in it, in accordance with Article 35.3 of Law 26/2010, of 3 August 2010, on the legal regime and the procedure of the public administrations of Catalonia.

—3 Requirements for Candidates and Thesis Supervisors for Newly Awarded Grants

3.1 When submitting the application, candidates must meet the following requirements:

a) Fulfil any of the following conditions:

- i. Having completed undergraduate studies within the European area of higher education.
- ii. Have completed or are currently completing master's studies within the European higher education area.
- iii. Be admitted or enrolled within a doctoral programme of the university system of Catalonia.

b) Having completed undergraduate studies or equivalent qualification and crediting a minimum average grade on the academic record equal to or higher than 6.50 (scale from 0 to 10). This grade must be calculated in accordance with the criteria specified in Royal Decree 1125/2003, of 5 September 2003, which establishes the European credit system and the grading system for official university degrees and validity throughout the national territory.

If the studies have been completed abroad, the average grade of the academic file must be calculated in accordance with the provisions of the current resolutions of the Ministry of Universities on the equivalence of average grades https://universidades.sede.gob.es/pagina/index/directorio/Equivalencia_notas_medias/language/ca_ES.

c) Not appear in more than one application. Each candidate can submit only one application.

d) Not be in possession of a doctorate.

e) Not have enjoyed, in previous calls, any aid for the recruitment of predoctoral researchers in training (FI) or any grant for the recruitment of predoctoral researchers in training in university departments of the university system of Catalonia (END SDUR)

f) Not have enjoyed for more than six months any other specific contract for predoctoral research personnel in training.

3.2 Candidates must also meet the requirements relating to the date of completion of the studies that give access to the doctorate and the requirements relating to the date of registration for the doctorate established by the corresponding call for applications.

3.3 The thesis supervisors of grant candidates can only be listed as such in one application. Candidates who have different thesis co-supervisors can only enter one person's information when submitting the application, This person shall be the only thesis supervisor for the purposes established in these rules, and must meet the following requirements:

- a) Be listed as a thesis supervisor in only one application.
- b) Have a statutory, employment or affiliation agreement with the entity benefiting from the grant.

This link to the beneficiary entity must sufficiently guarantee the supervision and follow-up of the candidate's doctoral thesis during the three years of the grant. For the purpose of these rules, part-time staff, staff on leave, visiting professors and emeritus professors are considered not to meet this requirement.

- c) Be the principal investigator or a member of a competitive research project, or a research or knowledge transfer contract or agreement. In the case of research or knowledge transfer agreements or contracts, these must have a minimum value of 24,000.00 euros. The projects, contracts or agreements must be in force or already awarded when the application is submitted. Projects with a provisional positive award decision will be considered as awarded, as long as this is ratified with a final award decision.

For the purposes of these rules, grants to support research groups recognised by the Government of Catalonia or grants whose object is the recruitment of researchers are not considered competitive research projects.

- d) Be part of a recognised research group within the framework of the call for grants to support the scientific activity of research groups in Catalonia (SGR-Cat 2021).

3.4 It is up to the host institutions of the grant and AGAUR to verify and document that the applicants and thesis supervisors meet the above requirements.

—4 Execution Period

4.1 The recruitment grants have a duration of one year and can be renewed for a maximum of two more years, in accordance with the provisions of these rules and the corresponding calls for applications.

However, pursuant to Article 6 of Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March 2019, approving the Statute of predoctoral researchers in training, or the current regulations, when the

grant contract has been awarded to a person with a disability, the grant may reach a maximum duration of six years, taking into account the characteristics of the research activity and the degree of limitations in the performance of the activity. For these purposes, persons with disabilities are considered those provided for in the revised text of the General Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and their Social Inclusion, approved by Royal Legislative Decree 1/2013, of 29 November 2013.

4.2 Contracts financed with these grants must start on the first day of the month and within the maximum period provided for in the corresponding call for applications.

4.3 In accordance with Article 21 of Law 14/2011, of 1 June 2011, on science, technology and innovation, and Article 6.2 of Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March 2019, which approves the Statute for predoctoral researchers in training, situations of temporary incapacity and periods dedicated to the enjoyment of full-time leave due to pregnancy, risk during pregnancy and breastfeeding, birth, maternity, paternity, adoption, custody for the purposes of adoption or family fostering, or breastfeeding accumulated to full-time working days, or for similar situations related to the above, as well as the enjoyment of full-time leave for reasons of work-life balance or care of minors, family members or dependents, and the time devoted to the enjoyment of leave to care for a child or a family member during the contract period, shall suspend the calculation of the contract and of the grant. The suspension shall also apply to the circumstance provided for in Article 45.1(n) of the consolidated text of the Workers' Statute as a measure for the protection of victims of gender-based violence. The contract and the grant shall also be suspended, for a maximum period of four months, in the event of a claim for breach of duties against the thesis supervisor, under the conditions established in Article 6 of Royal Decree 103 /2019.

The periods of time dedicated to the enjoyment of part-time leave due to birth, maternity, paternity, foster care for the purposes of adoption or family fostering, and the reduction of working hours due to breastfeeding, the birth of a premature child or hospitalisation after childbirth, legal custody, care of minors affected by cancer or serious illness, family members affected by an accident or serious illness or dependents, or due to gender-based violence, or reductions in working hours due to similar situations related to the above as well as reasons of work-life balance or care of minors, relatives or dependents during the term of the grant contract shall imply the extension of the contract for the time equivalent to the working hours that have been reduced.

If any of these situations occur, the beneficiary entity may extend the signed contract and request an extension of the execution period to recover the sum of the suspended periods.

The request for an extension must be submitted during the third year and before the end of the grant execution period, with proof of the different situations that have



occurred and the corresponding contract's addendum. The decision establishing the conditions of the extension will provide for the extension period of the time limit for the execution of the grant and, if applicable, the corresponding amount.

4.4 The grant may end due to all the causes for the termination of the contract type for predoctoral researchers in training established by Law 14/2011, of 1 June 2011, on science, technology, and innovation, and Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March 2019, approving the Statute for predoctoral researchers in training, or the current applicable regulations.

In accordance with Law 14/2011, of 1 June 2011, on science, technology and innovation, the contention of the doctoral degree implies the end of the training stage and the beginning of the postdoctoral stage, aimed at professional improvement and specialisation. From this moment on, the purpose of the grant contract shall be this postdoctoral orientation for a maximum period of 12 months, without exceeding in any case the duration of the grant established in these rules.

4.5 For the purpose of the co-financing of actions within the framework of the European Social Fund Plus 2021-2027 Programme, the execution period must be between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2028.

—5 Amount and Eligible Expenses

5.1 The eligible expenses of the grants are as follows:

a) The costs of hiring research staff.

To determine the grant amount to be awarded, an annual, monthly and daily financial module will be established.

A technical report, drawn up in this regard, will determine the type of module and the methodology to establish the amount, as well as the technical and financial variables that have been taken into account in its definition.

The amount of the financial module shall be set in the resolution of the call for applications once the corresponding annual update has been applied and the reference used to determine it.

All expenses shall be credited through the justification of the execution of the defined module and in accordance with the terms and conditions established in Rule 26 of Section II of these rules.

To determine the amount of the module, the following elements will be taken into consideration:

- The calculation of salary expenses for the recruitment of researchers will be determined by taking as a reference the remuneration established by Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March 2019, approving the Statute for predoctoral staff

in training and, specifically, the basic remuneration of Group 1 of the remuneration table that includes the IV Single Labour Agreement of the General Administration of the Spanish State in force at the time of publication of the call. In accordance with Article 7.1 of the Statute of predoctoral researchers in training, the predoctoral contract cannot be less than 56% of the salary set for the equivalent categories in the collective agreements in their area of application during the first two years, 60% during the third year and 75% during the fourth year.

