

RESOLUTION REU/4085/2024, of 14 November, approving the regulations governing the Beatriu de Pinós (BP) Postdoctoral Fellowships.

Note: For legal purposes, the Catalan version is the official version.

Law 7/2001, of 31 May (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 referred to as "AGAUR" according to its Catalan acronym) as a public law entity whose actions are governed by private law, with its own legal personality, full capacity to act and its own assets for the fulfilment of its functions.

The Agency's mission is 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.

Article 73 of Law 9/2022, of 21 December, on Science (hereinafter referred to as the Catalan Science Act), states that AGAUR is a funding agency for the programmes and research promotion schemes entrusted to it, by the Government of Catalonia or other public entities, managing the financing of public funds intended for research in accordance with the principles of evaluation, efficiency, quality, publicity, transparency and objectivity; it guarantees accountability, facilitates the monitoring of actions and rationalises management, reducing administrative burdens.

AGAUR is attached to the Ministry of Research and Universities of the Government of Catalonia, in accordance with the provisions of Decree 115/2022, of 14 June, restructuring the Ministry of Research and Universities, and Decree 133/2024, of 11 August, creating, naming and defining the powers of the ministries that make up the Government and Administration of Catalonia.

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

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

Article 11 of the Agency's Statutes, approved by Decree 168/2002, of 11 June, of the Government of Catalonia, states that it is the responsibility of the Board of Directors to approve calls for grants and subsidies, as well as to award them. These powers have been delegated to the Executive Committee for Research Grants or to the President of this Committee, according to the Agreement of the Board of Directors of 28 April 2022 (Resolution REU/1421/2022, of 10 May, DOGC No. 8668, of 16.5.2022).

Now, therefore,

it is hereby resolved:

Sole Article

To approve the regulations governing the Beatriu de Pinós (BP) Postdoctoral Fellowships, the conditions of which are set out in the Annex to this Resolution.

Derogating Provision

Resolution REU/4244/2023, of 12 December, approving the regulations governing the Beatriu de Pinós (BP) Postdoctoral Fellowships for the integration of postdoctoral researchers into the Catalan science and technology system, opened by Resolution REU/136/2024, of 18 January, is repealed. However, it shall remain in force until the processing of the fellowships awarded under the corresponding call has been completed.

Final Provision

The following appeals may be brought against this Resolution, which exhausts all administrative remedies: an optional appeal for reconsideration to the President of the Executive Committee for Research Grants (CEAR in Catalan), within one month of the day following the publication of the Resolution in the Official Gazette of the Government of Catalonia (DOGC in Catalan), in accordance with the provisions of Articles 123 and 124 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations; or an appeal for judicial review before the Administrative Courts of Barcelona, within two months of the day following its publication in the DOGC, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 8, 14 and 46 of Law 29/1998, of 13 July, on Judicial Review.

Barcelona,

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

Joan Gómez Pallarès

President of the Executive Committee for Research Grants

ANNEX

I. Preamble

In line with the mission and ambitions of the Catalan Science Act, the Beatriu de Pinós Postdoctoral Fellowships are included in the Strategic Funding Plan of the Ministry of Research and Universities of the Government of Catalonia for the period 2022-2025, with the aim of promoting research, innovation and knowledge transfer, and fostering the structuring of the country through research.

According to the Catalan Agreement on the Knowledge Society (PN@SC in Catalan), the Government of Catalonia aims to strengthen the research system based on excellence in order to attract research talent and facilitate the incorporation of qualified personnel into the Catalan science and technology system. In this sense, the Beatriu de Pinós Fellowships contribute directly to the implementation of the European Research Area by aligning themselves with the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions of Horizon

Europe, encouraging international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary mobility. They provide opportunities for the most promising researchers to continue developing their professional careers. In addition, the fellowships provide the research groups of Catalan research institutions with the opportunity to strengthen the critical research mass of the country in each scientific field.

In this edition of the BP Fellowships, the definition of the evaluation criteria has been improved in order to strengthen AGAUR's commitment to the principles of the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA) and the best practices of the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). These principles, agreed upon at an international level, aim to recognise greater diversity in research careers, to base evaluation primarily on quality criteria and to use quantitative indicators wisely. In this regard, a broader narrative is allowed in the CVs of the applicant researchers, and the impact of the fellowships on the prospects of the applicants' research careers has greater relevance. At the same time, training in the key competences identified in the European Competence Framework for Researchers is enhanced.

II. Regulations

—1 Purpose

The purpose of these Regulations is to regulate the Beatriu de Pinós Postdoctoral Fellowships, through a competitive process, aimed at financing the recruitment and integration of postdoctoral researchers into the Catalan science and technology system.

—2 Beneficiary Entities

The universities of the Catalan university system, research centres, hospital foundations and the three main infrastructures of the Catalan research system can benefit from these grants: the Alba synchrotron of the CELLS Consortium, the MareNostrum supercomputer of the Barcelona Supercomputing Centre and the National Centre for Genomic Analysis. All beneficiary entities must have an operational headquarters in Catalonia.