- The calculation of the Social Security expenses paid by the contracting entity will be applied taking into account the applicable percentages regulated in orders PJC/51/2024, of 29 January 2024, and PJC/281 /2024, of 27 March 2024, developing the legal rules for Social Security contributions, unemployment, protection due to cessation of activity, Salary Guarantee Fund and professional training for the year 2024, and taking into account the provisions of Law 14/2011, of 1 June 2011.

- The calculation of the possible economic impact of leaves due to temporary incapacity, which have a direct impact on the cost assumed by the contracting entity concerning the worker, will be established by determining a correction factor based on statistical data of the National Institute of Social Security. This corrective factor shall take into account the three years prior to the year of execution in terms of the percentage of workers who are on leave from among the contracts in force annually and the average duration of days of temporary disability per worker on leave.

b) For contracts starting after 7 September 2022, the costs of compensation for termination of the contract at the end of the agreed time, with an amount equivalent to that provided for fixed-term contracts in Article 49 of the revised text of the Workers' Statute Act.

c) A complementary subsidy of 3,000.00 (three thousand) euros aimed at financing research stays and other training activities aimed at the achievement of necessary skills for the training and professionalisation of future doctors and which must be related, mainly, to the following objectives:

- Internationalisation activities: research stays, including stays related to obtaining the international doctorate mention, attendance at conferences and other actions to establish collaborations with research groups or entities in other countries. For this type of action, the following expenses are considered eligible: travel, accommodation, living and registration expenses and other expenses derived unequivocally from training activities, including travel medical insurance. For the calculation of accommodation and living expenses, the internal regulations of each entity shall apply.

- Transfer of knowledge and technology to the productive sector and society in general: specific courses and participation in activities aimed at acquiring knowledge, experience and skills related to the transfer of knowledge and research results outside the academic field to generate economic value.
- Professional training: training actions related to cross-cutting skills, such as project management, research data management, organisation, entrepreneurship, attracting competitive funding, research career, mentoring, research methods, etc.
- Training, development or implementation of responsible research and innovation principles: dissemination, research integrity, gender equality, citizen science, etc.

The grant amount cannot be used to purchase any kind of material or equipment, to pay for language courses or to cover the costs of publishing articles in scientific journals.

The activities must be carried out in their entirety during the term of the grant contract regulated by these rules, and their completion shall not entail the suspension nor the interruption of the employment agreement. Renunciation to or loss of the right to enjoy the Joan Oró FI Grant entails the corresponding loss of the right to enjoy this complementary grant.

d) The costs of the guidance, supervision and continuous assessment of the doctoral thesis during the term of the grant, in accordance with the decree setting the prices of academic services at the public universities of Catalonia and the Open University of Catalonia in force at the time the award decision is made. The expenses for the processing of the academic file are not eligible.

5.2 Eligible expenses are subject to the tax regime in force at the time of award and must meet the following requirements:

- a) Respond unequivocally to the nature of the subsidised activity, be strictly necessary and be carried out within the time limit and conditions established by these rules.
- b) Be committed during the period of execution of the subsidised activity and be fully paid at the time of the justification of the grant.
- c) Be verifiable. To this end, the beneficiary entities must keep evidence of the correct execution of the actions.

5.3 Under no circumstances are indirect taxes subject to recovery or offset, personal income taxes, interest owed on bank accounts and other financial expenses, interest, surcharges and administrative and criminal penalties, taxes and the costs of judicial proceedings considered eligible expenses. Contributions in kind are also not eligible, particularly those corresponding to internal expenses for the use of internal services,

which are justified by an invoice or equivalent document and which do not involve an effective outflow of funds.

5.4 Cash payments are regulated under Law 11/2021, of 9 July 2021. Consequently, the beneficiary entities cannot pay in cash for transactions in which one of the contracting parties is an entrepreneur or a professional and which involve an amount equal to or greater than 1,000.00 (one thousand) euros or its equivalent in foreign currency.

5.5 40% of the contractual expenditure will be co-financed, for a maximum of 36 monthly payments,

within the framework of the European Social Fund Plus Program (ESF+) of Catalonia 2021-2027, CCI2021ES05SFPR011, as part of Priority 3: Education and training, General objective 8 and Specific objective ESO4.6. The costs of compensation for termination of the contract at the end of the agreed time, the costs of guidance, supervision and continuous assessment of the thesis within the doctoral programme, the costs of the training activities, the annual extensions of the grant for the recruitment of disabled persons and contract extensions at the end of the third year of the grant shall not be subject to co-financing by the European Social Fund Plus, for the reasons set out in point 4.3 of these rules.

5.6 With regard to the European Social Fund Plus, expenses related to Article 16 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1057, of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 24 June 2021, are also not eligible.

—6 Requests and Documentation

6.1 Applications for new grants must be submitted electronically in two phases:

- First phase. Submission of the provisional application

Provisional applications must be submitted electronically by the candidate to the predoctoral contract through the Procedures section of the website of the Government of Catalonia, (<http://web.gencat.cat/ca/tramits/>) following the instructions provided therein. The use of the specific form is mandatory; therefore, failure to comply with this requirement will result in the application being deemed not to have been submitted, in accordance with Article 66.6 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October 2015.

In the event of interruption due to accidental circumstances of the operation of the electronic site, and whenever it is technically possible, the user who accesses it will see a message in which this circumstance is communicated. The message will also report the effects of this interruption in the calculation of deadlines. However, if an interruption occurs during the last day established for the execution of the corresponding procedure

and it is not technically possible for the user to view the mentioned message, this procedure can be carried out during the three following working days.

The provisional application consists of a general form in which the following must be detailed: the details of the candidate, the information of the university and the centre where the thesis shall be carried out, the enjoyment of other predoctoral grants (if applicable), the details of the thesis supervisor, the information of the research or transfer agreement or contract, and the priority areas and thematic areas of the research. Likewise, the following documentation must be attached, following the instructions on the form:

a) A standardised attached document that includes a short curriculum vitae of the candidate; a technical report with a summary of the training and research activities expected to be carried out during the three years of the grant; the expected scientific objectives and results; the expected applicability and transfer of knowledge, the possible social, economic and scientific impact of the research developed and its alignment with the thematic areas of intervention defined by the European Union. The model for this attached document shall be available on the AGAUR website during the application submission period.

b) The documentation allowing to identify the research project, or the research or knowledge transfer agreement or contract, to know the dates of award and validity, and to confirm that the thesis supervisor is a member or the principal investigator of the research project, as stated in Rule 3.3(c) of Section II of the Appendix of these rules. If this documentation is public, links to the corresponding website may be included in this document.

c) The academic files of undergraduate or equivalent studies and master's studies that give access to the doctorate. The academic files of the studies must include the date of award of the degree and the average grade, in accordance with the criteria specified by Royal Decree 1125/2003, of 5 September 2003. Candidates who have not yet completed their master's degree at the time of submitting their application must submit their updated provisional academic record.

d) In the case of studies completed outside the Spanish university system, declarations of equivalency of average grades calculated in accordance with the provisions of the current resolutions of the Ministry of Universities must also be submitted (https://universidades.sede.gob.es/pagina/index/directorio/Equivalencia_notas_medias/language/ca_ES >). If the academic file does not include a description of the

university's evaluation system, a document describing this system must be attached, specifying the maximum and minimum qualification, and the minimum grade to pass. For this call, candidates must formalise and submit declarations of equivalence of their average grade without the need for any official body to sign them.

e) Candidates who have not completed any of their studies within the European higher education area, must submit their admission or registration into a doctoral programme in the university system of Catalonia.

f) If applicable, a copy of the supporting documentation corresponding to the exceptional situations established in the call for applications.

g) Any additional documentation that may be required by the host institution of the grant. The host institution is responsible for making public the required documentation before the end of the deadline for submitting provisional applications. If an institution or entity requires additional documentation that it deems necessary to evaluate the applications, this documentation is also considered basic. Therefore, if it is not provided after the amendment period has passed, it can be understood that the person withdraws from the corresponding procedure.