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

—3 Requirements for Beneficiary Entities

In order to obtain the status of beneficiaries, the entities must meet the requirements and conditions set out in Article 13 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, on Subsidies, as well as the following requirements:

1. Where applicable, for subsidies exceeding 30,000 euros, natural and legal persons, with the exception of public for-profit entities, subject to Law 3/2004, of 29 December, establishing measures to combat non-payment in commercial operations, must certify, within 10 working days from the day following the notification of the provisional draft decision, or when it is required of them, that they comply with the payment terms established by the aforementioned Law, in accordance with what is established in Article 13.3.bis of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, on Subsidies.

2. Comply with their tax obligations to the Government of Spain and the Government of Catalonia, as well as with their Social Security obligations. This compliance must be maintained throughout the process.

3. Submit a declaration of whether other public or private grants have been applied for or obtained for the same activity, with details of the relationship with the awarding body and the amount applied for or received.

4. Duly justify the grants and subsidies previously received from the budgets of the Government of Catalonia.
5. Have the administrative, financial and operational capacity to fulfil the obligations laid down in these regulations.
6. If the activity covered by the subsidy makes use of any element likely to generate copyright, the beneficiary must comply with the regulations on intellectual property rights.
7. If the beneficiary has workplaces, it must comply with language policy regulations by displaying at least in Catalan the signs and fixed information containing texts that must be displayed inside the workplaces for the people who work there.
8. If the beneficiary has centres and establishments open to the public, it must comply with language policy regulations by offering services to consumers in any of the official languages of Catalonia and by displaying signs and fixed general information posters and documents offering services to users and consumers in establishments open to the public at least in Catalan.
9. For companies with 50 or more employees, comply with the legal quota for the reservation of positions in the company's workforce, as 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, or the exceptional alternative measures provided for by Royal Decree 364/2005, of 8 April, and by Decree 86/2015, of 2 June.
10. For entities with 25 or more employees, comply with the obligation to indicate, in agreement with social actors, the means they use to prevent, detect and take action in cases of sexual harassment and gender-based harassment. These 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.
11. Never have been the subject of 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, on Effective Equality between Women and Men.
12. If the entity has more than 50 employees, it must have an equality plan in place, in accordance with the provisions of Organic Law 3/2007, of 22 March, on Effective Equality between Women and Men.
13. Comply with the provisions of Law 19/2020, of 30 December, 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 behaviours that may violate the dignity of individuals, as well as their free development and expression, without any form of discrimination of their personality and personal abilities.
14. Use language in a way that is non-sexist, non-stereotypical and non-androcentric, respectful of diversity, non-classist, non-racist, non-xenophobic and non-LGBT-phobic, avoiding any discriminatory image of women or sexist stereotypes, and promoting values

of equality, balanced presence, diversity and co-responsibility.

15. Not commit, incite or promote acts of LGBT-phobia.

16. Be registered in the Census of the Tax on Economic Activities or in the corresponding register, wherever required.

17. Foundations and associations must have adapted their Statutes to Law 5/2011, of 19 July, amending Law 4/2008, of 24 April, on the Third Book of the Civil Code of Catalonia, relating to legal persons.

18. Foundations must have submitted their annual accounts to the Protectorate.

19. Where applicable, beneficiary entities must have an organisation and management system for the prevention of occupational risks, in accordance with Law 31/1995, of 8 November, on the Prevention of Occupational Risks, and its implementing regulations.

20. Entities benefiting from public aid must behave in an ethical and exemplary manner, refrain from engaging in, encouraging, proposing or promoting corrupt practices and bring to the attention of the competent authorities any manifestation of such practices which they consider to exist or which 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 undertake the following obligations:

- Respect the principles, rules and ethical standards specific to the activities, trades or professions eligible for the fellowship or public subsidy.
- Not engage in any activity that could jeopardise the public interest.
- Report any irregular situation that may arise in the context of calls for grants or subsidies, or in the processes derived from these calls.
- Immediately notify AGAUR of any possible situation of conflict of interest.
- Not directly or indirectly ask a public official or employee to influence the award decision.
- Not offer or facilitate personal or material advantages to public officials or public servants, either for themselves or for third parties, with the intention of influencing the grant award process.
- Cooperate with AGAUR in its activities to monitor and assess compliance with the obligations laid down in these regulations and the call for applications, particularly by providing the information requested for these purposes regarding the receipt of public funds.
- Comply with the information obligations imposed on the beneficiaries by transparency regulations, without prejudice to compliance with the transparency obligations directly applicable to them by law, 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 shall apply, as well as the sanctions provided for in Article 84 with regard to beneficiaries of public aid, without prejudice to other possible consequences provided for in the applicable legislation on subsidies.

These requirements must be evidenced by a declaration or affidavit included in the application form.