The host institutions must check the data included in the form and the attached documentation and must notify the applicants of any need for amendments by publishing it on the entity's website or individually, in accordance with Law 39/2015, of 1 October 2015, and the rest of the applicable regulations.

Since this is a competitive procedure, no improvements to the applications shall be accepted after the application deadline. Therefore, the evaluation and ranking of the applications will be based exclusively on the information provided in the form and in the corresponding appendixes. If the standardised document has not been attached, is blank or is illegible, the ranking will be carried out based solely on the information provided in the initial submission period.

The amended documentation can be submitted using the procedure associated with an AGAUR file, which can be found on the website of the Government of Catalonia (<<https://agaur.gencat.cat/ca/beques-i-ajuts/convocatories-per-temes/Tramit-associat-a-un-expedient-AGAUR-aportacio-de-documentacio-i-altres-peticions/>>).

- Second phase. Confirmation of provisional applications

To access the second phase, the applicant entities must have previously signed the agreement for the processing of personal data in the framework of the calls for proposals managed by AGAUR and for access to its grant management application

(BOGA), according to the procedure that can be found on the AGAUR website (<http://agaur.gencat.cat/ca/lagaur/procediment-de-presentacio-de-persones-juridiques/>).

Once the deadline for submitting provisional applications has passed, a deadline will be opened for universities to access the AGAUR grant management application (BOGA) to confirm or reject the applications submitted by the candidates. To confirm the provisional application, the legal representatives of the entities must sign the confirmation document generated by BOGA and send the following documents to AGAUR by electronic registration, within the deadline established in the corresponding call:

- The confirmation document for submitted applications generated by BOGA.
- The supporting statement or the self-declaration on compliance with the requirements established by Rule 2 of Section II of the Appendix to these rules, as well as those derived from the application submission. In this sense, it is necessary to take into account the content of Article 28.7 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October 2015, which establishes that all interested parties are responsible for the veracity of the documents submitted.
- A list of the people involved in the process of review and ranking of the submitted applications and the declarations of absence of conflict of interest of these people in accordance with Article 61.3 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 18 July 2018, on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (EU Financial Regulation) and following the standardised models.

Both the self-declaration and the documentation related to the declaration of absence of conflict of interest can be found on the AGAUR website.

AGAUR and the host institutions of the grants may require, at any time during the processing of applications, the documentation it deems necessary to prove that the requirements provided for in the rules and the call for applications are met. Failure to provide the required documentation within the legally stipulated period may lead to the denial of the subsidy.

6.2 The submission of the application implies full acceptance of these rules.

In accordance with Article 28 of Law 39/2015, modified by the LOPDGDD, which guarantees beneficiaries the right not to provide documents that are already with the Agency for the Management of University and Research Grants (AGAUR) or have been prepared by any other administration, AGAUR will use, check or gather the documents and certificates that must be issued by other administrations or public entities, research centres, universities and, in particular, the Spanish Tax Management Agency (AEAT) or

any other administration, to verify the data necessary for the processing of the grant and to satisfactorily decide on the call for applications.

Likewise, AGAUR may access, through the Administrative Integration and Collaboration Platform (PICA in its Catalan acronym), the data on the doctoral theses carried out within the framework of these grants, including information on the tax ID of the author, the university and the centre that issued the degree, as well as the date of award of the degree. In the event of technical problems preventing or hindering the transfer of data, the documents may be requested from the relevant university.

If it is necessary to process the data of third parties associated with the applicant, the latter declares that other affected persons have also been informed of the conditions of this clause and that they are not opposed to the possibility of AGAUR processing their data in the terms set out herein.

In any case, the applicant, or the mentioned third parties, if applicable, can exercise the right of objection to this processing (*GDPR, Article 21*) for the stated purpose, for reasons related to a particular situation, as the legal basis of this processing is a legal obligation / the exercise of public power / a public interest mission.

Inaccuracies, falsehoods or essential omissions in any information or document included in the grant application or in a self-declaration shall render the procedure null and void as soon as they become known and with the prior hearing of the interested party. Consequently, this shall lead to the rejection of the grant application, without prejudice to the possibility of revoking the grant, if they become known after the award of the grant.

6.3 The rest of the procedures related to this grant that the different universities must carry out, must be done through the different electronic records enabled for this purpose, such as those on the EACAT platform or the procedure associated with an AGAUR file (<https://agaur.gencat.cat/ca/beques-i-ajuts/convocatories-per-temes/Tramit-associat-a-un-expedient-AGAUR-aportacio-de-documentacio-i-altres-peticions/>).

-7 Personal Data

The data provided by the applicants will be incorporated into the processing system owned by AGAUR with the aim of managing and awarding the grant in accordance with what is set out in these rules and will be treated in a lawful, loyal, transparent, adequate, relevant, limited, accurate and updated manner, in compliance with the provisions of

Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5 (LOPDGDD in Catalan). The legal basis for the processing of the data is the fulfilment of a legal obligation by the controller reinforced with the consent of the data subject.

These data must be kept for the period of time strictly necessary to fulfil the aforementioned purpose, always respecting the provisions of the rules governing the call for applications and the applicable data storage regulations. AGAUR certifies that it has implemented the technical and organisational measures contained in Regulation (EU) 2016/679 to guarantee the security and integrity of the personal data included in the files and to avoid their alteration, loss and unauthorised processing or access.

AGAUR must disclose the applicant's data to the Catalan Ministry of Research and Universities so that it can exercise its power to control the management of AGAUR as an entity attached to this Ministry. Certain data may also be communicated to third parties in the public or private sector, either because the intervention of these entities during the grant management process may be necessary for it to be resolved correctly, or because it is a compliance requirement of the law.

Unless otherwise specified by the interested party, it will be understood that their data have not been modified and that they undertake to notify AGAUR of any modifications. Applicants can exercise their rights of access, rectification, restriction of processing, erasure, portability and objection to the processing of their data by writing to the AGAUR registry (Passeig Lluís Companys, 23, 08010 Barcelona), to the email address lopd.agaur@gencat.cat or to the Data Protection Officer of AGAUR, Global Legal Data SL (carrer Tuset, 23-25, 08006 Barcelona). Data subjects must attach a photocopy of their ID or sign the email with a qualified electronic signature. In case of disagreement with the data processing, data subjects also have the right to file a claim with the Catalan Data Protection Authority.

—8 Application Submission Deadlines

The deadline for the submission of provisional applications by the candidates (first phase) and the deadline for confirmation of these applications by the host institutions of the grant (second phase) shall be provided for in the corresponding call.

—9 Evaluating Body and Decision-Making Body

The evaluating body is the Executive Director of AGAUR. The award decision corresponds to the Board of Directors of the AGAUR and, by delegation, to the CEAR or its president, according to the agreement of the Board of Directors of 28 April 2022 (Resolution REU/1421/2022, dated 10 May 2022, DOGC no. 8668, dated 16.5.2022).

—10 Grant Awarding Procedure

The grant is awarded on a competitive basis, in accordance with the assessment and selection procedures determined by these rules and with the prioritisation criteria established by the beneficiary entities. For the evaluation and ranking, only the documentation provided in the application shall be taken into account and, therefore, the hearing procedure shall be dispensed with, in accordance with article 24.4 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November 2003, on subsidies.

The persons who participate in the process of selecting the beneficiaries or in the processes of verifying compliance with the requirements must express the absence of conflict of interest, while signing the declaration of absence of conflict of corresponding interest, according to article 61.3 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 18 July 2018. In the event of a conflict of interest, the affected person must refrain from participating in these actions, in accordance with Article 23 of Law 40/2015, of 1 October 2015, on the legal regime of the public sector.

—11 Evaluation, Ranking and Selection

11.1 The host institutions of the grants must establish the prioritisation criteria to assess and prioritise the applications submitted within the framework of the corresponding call. The evaluation and prioritisation system shall be carried out within a scale of 0 to 10 points and in accordance with the following general criteria scales:

a) The weighted average grade of the candidate's academic record: 4 points.

Within this criterion, the weighted average mark of undergraduate studies or the equivalent qualification is 80%, and the weighted average mark of master's studies is 20%.

If the candidate, at the time of submitting the application, has not yet completed their master's studies or directly accesses the doctorate without needing to complete this stage, the weighted average grade of the undergraduate studies or the equivalent qualification is 100%.

If the candidate has completed more than one degree or equivalent study, only the weighted average grade of the education most closely related to the doctoral programme is taken into account.

In the same way, if the candidate has completed more than one master's degree, only the weighted average grade of the education used to access the doctorate is taken into account. These courses must meet the requirements set out in base 3.2 of section II of the annex to this resolution and the corresponding call.

Universities can establish a system for approving or weighting degree grades or equivalent and master's degrees.



b) Assessment of the training and research environment in which the candidate will integrate: 3 points The specific assessment criteria for this section must be established by the entities assigning the aid, and may take into account criteria related to the unit, the laboratory, the research group or the thesis supervisor.

c) Adaptation of the proposals to the objectives and scientific priorities defined by the entity or the department or the affiliated structural unit: 3 points The specific evaluation criteria in this section must also be established by the entities assigning the aid, and may take into account, among other aspects, the adaptation of the proposed thesis project to the strategic research lines of the entity, the department or the structural unit, the possible transfer of project knowledge and its applicability, the distribution of aid between different departments, units, groups or research projects or the curricular assessment of the candidate.

11.2 The affiliation entities must electronically send AGAUR the standardised document that contains the prioritisation system and the criteria that the entity intends to apply, including the approval system or weighting of university grades, so that AGAUR can validate that the respective prioritisation procedures are adapted to the requirements of these rules.

It is the responsibility of the affiliation entity to publicise its own prioritisation criteria before the end of the deadline for the submission of provisional applications (first phase of application submission), with the prior validation of AGAUR, and it must preserve evidence of this publication.

Similarly, it is the responsibility of this same entity to publicise, in a timely manner, the proposal for prioritising the requests received, so that the right of access to the information of the interested persons is guaranteed. This prioritisation proposal must be accompanied by explanatory information and the mechanisms and assessment criteria used, so that interested parties can present the relevant statements.

The final prioritisation, after the previously described objection period, must be entered into the AGAUR (BOGA) aid management application in accordance with the deadlines established by the corresponding call.

11.3 Prior to the awarding of the grants, an initial distribution of the number of grants is made for each of these three blocks: public universities; private universities and online universities; and research centres, hospital foundations and Unique Scientific and Technical Infrastructures (ICTS). This distribution is made taking into account, in an equivalent way, the number of doctoral theses read in the three academic years prior to the call publication year, obtained from official coordinating bodies, and the number

of grants for hiring predoctoral research staff in training (FI) awarded in the last three calls for each of the blocks.

11.4 Within each block, the grants for the different applicant entities are distributed in accordance with the following criteria:

a) To allocate the number of grants for the different public universities (University of Barcelona, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Universitat de Lleida, Universitat de Girona and Universitat Rovira and Virgili), the data referring to the evaluation indicators for the results in the field of R+D+I are taken into account for the variable funding by objectives and for the university research promotion fund (PROFOR) for the three years preceding the call publication year, facilitated by the General Directorate of Research.

b) To allocate the number of grants for the different private universities (Universitat Ramon Llull, Universitat de Vic-Universitat Central de Catalunya, Universitat Internacional de Catalunya and Universitat Abat Oliba CEU) and the online university (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya), the data referring to the number of doctoral theses read in the three academic years preceding the call publication year are taken into account, which is obtained from the cooperative information system for universities and research Catalonia (UNITE).

c) To allocate the number of grants for research centres, hospital foundations and Unique Scientific and Technical Infrastructures (ICTS), the R+D+I indicators referring to grants and recognitions are taken into account that are valid during the application submission year, and obtained from official coordinating bodies and from the centres themselves. The weight of these indicators is equivalent and is scored based on a division of the results by quartiles, provided that the result of the indicator is not equal to zero.

Specifically, the following indicators are taken into account:

- The number of doctoral theses read in the three academic years preceding the call publication year.
- The number of grants to excellent research staff awarded by the European Research Council (ERC).
- The number of projects coordinated within the EU's Research and Innovation Framework Programme.
- The number of contracts from the Catalan Institute for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA).

11.5 In order to increase the presence of women in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), particularly masculinised areas, priority will be given to applications submitted by women in these areas. More specifically, in the event of a tie in the results of the final prioritisations made by the different affiliation entities, priority

will be given to applications submitted by women in these scientific fields. In the same way, in the event of a tie in the allocation of the number of grants according to the criteria described in base 11.4 of section II, this same prioritisation of the requests submitted by women in these scientific fields, and the order of the final prioritisations made by the different affiliation entities will always be respected. If this prioritisation cannot be made taking into account the thematic areas affected, new information related to the complementary R+D+I indicators can be requested from the different entities.

11.6 2% of the total grants awarded is reserved for candidates with a degree disability equal to or greater than 33% certified by the assessment and guidance team of the attention centres for people with functional diversity of the Government of Catalonia or equivalent.

11.7 The Selection Committee is designated and appointed by the president of the CEAR and the General Directorate of Research. It is chaired by this person or the person to whom they delegate this task, and comprises a minimum of two members and a secretary, who is the executive director of AGAUR or the person to whom they delegate this task, who has a voice but no vote. This Committee, which can be attended by AGAUR technical staff, can receive advice from external bodies and experts. AGAUR must ensure gender parity in the Committee. The Commission proposes the beneficiary institutions and sets the number of grants awarded to each of the applicant entities, taking into account the criteria established by these rules and the prioritised list of applicants made by each institution.

11.8 The Selection Committee may propose a reserve list, duly prioritised, made up of applications that have not that have not been considered.

—12 Ethical principles

12.1 The actions funded under these rules shall respect the ethical principles and the applicable regulations at EU, Member State and international levels, including the Charter and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its additional protocols.

Special attention will be paid to the principle of proportionality, the right to privacy, the right to the protection of personal data, the right to physical and mental integrity of the person, the right to non-discrimination, the need to guarantee the protection of the environment as well as high levels of protection of human health.

All activities carried out outside the EU must comply with European legislation and applicable regulations in Catalonia, and under no circumstances the legislation of the destination country.

12.2 Funded activities shall focus exclusively on civilian applications and the following research fields shall not be funded: activities aimed at human cloning for reproductive purposes; activities aimed at modifying the genetic heritage of human beings that could make such changes heritable (except research related to the treatment of gonadal cancer, which may be funded); activities aimed at the creation of human embryos exclusively for research purposes or to acquire stem cells including through nuclear transfer of somatic cells that lead to the destruction of human embryos.

Researchers must complete an ethical self-assessment, included in the standardised annex, where they must declare if their research covers any of the fields described above.