21. Not disclose the personal data of third parties unless it is strictly necessary to achieve the required purpose and, in the event of disclosing them, inform the third parties of the purpose and treatment of their data in the terms provided for by the regulations in force.

Compliance with these requirements shall be evidenced by the signing of the declaration or certificate of responsibility, which shall include the confirmation of the requests made by the entity's legal representative, in accordance with Regulation 10 of this Resolution. The submission of a 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 therein, in accordance with Article 35.3 of Law 26/2010, of 3 August, on the Legal Regime and Procedures of the Public Administrations of Catalonia.

—4 Candidates

4.1 Candidates of all nationalities must meet the following requirements:

- a) Have obtained their doctorate between the dates specified in the relevant call (the date of obtaining the doctorate is understood to be the date of reading and approval of the thesis).
- b) Have at least 2 years of postdoctoral experience outside Spain at the closing date for submission of applications (first phase). This postdoctoral experience, regardless of the type of affiliation, may have been carried out in different institutions, as long as the total postdoctoral stay is at least 2 years.
- c) Fulfil the following mobility rule: not have resided in Spain for more than 12 months during the last 3 years prior to the closing date for submission of applications. The mobility rule is also not met if candidates have worked in Spain for more than 12 months during the last 3 years prior to the closing date for submission of applications. In the case of organisations that are considered extraterritorial for these purposes by virtue of an agreement applicable in Spain, applicants may not have worked at the institution for more than 12 months during the last 3 years prior to the closing date for submission of applications. In the case of refugee researchers, the mobility rule applies from the date of obtaining official recognition as a refugee under the 1951 Geneva Convention.

4.2 One of the fellowships is reserved for candidates with a degree of disability equal to or greater than 33%, issued by the assessment and guidance team of the centres for people with functional diversity of the Government of Catalonia or equivalent. In the event that no one applies for this fellowship, it will be reallocated seeking a balanced distribution by field of expertise on the basis of the applications received.

Persons wishing to apply for this fellowship must state this and provide the supporting documentation when requested by AGAUR. If this documentation is written in a language other than Catalan, Spanish or English, it must also be accompanied by a sworn translation into one of these languages. If candidates do not provide proof of their degree of disability, their application will be considered as ordinary. Persons applying for this fellowship must meet the requirements set out in Section 4.1 of these Regulations.

4.3 Candidates who have already benefited (fully or partially) from a Beatriu de Pinós fellowship are not eligible to apply in a new call for applications.

—5 Persons Responsible for the Application

The persons responsible for the application must meet the following requirements by the closing date for submission of applications:

Have a statutory or employment affiliation or membership agreement with the beneficiary entity. This affiliation must guarantee the supervision of the candidate during the three years of the fellowship.

For the purposes of these Regulations, part-time staff, staff on leave, visiting professors and emeritus professors are not considered to fulfil this requirement.

—6 Execution Period

6.1 The duration of the fellowships awarded is 3 years.

6.2 The beneficiary entities must recruit the candidate and formalise the contract in accordance with the relevant regulations in force within the period between the date of publication of the award decision on the Electronic Board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>>) and the date provided for in the relevant call. Only in exceptional and duly justified cases may the President of the CEAR authorise a postponement of the recruitment date, provided that the request is made before the end of this period.

6.3 Failure to sign the corresponding contract within the period between the date of publication of the award decision on the Electronic Board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>>) and the recruitment deadline will be considered as a tacit renunciation of the grant awarded, with the exception provided for in the previous section, and without the need for a prior request.

—7 Suspensions

In the event of a suspension of the calculation of the duration of the contract due to situations of temporary incapacity and the enjoyment of full-time leave due to pregnancy, risk during pregnancy and breastfeeding, birth, maternity, paternity, adoption, guardianship for the purposes of adoption or foster care, or breastfeeding leave accumulated to full working days, or for similar situations related to the above, as well as the enjoyment of full-time leave for reasons of reconciliation to care for minors, family members or dependants, and the time spent on leave to care for a child or family member during the term of the contract, as well as the situation provided for in Article 45.1(n) of the Consolidated Text of the Workers' Statute Act as a measure to protect women who are victims of gender-based violence, the beneficiary entities may request the recovery of the suspension period.

Periods 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 for breastfeeding, the birth of a premature baby or hospitalisation after childbirth, legal custody, caring for a minor suffering from cancer or serious illness, family members affected by an accident or serious illness or dependants, or due to gender-based violence, or reductions in working hours due to similar situations related to the above, as well as for reasons of work-life balance or to care for minors, relatives or dependants during the duration of the contract, shall imply an extension of the contract for the time equivalent to the reduced working hours.

The beneficiary entities must submit the request for recovery of the suspension period, together with the relevant supporting documents and the extension of the contract before the end of the three years of the fellowship.

The body responsible for issuing the resolutions to grant the fellowships shall determine, by means of the relevant decision, the conditions of the extension and the duration of the extension of the fellowship.