12.3 Beneficiary entities that participate in the call must fill out a declaration of responsibility in which they state that the activities will comply with the published European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity and that research activities expressly excluded as described in point 12.2 of this regulatory basis. This statement shall be included in the acceptance documents provided for in bases 15 and 16 of section II of this resolution.

12.4 Where applicable, AGAUR may verify the ethical aspects of any funded project, activity or initiative. These verifications may be carried out with the support of external ethics experts.

12.5 The funded activities must comply with the principle of not causing significant damage to any of the six environmental objectives of Regulation (EU) 2020/852, of the European Parliament and of the Council, of June 18, 2020, relating to the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investments and which amends Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 (European Union Taxonomy Regulation).

Research and innovation activities that do not comply with ethics and integrity regulations, and are therefore not acceptable from an ethical point of view, will not be funded. The aid may also be revoked if, during the course of the project, systematic non-compliance with ethical aspects is verified.

—13 Processing and resolution

13.1 Prior to granting the aid, the examining body must decide on the inadmissibility or withdrawal of the application, which will be communicated to the interested party by

means of publication on the Electronic Board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>>).

Failure to comply with the non-amendable requirements or the application submission deadline established by these bases and the corresponding call will result in the application not being accepted.

Similarly, failure to submit any of the documents provided for in these bases or failure to amend the amendable requirements within ten working days and with the prior request will result in the withdrawal of the application.

13.2 When eligible applications exceed budget availability, the Selection Committee shall determine the allocation of funds, in accordance with the evaluation and prioritisation established in these rules.

13.3 Once it has seen the Minutes of the Selection Committee, the investigating body must formulate the final resolution proposal, which it will raise to the decision-making body.

The grant decisions must include, at least, the amount of the grant, the conditions that the beneficiary entity must meet, the deadline for executing and justifying the subsidised actions, and the origin of the funds with which the aid is financed.

The grant decisions will be communicated to the interested persons through their publication on the Electronic Board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>>). The award decision shall specify the appeals that may be lodged against it. The submission in the appeal phase of the documents required in the notice of amendments shall not be accepted.

13.4 In the case of actions that may be co-financed by the European Social Fund Plus, it is reported that, in accordance with article 49.3 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 24 June of 2021, the list of contracted researchers will be published on a single internet portal, with the data of the co-financed operations.

—14 Decision Deadline

14.1 The maximum legal deadline for resolving is six months from the day following 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.

14.2 In those periods in which the interested entities are required to submit amendments, additional documentation and other necessary elements, the passage of the maximum term to resolve and notify is suspended during the time that elapses between the notification of the request and its effective compliance by part of all recipient entities or during the period established in article 22.1.a) of Law 39/2015, of October 1, to fulfil the requirement.

The deadline can also be suspended if any of the other circumstances listed in the aforementioned Article 22 arise. Such suspension must be notified to the interested parties where required by law.

—15 Acceptance of the aid and accreditation of the hiring of the candidate

15.1 The acceptance of the aid and the accreditation of the hiring of the candidates must be formalised together using a standard form signed by the legal representative of the beneficiary entity. In this document, which can be found on AGAUR website (<<http://agaur.gencat.cat>>), there must be a list of hired researchers and the commitment to comply with these rules and the corresponding call.

The document must be submitted electronically within a maximum period of two months from the day after the start of the contract that is the subject of the aid, together with the following documentation:

- a) Copy of the candidate's national ID document (DNI or NIE).
- b) Copy of registration or acceptance of the doctoral programme, in accordance with the provisions of the corresponding call.
- c) Copy of the contract.
- d) Copy of the document from the General Treasury of the Social Security "Report on data for contributions / Employees on behalf of others" (IDC).
- e) In the case that the same candidate has previously benefited from an aid for the recruitment of research personnel in training, the accreditation of the corresponding resignation.
- f) Copy of the entity's deed of incorporation, the document certifying the powers and the identification document of the entity's legal representative. If this document has already been presented in previous calls, it is enough to submit a declaration indicating the date of presentation of the document and that it is still valid.
- g) In accordance with article 15.2 of Law 19/2013, of December 29, on transparency, access to public information and good governance, if the amount of aid granted is greater than 10,000 (ten thousand) euros, it is necessary to provide a statement of responsibility for the information relating to the remuneration of the management or administration bodies, for the purpose of making it public, in accordance with the corporate criteria that are adopted or, where appropriate, in accordance with the

corresponding regulatory development . This document can be replaced by a statement of responsibility from the entity's legal representative stating that this information is published on the entity's website under the terms and conditions established by Law 19/2013, of December 29, and the rest of the applicable regulations.

- Accreditation of the fact that a separate accounting system is in place or the supporting documents for expenditure have been assigned a common accounting code for the transactions related to the subsidised action. If this document has already been presented in previous calls, it is enough to submit a declaration indicating the date of presentation of the document and that it is still valid.

15.2 Beneficiary status is obtained at the moment the aid is accepted. It is understood that entities that have not submitted the acceptance document and the rest of the documentation within the deadline and under the conditions provided for by these rules and the corresponding call, without the need for prior request, tacitly waive the aid.

—16 Renewal of grants

16.1 The affiliation entities must submit applications to renew grants using the standard application form, according to the deadline established in the corresponding call.

This request must include the grant renewal proposal for all hired researchers who meet the following requirements:

a) They have been hired, in the first or second year, as part of the Joan Oró grant programme to hire research staff in training (FI) for the year 2024. Exceptionally, the beneficiary entities can also request the renewal of aid for the recruitment of disabled people who have enjoyed the third, fourth or fifth annual aid within the framework of this call, up to a maximum of six annuities and in accordance with what is established in base 4.1 of section II of the annex to the rules.

b) They are enrolled in a doctoral programme at a university in the university system of Catalonia for the current academic year at the time of submitting the renewal application.

c) They are not in possession of a doctoral degree.

Compliance with these requirements must be proven by means of a responsible declaration by the person representing the legal representative of the affiliation entity. In the event that the entity proposes not renewing a candidacy, it must properly explain the reasons for which it has taken this decision.

16.2 After the renewal resolution of the corresponding grant, the affiliation entity must accept the grant and certify the continuity of the researcher's contractual relationship by presenting the standardised document. This standardised document must be

submitted within two months of the start of the new annual period, and must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- a) A copy of the contract or of the contract addendum for the new annuity.
- b) A copy of the doctoral registration for the academic year according to that accredited in the Joan Oró aid programme framework for hiring research staff in training (FI) for the year 2024.

If, at the time of validating the renewal, the registration is not yet available, it must be submitted within one month of its becoming effective, according to the registration deadlines established by the corresponding university.

—17 Payment

17.1 The aid payment is made directly to the corresponding entities, without the need to present guarantees and as follows:

- a) The first payment, corresponding to 80% of the grant for the recruitment of research staff in training, is processed once the recruitment or renewal of the candidate has been accredited by the affiliation entity, in accordance with the provisions of these rules. The remaining 20% and the costs of compensation for termination of the contract due to the expiration of the agreed time are paid once the supporting documentation has been presented, in accordance with the provisions of base 26 of section II of the annex to this resolution.
- b) The payment of the supplementary aid of 3,000.00 (three thousand) euros is made directly to the beneficiary entities of the aid, once the hiring of the candidate has been certified in accordance with the provisions of these rules.
- c) The payment for the supervision, tutoring and continuous evaluation of the doctoral thesis is made directly to the universities where the beneficiaries of the aid are enrolled in the different doctoral programmes, after accrediting the additions of new concessions and the renewals of the grants, in accordance with the provisions of these rules.