—8 Amount of the Fellowship

8.1 The amount of the fellowship for the recruitment of researchers is specified in the relevant call. This amount finances the cost of each contract during the 3 years of the fellowship and includes the remuneration to be paid to the researcher and the employer's Social Security contribution. Fellowships are subject to the tax regime in force at the time they are awarded. The recruited researcher must receive the minimum gross salary specified in the relevant call.

The fellowship also includes an amount to compensate for the cost of terminating the contract at the end of the agreed period, with an amount equivalent to that provided for

fixed-term contracts in Article 49 of the Consolidated Text of the Workers' Statute Act, subject to a maximum amount per fellowship specified in the call.

Additionally, the fellowship includes an additional amount as specified in the call for proposals. This fellowship is intended exclusively for actions carried out by the candidate during the period of performance of the contract that is the subject of the fellowship, and which must be managed by the beneficiary entity. This additional amount may cover the following:

(a) Training activities, such as training courses related to both the scientific field and professional skills (management, organisation, entrepreneurship, dissemination and scientific communication, cross-cutting skills, etc.).

(b) Outstanding research activities, such as attendance and participation in conferences and congresses, carrying out fieldwork or short research stays abroad.

(c) Expenses directly related to the research activities carried out by the candidate, such as participation in international meetings and conferences, membership of scientific associations, the purchase of bibliographic materials or consumables for office and laboratory use, specialised scientific and technical services that cannot be provided within the host institution, or the purchase of specific software.

(d) It may also include expenses related to the publication in scientific journals and the deposit of results and data, including technical editing, translation and adaptation services.

(e) Expenses related to intellectual property rights.

(f) A computer device (personal computer or tablet) intended for the candidate's research and training activities during the period of enjoyment of the fellowship.

Expenses arising from the purchase of office equipment and scientific and technical equipment, including computers of all types, except those referred to in point (f) of this Regulation, as well as technical services for the installation, maintenance or repair of office equipment and scientific and technical or IT equipment, must be borne by the host institution and are not eligible for this additional amount.

8.2 The beneficiary entity must bear any increase in the contractual costs resulting from any incident that may occur and may also increase the salary of the recruited researcher.

8.3 Under no circumstances may the amount of the fellowships awarded exceed the cost of the activity carried out by the beneficiary entity, either alone or together with grants from other bodies, subsidies, income or resources.

8.4 The amount of the fellowships may be reduced in whole or in part, before the final award decision is made, as a result of restrictions imposed by the objectives of budgetary stability and financial sustainability.

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

—9 Eligible Expenses

9.1 Eligible expenses are all those defined as such in these Regulations and which, in addition, meet the following requirements:

- The expenses clearly correspond to the nature of the subsidised activity, are strictly necessary and are incurred within the time limit and under the conditions laid down in these Regulations. Under no circumstances may the cost of the subsidised goods or services exceed their market value.
- The expenditures are committed during the execution period of the subsidised activity and actually paid before the end of the eligibility period.
- The expenses are identifiable, controllable and subject to market prices and the principles of advertising, competition and transparency contained in the applicable regulations.
- The expenses are verifiable. To this end, the beneficiary entities must keep evidence of the correct execution of the actions.

9.2 Indirect taxes subject to recovery or set-off, personal income taxes, interest owed on bank accounts and other financial expenses, interest, surcharges and administrative and criminal penalties, taxes and the costs of legal proceedings shall not be 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 actual outflow of funds.

9.3 Recruitment expenses for periods during which the researcher is not actually working are not eligible for funding.

Expenses for additional fellowship amounts shall not be accepted during the researcher's leave of absence.

9.4 When the amount of subsidised expenditure exceeds the amount established in Law 9/2017, of 8 November, on Public Sector Contracts for minor contracts, the beneficiary must request at least three offers from different suppliers before contracting the work, service or supply of goods, unless, due to its special characteristics, there is not a sufficient number of entities in the market that can provide or supply the relevant good or service. The choice between bids, which must be included in the justification, or where appropriate, in the fellowship application, must be made on the basis of efficiency and economy criteria. In addition, if the choice does not correspond to the most advantageous financial bid, it must be explicitly justified in a report. The three bids must come from companies that do not belong to the same group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 42 of the Commercial Code.

9.5 Pursuant to the regulation on cash payments contained in Law 11/2021, of 9 July, the beneficiary entities may not pay in cash for transactions where one of the contracting parties is an entrepreneur or professional for an amount equal to or greater than 1,000.00 (one thousand) euros or its equivalent in foreign currency.

—10 Applications and documentation

10.1 Applications shall be submitted electronically in two stages and shall be accompanied by the documents provided for in these Regulations:

a) First stage (submission of provisional applications by candidates):

Provisional applications must be submitted electronically by the candidate through the Procedures section of the website of the Government of Catalonia, (<http://web.gencat.cat/ca/tramits/>), following the instructions provided therein.