17.2 In accordance with the provisions of article 24 of Law 5/2007, of July 4, on fiscal and financial measures, at the time of acceptance, and to make the payment of the aid, AGAUR must check ex officio if the beneficiary entity is aware of its tax and Social Security obligations. In the event that this check is not possible, AGAUR will require the beneficiary entities to provide positive certifications proving that they are aware of it.

—18 Rights and obligations of the parties

18.1 The beneficiary universities are obliged to comply with the terms established in these rules and in the corresponding call, and have the following duties:

- a) Comply with the objective and purpose of the aid, carry out the subsidised activity, justify it in the form and within the period established by base 26 of section II of the annex of these rules and inform AGAUR of any incident that occurs.
- b) Hire the full-time research staff under pre-doctoral contracts within the term established in the corresponding call and fulfil all the obligations provided for in Law 13/2011, of June 1, on science, technology and innovation, and Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 of March, which approves the Statute for pre-doctoral research staff in training, or of the regulations that are in force. Pre-doctoral contracts shall be governed by the aforementioned regulations and, in addition, by the revised text of the Workers' Statute Law, by the rest of the applicable labour legislation and by the applicable collective bargaining agreement.
- c) Assume any recruitment costs that exceed the amount of the grant for the module granted and adapt at all times the remuneration of pre-doctoral research staff in training to the minimum remuneration established by Royal Decree 103/2019, of March 1, by which the Statute of the pre-doctoral research staff in training is approved, assuming also the remunerative increases in the salaries of the research staff, the increases in the business Social Security contributions and the increases caused by any other circumstance or modification in the labour or legislative framework.
- d) Provide the hired person with the necessary collaboration and support and provide the necessary resources or equipment so that they can carry out their training and research activities.
- e) Not demand from the hired person any other activity that is not related to their training and research work.
- f) Ensure proper compliance with the provisions of Article 4 of Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March, which approves the Statute of pre-doctoral research staff in training in relation to collaboration in teaching tasks.
- g) Ensure the incompatibility regime.
- h) Comply with the obligations regulated by Articles 90 bis and 92 bis of the Consolidated Text of the Catalan Public Finance Act, approved by Legislative Decree 3/2002, of December 24.
- g) Retain the books, records and documents required to justify the aid received, including electronic documents, while they may be the subject of verification and control actions.
- j) Communicate to the body awarding the subsidy other subsidies requested or granted for the same purpose and any other alteration produced in those already communicated as soon as it is recorded and, in any case, before justifying the application of the funds received.
- k) Comply with the fundamental ethical principles established by base 12 of section II of the annex to this resolution, as well as good research practices based on the fundamental principles of integrity in research.

l) Align with the priorities of the European Research Area , the principles of the European Charter of the researcher and the Charter and Code of Conduct for the recruitment of research staff , and promote institutional measures aligned with the European initiative of the Human Resources Strategy for Research Personnel (HRS4R), promoting excellence in research, an attractive work environment and a framework of actions to support development professional research staff that includes:

- the application of open, transparent and merit-based recruitment
- the application of measures to enhance interdisciplinary research options and promote networking opportunities for research personnel in training, including international relations, within and outside the academic world.
- the provision, to senior research staff, of tools for training research staff, promoting good practices in the field of mentoring and promoting training that allows researchers to access industry and other cross-sectoral employment sectors.
- the provision to the researcher of a series of training activities aligned with the European Competence Framework for Researchers in the early stages of training (R1 and R2), in terms of both scientific and practical skills, which promote the development of transferable skills through transversal competences, such as teaching, mentoring and leadership activities, research management and entrepreneurship, as part of their development to contribute significantly to their professional career.
- the promotion of responsible and innovative research (RRI) with open access to publications and data management policies.

m) Provide all the information requested and submit to the inspection, verification and control actions that correspond to AGAUR, as well as to the control of economic and financial activity that corresponds to the General Intervention of the Catalan Government, the Audit Office or other competent bodies, both at the national and community levels, and provide all the information that is required of them in the exercise of the previous actions.

n) Comply with the obligations to provide the information that the transparency legislation imposes on the beneficiaries in relation to the Administration or the reference administrations, without prejudice to the compliance with the transparency obligations that pertain directly to them by legal provision, in the assumptions established by the corresponding sections of article 3 of Law 19/2013, of December 29, on transparency, access to public information and good governance.

o) Provide adequate publicity of the public nature of the financing and comply with the publicity and dissemination obligations and measures contained in base 22 of section II of the annex to this resolution.

p) Legal entities that may receive a grant of more than 10,000.00 euros must have communicated to the granting body, by means of a declaration of responsibility, the information relating to the remuneration of their management or administrative bodies, for the purpose of making it public whenever the grant awarded exceeds the amount of



10,000.00 euros, in compliance with Article 15.2 of Law 19/2013, of 29 December, on transparency, access to public information and good governance.

This document can be replaced by a statement of responsibility from the entity's legal representative stating that this information is published on the entity's website under the terms and conditions established by Law 19/2013, of December 29, and the rest of the applicable regulations.

q) Comply with the provisions of Law 17/2015, of July 21, on the effective equality of women and men.

r) In relation to the co-financing of the European Social Fund Plus:

- Retain all supporting documents, as well as any other documentation related to the grant awarded, for a period of five years from December 31 of the year in which the management authority makes the last payment to the beneficiary. The Public Employment Service of Catalonia (SOC) informs AGAUR of the start date of this period. The documents must be kept in their original format, as a certified copy of the original or as an electronic version of the original documents.

- Inform the research recipients of the aid with co-financing from the European Social Fund Plus through the ESF+ 2021-2027 Programme and of the incorporation of their personal data to AGAUR processing, so that they can exercise the rights recognised by data protection regulations.

- Provide the necessary data to obtain the performance and results indicators corresponding to the management of the grant received with the aim of complying with the certification or justification requirements of the European Social Fund Plus, in the manner established by the competent body.

- Maintain the traceability of all the technical and economic documentation that allows the correct performance of the activities that are the subject of this subsidy to be verified.

- Comply with the obligations to collect the participants' data and collaborate and provide all the documentation that is required of them during the exercise of the control and verification functions of the ESF+ Programme Audit Authority, the Management Authority and the Certification Authority —the administrative unit of the European Social Fund— of the European Commission and other bodies that, in accordance with community regulations, are assigned control and financial functions of the aid financed by the European Social Fund Plus.

- Verify compliance with the requirements by the participating persons in accordance with the characteristics of the programme and according to Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, on the protection of personal data and guarantee of digital rights, and Regulation (EU) 2016/679, of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 April 2016.

s) Comply with the other obligations established by the regulations in force regarding subsidies and the rules, as well as the corresponding call.

18.2 The contracted research staff is obliged to comply with the terms established by these rules and the corresponding call and has the following duties:

- a) Be enrolled in the doctoral programme of the course established in the corresponding call at the time of signing the contract subject to this grant.
- b) Join the affiliated university and fulfil the objectives and the work plan provided for in the application under the supervision of the thesis supervisor.
- c) Adhere to current labour legislation and the system and internal regulations of the university where the activities are carried out.
- d) Comply with the fundamental ethical principles established by base 12 of section II of the annex to this resolution, as well as good research practices based on the fundamental principles of integrity in research.
- e) Follow the principles of the European Charter for research staff of the European Commission.
- f) Request authorisation to carry out any research stay or activity that involves a prolonged absence from the workplace, in accordance with the internal regulations of each affiliation entity. These absences from the workplace may not exceed six months in any case. Neither can an absence of more than twelve months be accumulated in the total three years of the aid.
- g) Apply for access to supplementary aid for training activities, in accordance with the instructions provided by the beneficiary entities.
- h) Provide the participant's file and all the information requested and submit to the inspection, verification and control actions that may be undertaken by AGAUR and other competent bodies, in accordance with current regulations.

18.3 Thesis supervisors are obliged to comply with the terms established by these rules and the corresponding call and have the following duties:

- a) Plan and actively guide the research project of the thesis to ensure its formative, original and innovative character, enhancing the possible transfer of knowledge and the social, economic and scientific impact of the research developed.
- b) Supervise the progress and monitor the progress of the work plan and training activities, and ensure their viability and coherence in relation to the current lines of research and professional opportunities to which they are linked.
- c) Provide guidance, the necessary professional and scientific assistance and advice on professional development and the different professional itineraries or guarantee that the researcher has access to this support.
- d) Promote interdisciplinary research options and foster networking opportunities for research personnel in training, including international relations, both inside and outside the academic world.

e) See to the correct monitoring of the terms established in the rules of these grants and the corresponding call, and inform the affiliation entity and AGAUR of any incident that occurs.

f) Comply with the fundamental ethical principles as set out in base 12 of section II of the Annex to this resolution, as well as with good research practice based on the fundamental principles of research integrity.

—19 Waivers and Substitutions

19.1 Beneficiary entities may waive, fully or partially, only for justified reasons and in an express manner, the aid granted using the standardised waiver model that can be found on AGAUR website.

19.2 In the event that the entire grant is waived during the first three months following the day after the publication of the initial award decision, AGAUR's executive management may award the grant to candidates from the reserve list of the organisation in which the waiver was made. In the event that there is a partial waiver occurs or the waiver is submitted outside the term previously described, this waiver will not entail any substitution.

The resolutions by which the substitutions are granted must specify the conditions of the aid and the maximum period of incorporation of the candidates, which may go beyond the dates initially planned in the corresponding call. These resolutions must be communicated through their publication on the Electronic Board of the Government of Catalonia's Administration or individually to the interested entity, in accordance with the provisions of articles 40 and 41 of Law 39/2015, of October 1, of the common administrative procedure for public administrations.

19.3 If the contract is not formalised within the terms and conditions provided for in these rules and the corresponding call is considered a tacit waiver of the aid, without the need for prior request.

—20 Changes and incidents

20.1 At the request of the affiliation entity, the executive management of AGAUR can authorise duly motivated changes to the thesis supervisor or group of the affiliation entity, and can also resolve any incident that neither involves a substantial change in the conditions and purpose of the aid nor represents a breach of the requirements established by this resolution.

If a change of thesis supervisor is requested, the standardised model that can be found on AGAUR website must be used.

During the first year of the contract, only changes of the thesis supervisor due to force majeure will be accepted.

Changes of affiliation entity must be made at the time the annuity change occurs.

Changes which have not been communicated or which have not been accepted may lead to the total or partial reimbursement of the grant.

20.2 The contracted researcher must inform the competent body and request any changes that affect the development of their doctoral thesis or their work plan, in accordance with the internal regulations of the university where they undertake their research work. These changes must be reported in the supporting report in accordance with what is established in base 26.1 of section II of the annex of these rules.

—21 Incompatibilities

21.1 In accordance with European regulations, the expenses considered eligible by these rules may not be financed, in whole or in part, with any other aid from other EU funds, instruments or programmes.

The grants regulated by this resolution are also incompatible with any other aid financed with public or private funds for the same purpose and, in general, with any other salary that coincides with the timetable of the training and research activity or that may affect the development of the doctoral thesis.

21.2 The grants regulated by this resolution are compatible with other complementary salary payments from the development of professional or research activities that are of interest and are directly associated with the training and research objectives of the grant, including allowances for teaching tasks or allowances for research tasks. The affiliation entity must authorise these compatibilities and must notify AGAUR at the time they occur.

The aid is also compatible with grants from the beneficiary entities' own funds and with grants from other funding aimed at attending conferences, meetings or scientific conferences, research stays or other training activities.

21.3 The beneficiary entities must notify AGAUR if they obtain other subsidies or aid for the same purpose from other administrations or public bodies, either national or international, both when submitting the application and any time this situation occurs.

21.4 Beneficiary entities can increase the salary of contracted staff. This increase must be stated in the contract and must be undertaken in accordance with the labour legislation and with the collective agreements in force.

—22 Advertising

The entities and persons benefiting from this programme must fulfil the following obligations to appropriately publicise the public nature of the funding:

1. In all information, dissemination, institutional promotion and communication actions, whether with the media or through social media, including the website, it is necessary to include the corresponding logo of the Government of Catalonia and the emblem of the European Union, following the indications in the reference document issued by the Catalan Employment Service (SOC) (https://serveiocupacio.gencat.cat/web/.content/01_SOC/10_Identitat-corporativa-i-recursos-grafics/Documents_logos_2021/Accions-subvencions-subvencionades-pel-SOC.pdf).

As far as possible, actions disseminated through social networks should include these graphics. If this is not possible, the European Union flag should be included in the text of the post and the following hashtag should be used: #FonsUECat.

2. In all the documentation and material given to the beneficiaries of the aid or which form part of the funded actions, it is necessary to incorporate the graphic indicated above and include the following reference: "This action is promoted and subsidised by the Department of Research and Universities and co-financed by the European Social Fund Plus".

3. The following reference must be included in publications and in any dissemination or outreach activity carried out within the framework of the aid financed by this call: "With the support of the Joan Oró predoctoral aid programme of the Department of Research and Universities of the Government of Catalonia and co-financing from the European Social Fund Plus", also including the reference number of the file.

Where possible, the graphics listed above should also be incorporated into this material.

4. Adequate information about the funded grants, highlighting the European Social Fund Plus support, must be displayed in a visible place for the public, at least on a poster of A3 size or larger, on an electronic screen.

—23 Advertising of the grants awarded

In accordance with article 85 of the Agreement GOV/2016/28, of June , the subsidies will be made public for the general knowledge of the public by their display on the electronic board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html> >).

In accordance with article 19 of Law 2013/29, of December , on transparency, access to public information and good governance, subsidies must also be published on the Transparency Portal of the website of AGAUR.

—24 Open access to scientific results

Beneficiary entities and individual candidates contracted must provide open access to the scientific articles generated within the framework of the project financed by this aid, by depositing the final version accepted for publication and the data associated with these articles in institutional or thematic repositories, simultaneously with the publication date. In addition, open dissemination of all the results generated in the framework of the doctoral thesis (including research data, codes and methodologies), and management of the project data in accordance with international FAIR principles (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable data) are recommended

All of the above is compatible with the possibility of protecting, prior to scientific publication, the intellectual property rights of the research and innovation results, in accordance with national and European regulations.

—25 Subcontracting

Under no circumstances can the beneficiary entity subcontract the full or partial execution of the subsidised actions.

—26 Term and form of justification

26.1 Compliance with the subsidised actions related to the expenses incurred for the recruitment of research staff regulated by this resolution shall be justified through the module regime, in accordance with what is provided for in articles 69 and 76 to 79 of the Regulation of Law 38/2003, of November 17. In this sense, it is necessary to accredit the effective implementation of the action and the achievement of the results to which they are linked by means of the verification process established in base 29 of section II of the annex to these rules and the administrative verification of the supporting documentation of the indicators set out below.