Under these Regulations, a candidate and a supervising researcher may only appear as such in a single application for each call.

In the event of an interruption in the operation of the electronic site due to unforeseen circumstances, and whenever it is technically possible, the user who accesses the site will see a message informing them of and indicating, as an alternative, the place where they can register the documents in person, and the effects of this interruption in the operation of the electronic site on the calculation of deadlines. However, where it is not technically possible for users to view the abovementioned message and the procedure in question must be completed electronically, the procedure may be completed during the following three working days if the interruption occurs on the last day established for the completion of the procedure in question.

Applicants may submit scanned copies of documents in accordance with the provisions of Article 28 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations.

The standard application form consists of a general form and a standard annex to be attached to the form. The information to be provided in the annex is: a brief curriculum vitae of the candidate; a description of the most prominent elements of the research group, of the researcher who will receive the fellowship and of the entity to which the candidate is affiliated; a brief description of the scientific activity that is to be carried out, including the work plan of the scientific and teaching activity to be carried out; the impact, communication and dissemination of this activity; and the ethical implications of the proposed research project. This information should be divided into the following sections: curriculum vitae, host institution, project and research and training activities, impact and ethical implications. The ethical implications section of the annex shall include a non-evaluative ethical self-assessment table to be completed by all applicant researchers and entities.

It is essential to submit the specific form with the annex using the standard form of the relevant call in order to proceed to the evaluation stage.

The use of the specific form and of the standard annex is mandatory and, therefore, failure to comply with this requirement will result in the application not being considered as submitted, in accordance with Article 66.6 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October.

Projects shall preferably be submitted in English for evaluation.

As this is a competitive procedure, no improvements to the applications will be accepted after the application deadline. Therefore, the evaluation of the applications will be made exclusively on the basis of the information provided in the specific form and the corresponding standard annex. If the standard annex is blank or illegible, the evaluation will be made solely on the basis of the information provided during the first submission period.

b) Second stage (to be carried out by the beneficiary entity):

In order to access the second stage, 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 the agreement 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 period will be opened for the entities applying for the fellowship to access AGAUR's grant management application (BOGA) in order to confirm or reject the submission of the applications submitted by the candidates. To confirm the provisional application, the legal representative of the entity must submit the following documents to AGAUR via the EACAT platform, or any other valid official electronic record, within the deadline specified in the relevant call for proposals:

- The confirmation document for submitted applications generated by BOGA. In this document, the entity's legal representative must also certify that the persons responsible for the applications have a statutory or employment affiliation or a membership agreement with the beneficiary entity that sufficiently guarantees the supervision and monitoring of the candidate during the three years of the

fellowship, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 5 of this Resolution, failing which the application will be rejected.

- The statement certifying compliance with the requirements for beneficiary entities set out in Regulation 3 herein, as well as the requirements derived from the submission of the application. In this sense, it is necessary to take into account the content of Article 28.7 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, which establishes that all interested parties are responsible for the veracity of the documents submitted.

In order to continue with the procedure, the application and the duly signed supporting statement must be submitted to the AGAUR electronic register within the deadline specified in the call.

10.2 In accordance with Article 28 of Law 39/2015, amended by the Organic Law on the Protection of Personal Data and the Guarantee of Digital Rights, which guarantees the right not to provide documents that are already in the possession of the Agency for the Management of University and Research Grants (AGAUR) or have been prepared by any other administration, AGAUR shall use, verify or collect the documents and certificates that must be issued by other administrations or public bodies, research centres, universities and, in particular, the Spanish Tax Management Agency (AEAT) or any other administration, in order to verify the data necessary for the processing of the fellowship and the satisfactory resolution the call for applications. If it is necessary to process the data of third parties related to the applicant, the latter declares that the other persons concerned have also been informed of the terms of this clause and that they do not oppose the possibility of AGAUR processing their data under the conditions set out herein.

In any case, the candidate, or where applicable, the aforementioned third parties, may exercise the right to object to this processing (*GDPR, Article 21*) for the purposes stated, for reasons related to a particular situation, since the legal basis of this processing is a legal obligation / the exercise of public power / a public interest mission.

10.3 AGAUR may, at any time during the processing of applications, request the documentation it deems necessary to prove that the requirements set out in the regulations and in the call for applications are met. Failure to provide the required documentation within the legal time limits may result in the subsidy being refused.

10.4 As a general rule, actions that require notification to applicants are published on the Electronic Board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>) and, for information, on the AGAUR website. In particular, when it is necessary to amend the information contained in the application form, the interested party must be informed by means of the publication on the Electronic Board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia, of a notice from the Director or Executive Director regarding the basic documentation and the additional documentation that needs to be amended. The notice shall state the reasons for the required amendments and must state that if the application is not amended, as regards the basic documentation, within ten days of the day following the publication of the corresponding notice on the Electronic Board of the Government of Catalonia, the applicants shall be deemed to have withdrawn their application, in accordance with the provisions of Article 68 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations.

10.5 Inaccuracies, falsehoods or essential omissions in any of the information or documents included in the grant application shall render the procedure null and void as soon as they become known, with prior hearing of the interested party, and shall

consequently result in the rejection of the fellowship application, without prejudice to the possibility of revoking the fellowship, if they become known after it has been awarded.

—11 Personal Data

The data provided by the applicants will be included in the processing system owned by AGAUR for the purpose of managing and awarding the fellowship in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations and will be processed in a lawful, fair, transparent, adequate, relevant, limited, accurate and up-to-date manner, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and Organic Law 3/2018, of 5 December (LOPDGDD in Catalan).

The legal basis for the processing of the data is the fulfilment of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of public powers conferred on the data controller and the fulfilment of a legal obligation by the data controller.

The data must be kept for the time strictly necessary to fulfil the aforementioned purpose, always in compliance with the provisions of the regulations governing the call for applications and the applicable data storage regulations.

AGAUR has adopted technical and organisational measures to guarantee the security of personal data and can certify compliance with data protection legislation in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and Organic Law 3/2018 on Data Protection and the Guarantee of Digital Rights.

AGAUR shall communicate the data of the participants to the competent ministry in charge of research, universities and knowledge transfer in order to exercise its power of control over the management of AGAUR as a body attached to that ministry. Certain data may also be disclosed to third parties in the public or private sector, either because their involvement in the management of the fellowship may be necessary for its award, or because it is required by law.

Unless otherwise specified by the interested party, it is understood that their data have not been modified and that they undertake to notify AGAUR of any modification.

Participants may 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), by e-mail to lopd.agaur@gencat.cat or by post to the Data Protection Officer of AGAUR, Global Legal Data SL (Tuset, 23-25, 08006 Barcelona).

Data subjects must attach a photocopy of their ID or sign the e-mail with a qualified electronic signature. In case of disagreement with the data processing, data subjects also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Catalan Data Protection Authority.

—12 Deadlines for Submission of Applications

The deadline for submission of applications shall be the one specified in the relevant call.

—13 Examining Body and Decision-Making Body

Applications will be examined by the Executive Director of the AGAUR. The decision to award the fellowships is made by the Board of Directors of the AGAUR and, by delegation, by the CEAR or the person who holds the presidency, in accordance with the agreement of the Board of Directors of 28 April 2022 (Resolution REU/ 14212022, dated 10 May, DOGC No. 8668, dated 16.5.2022).

— 14 Competent Bodies. Declaration of absence of conflicts of interest

As a general rule and in order to prevent fraud, all persons involved in the selection procedure of the beneficiary entities and in the verification of compliance with the conditions shall sign a declaration of absence of conflicts of interest and shall undertake to update it in the event of a change in circumstances with respect to the initial declaration.

—15 Award Decision Procedure

The procedure for awarding these grants is competitive, in that the fellowships are awarded by comparing the applications submitted in order to establish a priority between them on the basis of the evaluation criteria set out in these Regulations and in the call for applications, and by awarding the fellowships to those who have obtained the highest scores on the basis of these criteria, within the limit of the available budget set out in the call for applications.

For the evaluation, only the documents contained in the application shall be taken into account, thus dispensing the hearing procedure, as provided for in Article 24.4 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, on Subsidies.

—16 Evaluation and Selection

The activity of the actors of the research, development and innovation system of the public sector of the Government of Catalonia is governed by several principles, which include “independent external evaluation, transparency and accountability”. This evaluation is carried out in accordance with the principles of efficiency, quality, publicity, transparency and objectivity, which are promoted by Law 9/2022, of 21 December, on Science.

Thus, once the requirements of the applications have been technically validated, they will be subjected to a scientific evaluation process by external experts, in accordance with the AGAUR Evaluation Regulations and taking into account the specific evaluation and selection criteria established herein.

Applications will be evaluated in two stages.

16.1 Evaluation Criteria

Individual and online evaluation of each application by three external experts in their respective fields of expertise (peer reviewers), taking into account the specific specificities of their area of research, according to the following criteria and weightings:

a) Curriculum vitae of the applicant (45%). The following elements will be positively considered: (i) research experience, quality and relevance of the scientific contributions and results obtained, as well as the development of original and innovative ideas with the potential to contribute to the generation of new knowledge or to benefit society; (ii) diversity of collaborations (with research groups, companies and other societal actors), international experience, multidisciplinary approach and creativity; (iii) autonomy, independent thinking and demonstrated leadership ability; (iv) evidence of excellent research management (including good practices in open science, data reuse, valorisation of results or knowledge transfer) and activities complementary to the research career (teaching, mentoring of young researchers, research evaluation, dissemination activities, etc.).