The supporting documentation must be completed according to the standardised models that can be found on AGAUR website; it must be submitted electronically within a maximum period of two months from the moment the aid ends, regardless of the cause, and is as follows:

a) A technical report of the justified action signed by the contracted researcher and the thesis supervisor that must include a description of the training and research activities carried out during the aid period, the objectives and the scientific results achieved, the applicability and transfer of knowledge achieved, and the possible social, economic and scientific impact of the research developed. This report must also include a specific section that justifies the alignment of the thesis with the strategic orientations of the European Union.

b) An economic report justifying the cost of the contracts made, which must indicate, at least, the start date and the end date of each contract subject to the aid, the conditions of the contract, the number of physical units considered to be a module and quantification through the unit costs of each contract. This report must also include, where applicable, details of other income or subsidies that have financed the subsidised activity, with an indication of the amount and origin of the funding.

c) Additionally, the beneficiary universities must provide the information necessary to prepare the indicators required by the ESF+. It may be necessary, at any time, even once the action has been completed, to submit the data required to prepare the requisite indicators.

26.2 The settlement of the subsidy for recruitment costs cannot in any case exceed the amount of the subsidy initially granted and will be based on the duration of the contract of each researcher in training.

26.3 The justification of the compensation costs for terminating the contract due to the expiration of the agreed time must be made by presenting the payroll showing the settlement of this compensation and the corresponding proof of payment. This documentation must be submitted electronically, together with the rest of the supporting documentation, within a maximum period of two months from the moment the aid ends.

26.4 The beneficiary entities must justify the expenses incurred with the complementary aid for the implementation of the training activities within a maximum period of two months from the end of the last year of the Joan Oró aid. A classified list of the total expenditure incurred with the training grant for each researcher contracted must be submitted, identifying the concept, the creditor, the number of the invoice or document of equivalent probative value, the amount, the date of issue and, where applicable, the

date of payment. This statement of expenses must follow the standardised model and be signed by the entity's legal representative.

The beneficiary entities are responsible for gathering and retaining the supporting documentation, including invoices, proof of payment and documents certifying the completion of the training activity. Invoices and proof of expenditure can only be in the name of the contracted researcher or their centre of affiliation; if they are in the name of third parties, they cannot be the object of financing. This documentation may be required during control and verification functions exercised by AGAUR.

Lack of justification in the established terms will result in the opening of a non-compliance file, the resolution of which may cause the total or partial withdrawal of the aid and the obligation to return the corresponding amount.

26.5 The justification of the costs for supervision, tutoring and continuous evaluation of the doctoral thesis during the validity period of the aid will be accredited through the presentation of the registrations for the doctoral programme. The registration for the first academic year must be presented when certifying the incorporation of the contracted researcher, in accordance with that established in base 15.1 of section II of this resolution. Within two months of the end of the first and second year of the contract, the registration for the academic year in force during that year must be sent. In the event that the contract covered by the aid is in effect for more than three academic years, it will be necessary to present the additional registration together with the final supporting documentation described in section 26.1 of these rules, within a period of two months from the end of the aid.

26.6 Extensions of the justification period for the presented project are not accepted without prior justification, which must be accepted by the executive director of AGAUR. If an extension is requested, the request must be submitted at least fifteen days before the end of the initial justification period.

—27 Notifications

The decision on inadmissible and withdrawn applications and the final decision on the granting of aid are published on the Electronic Board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia. This notification supersedes the individual notification and has the same effect. For increased dissemination and for informational purposes, the result of the award decision can be consulted on AGAUR website.

In accordance with the provisions of Law 39/2015, of October 1, on the common administrative procedure of public administrations, any other administrative acts issued in relation to this procedure must be notified electronically. For these purposes, the address for notification purposes must be stated in the application form.

The notification is deemed given for all legal purposes at the time its contents are accessed. If, with evidence of the notification being made available, ten calendar days elapse without its content being accessed, it is understood that the notification has been rejected, unless ex officio or upon request of the recipient it is proven that the recipient was unable to access it.

Electronic means shall be used for other AGAUR communications that are not considered notifications. They shall be sent to the email address provided by the applicant in the application.

—28 Verification and Control

28.1 AGAUR is responsible for verifying compliance with the rules approved by this resolution and other applicable regulations. AGAUR may review grants already awarded, in particular the possibility of amending the award decision in the event that conditions are altered or other aid is obtained.

28.2 The beneficiary entities and the contracted researcher must provide all the information that the Government of Catalonia, Sindicatur de Comptes (Audit Office) and other competent bodies require, in accordance with the regulations of the Government of Catalonia on subsidies.

28.3 In relation to responsible declarations, these entail that the persons concerned and the beneficiary universities have the relevant documentation attesting to the declared data. If the authorities establish the inaccuracy or falsity of the data declared, this fact, after hearing the interested party, will lead to the corresponding procedure being cancelled. If this conduct qualifies as an infraction in the applicable legislation, it gives rise to the initiation of the appropriate disciplinary proceedings in accordance with the disciplinary regime referred to in the previous section.

—29 Verification of subsidised actions

The beneficiary entities and the recipients of the aid must submit to the administrative and on-site verification actions carried out by AGAUR, in accordance with its action plan for the verification of subsidies, and the actions of control carried out by the competent bodies of the regional, state and community administrations.

The purpose of the administrative checks is to verify the execution of the actions.

On-site verifications will be undertaken during the realisation of the subsidised action and aim to check its effective implementation and that the obligations of the recipients and the beneficiary entities are being fulfilled.

—30 Invalidity of the grant decision and refunding the amounts unduly received

The causes of invalidity of the award decision, and which entail the obligation to return the amounts received, are those established in Article 36 of Law 38/2003 of 17 November 2003 on general subsidies.

Likewise, the amounts received shall also be reimbursed and the corresponding interest for late payment shall be demanded from the time of payment of the aid until the date on which the reimbursement is agreed in the cases established in Article 37 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, on general subsidies, and Article 99 of Legislative Decree 3/2002, of 24 December, which approves the revised text of the Law on public finances of Catalonia.

—31 Revocation

Total or partial non-compliance with the requirements and obligations established by these rules and the rest of the applicable regulations, whether determined for the beneficiary entities or by the research recipients of the grants, gives rise to the opening of a file for non-compliance, the resolution of which may cause the total or partial revocation of the aid and the obligation to return the amount and the corresponding interest on arrears, taking into account the following criteria:

- a) In the event that a certain contract established in the award resolution is not formalised, the total amount of the grant will be revoked.
- b) In the event that the contracts subject to the aid end before the scheduled date and the cause is attributable to the beneficiary entity, this will entail the revocation of the total amount of the grant.
- c) In the event that the contracts that are the object of the aid end before the date initially planned or that resulting from the extension of the period of execution of the contract for the reasons set out in point 4.3 of the bases, and the termination occurs for reasons beyond the control of the entity, the amount equivalent to the part of the contract not executed will be revoked, taking into account the annual, monthly and daily economic modules provided for in the corresponding call.
- d) Failure to comply with all the obligations regarding funding publicity provided for in base 22 of section II of this resolution, relating to actions co-financed by the ESF + Programme of Catalonia 2021-2027, will lead to the partial revocation of 3% of the total amount granted under the provisions of article 50.3 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, of 24 June, of the European Parliament and of the Council (DOUE no. L 231 of 30 June 2021).

The subsidy is calculated for whole years, starting from the start date of the subsidised contract of each year and, in the event that the eligible year is not a whole year, the calculation of the subsidy is carried out by applying a monthly amount or a daily amount to the days of the contract, which is determined on the basis of the annual amount, dividing it by 12 months to establish the monthly amount or by 365 days to obtain the daily amount.

—32 Applicable Regulations

In all matters not provided for in these rules, beneficiary entities are subject to the provisions on subsidies in Chapter IX of the Consolidated Text of the Catalan Public Finances Act, approved by Legislative Decree 3/2002, of December 24, as well as basic regulations on subsidies and other applicable regulations.

NOTE: THE CATALAN CALL IS THE OFFICIAL VERSION