b) Host organisation (20%). The following elements will be taken into account: (i) scientific history and international impact of both the researcher responsible for the fellowship and the host research group, as well as their suitability in relation to the proposed research project; (ii) experience of the researcher responsible for the fellowship, the host research group and the host organisation in recruiting and training researchers and their capacity to implement and coordinate the planned research and

training activities, as well as their ability to integrate trained personnel into the research system.

c) Projects and research and training activities to be developed during the three-year period (10%). The following elements will be positively considered: (i) novelty and originality of the proposed research activities, clarity in the definition of the problem and the identification of the objectives, appropriateness of the methodological approach, feasibility of the work plan and the contingency plan and risk management; (ii) the candidate's research stays and professional training activities and the exchange of knowledge between the host research group and the candidate.

d) Impact (25%). This will be assessed according to the following elements:

d.1) Potential and strategic impact of the project and the planned research activities on the generation of new knowledge and/or the development of new products and processes, as well as the potential interest and usefulness of the results obtained for the scientific community, society or the private sector (10%);

d.2) Impact of the fellowship on the development of the research career of the candidate, according to the training activities for the acquisition of new transversal skills and in the scientific field foreseen in the proposal (in line with the [European Competence Framework for Researchers](#)); Credibility of the activities foreseen to improve the career and employability prospects of the researcher, as well as the fit of the proposal with their scientific career (10%);

d.3) Dissemination activities aimed at members of the scientific community and communication and dissemination activities planned within the framework of the project, defined as initiatives aimed at the non-specialist public and raising awareness of the value of science for the benefit of society (5%).

As a result of this first evaluation stage, three evaluation reports will be issued with scores on a scale from 0 to 10, with two decimal places, as follows:

- 0 Not assessable
- 1 Deficient
- 2 Poor
- 3 Unsatisfactory
- 4 Adequate
- 5 Satisfactory
- 6 Fair
- 7 Good
- 8 Very good
- 9 Excellent
- 10 Outstanding

To guarantee full independence and autonomy of judgement, in this first stage, the experts evaluate the applications online individually and without knowing the identity of the other members participating in the evaluation process, and sign a declaration of absence of conflict of interest and confidentiality. In accordance with the provisions of Law 9/2022, of 21 December, on Science, the scientific evaluation reports of the independent experts have the character of an internal document and are confidential in order to guarantee the anonymity of the evaluator.

16.2 Second evaluation stage

After the first stage of individual and online evaluation of each application, the evaluation panels will be set up for each of the scientific fields. Each panel will meet to discuss all assigned applications.

The evaluation panels will calibrate and assign the final score for each application on the

basis of the individual evaluations received, an overall assessment of its strengths and weaknesses, and taking into account the evaluation criteria and weightings described in this regulation, the specificities of the different areas of knowledge that make up each of the fields and the complementary interdisciplinary assessment provided by the members of each panel.

The procedure is supervised by the coordinators for each field of knowledge. The evaluation panels act according to the principles of impartiality, absence of conflicts of interest, objectivity and scientific rigour.

In the event of a numerical tie at the end of the entire evaluation process, priority will be given to applications submitted by female candidates. In the event of a tie between candidates of the same gender, priority will be given to the applications with the higher scores for evaluation criterion "a" (curriculum vitae of the candidate).

16.3 Scientific scope and evaluation panels. The peer-review evaluation will be managed on the basis of the distribution of fields of expertise by each of the seven evaluation panels covering all areas of knowledge (the list of scientific fields and the associated areas of knowledge is available and can be consulted on the AGAUR website).

All candidates will be assigned to one of the seven evaluation panels based on the areas of knowledge indicated in their application

(<<https://agaur.gencat.cat/web/.content/Documents/Avaluacio/ACS-per-ambit-catalades2021.pdf>>).

The initial assignment of the proposal to a panel will be based on the preference expressed by the candidate. However, if the expertise required for the evaluation makes it necessary, a proposal may be reassigned to another panel with the agreement of the scientific coordinators concerned. In such cases, applicants will be informed afterwards of the reassignment of the application in the evaluation report.

The participation of female evaluators in the evaluation process will be at least 40% and AGAUR will endeavour to achieve parity between male and female evaluators in the overall process.

16.4 Candidates have the right to ask AGAUR, on a confidential basis, to reject up to three evaluators in total, stating the reasons. Recusal is independent and additional to AGAUR's conflict of interest management policy, which all experts must be aware of and comply with.

16.5 Each applicant shall receive an evaluation report justifying the final score obtained.

16.6 The selection of the proposals will be made by the Selection Committee, taking into account the current Evaluation Regulations of AGAUR, which can be consulted on the Agency's website (<www.agaur.gencat.cat>), the evaluation criteria, the balanced distribution by areas of knowledge, the institutional interest and budget availability. Taking into account the above-mentioned criteria, the Selection Committee will set the minimum cut-off score for each panel to receive the fellowships.

The Selection Committee is nominated and appointed by the President of the CEAR and the Director General of Research. It is chaired by this person or by their delegate and consists of at least two members and a secretary, who must be the Executive Director of the AGAUR or their delegate who has a voice, but no vote.

AGAUR must ensure a balanced representation of men and women.

The Selection Committee may propose a reserve list, duly prioritised, made up of those applications which have not been accepted for lack of sufficient budget, but which are of sufficient technical quality to receive the fellowship.

—17 Ethical Principles

17.1 The actions funded under this programme shall respect the ethical principles and regulations applicable in the EU, in the Member States and at the international level, including the European Charter and the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its additional protocols.

Particular attention shall 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 ensure environmental protection and a high level of human health protection.

17.2 Funded activities shall focus exclusively on civilian applications and the following areas of research shall not be funded: activities aimed at cloning human beings for reproductive purposes; activities aimed at modifying the genetic heritage of human beings that could make such modifications heritable (with the exception of research related to the treatment of gonadal cancer, which may be funded); activities aimed at creating human embryos exclusively for research purposes or for the procurement of stem cells including by nuclear transfer of somatic cells which results in the destruction of human embryos. Researchers are required to complete an ethical self-assessment included in the standard application form, in which they must identify and detail all ethical issues related to the objective, conduct and potential impact of the activities to be funded, as well as a description of how the ethical principles will be safeguarded if the research so requires.

All activities carried out outside the EU must comply with European legislation and the legislation in force in Catalonia, never that of the country of destination.

17.3 Beneficiary entities participating in the programme shall complete a declaration of responsibility stating that the activities carried out will be in compliance with the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity and that no research activities expressly excluded in point 17.3 of this Regulation will be carried out. This declaration shall be included in the acceptance documents required by these Regulations.

17.4 Beneficiary entities must have the necessary licensing and control measures in place to carry out the requested research and innovation activities with guarantees. They must also have the approval of the relevant ethics committees whenever the research and innovation activities have ethical implications to be considered or are included in the ethical self-assessment form of the standard application form. This documentation shall only be submitted if explicitly requested by AGAUR during the execution of the fellowship.

17.5 Where applicable, AGAUR may verify and assess the ethical aspects of any funded project, activity or initiative. The ethical review may be carried out with the assistance of external ethics experts.

17.6 Funded activities must comply with the principle of not causing significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives of the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

17.7 Research and innovation activities that do not comply with the ethics and integrity rules and are therefore unacceptable from an ethical point of view shall not be funded. Funding may also be withdrawn if systematic non-compliance with ethical aspects is found during the course of the project.

—18 Processing and Award

18.1 Before awarding the fellowship, the examining body shall decide on the inadmissibility or withdrawal of the application, which shall be notified to the interested entity through publication on the Electronic Board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia <<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>>.

18.2 Failure to comply with the non-amendable requirements or the deadline for submitting the application established in these Regulations will result in the application not being accepted.

Failure to submit any of the documents required by these Regulations or failure to modify the amendable requirements within ten working days of being requested to do so, will result in the application being withdrawn.

18.3 Where eligible applications exceed the budget available, the Selection Committee shall determine the allocation of funds, in accordance with the evaluation and selection criteria set forth in Regulation 15.

18.4 After reviewing the minutes of the Selection Committee, the examining body will formulate the final award proposal and submit it to the decision-making body.

18.5 The award decision shall include, at least, the amount of the fellowship, the conditions to be met by the beneficiary entity, the deadline for carrying out and justifying the subsidised activities, and the origin of the funds with which the fellowship is financed.

18.6 The award decision will be notified to the interested parties through its 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 of the documents required in the notice of the amendment shall not be accepted at the appeal stage.

—19 Time limit for the Award Decision

19.1 The statutory time limit for making an award decision is six months from the date of publication of the call for applications in the DOGC. After this period has elapsed without an explicit decision, the absence of a response shall be deemed to mean that the fellowship application has been rejected.

19.2 During the periods in which the interested parties are required to submit amendments, additional documentation and other necessary elements, the time limit to issue and notify the award decision shall be suspended during the period elapsed between the notice of amendment and its effective compliance by all recipient entities or during the period established for compliance with the requirement in Article 22.1(a) of Law 39/2015, of 1 October.

The time limit may also be suspended if any of the other circumstances referred to in the aforementioned Article 22 arise. Such suspension shall be notified to the interested parties as required by law.

—20 Acceptance of the Fellowship

20.1 Acceptance of the grant must be formalised by means of a standard form signed by the legal representative of the beneficiary entity, who undertakes to comply with these regulations and the relevant call for proposals.

The acceptance form must be submitted to the AGAUR electronic register through the EACAT platform or through the procedure associated with AGAUR files (attaching documents and other requests), which can be found in the Procedures section of the website of the Government of Catalonia (<http://web.gencat.cat/ca/tramits/>), within the maximum time limit specified in the relevant call.

The standard grant acceptance document is available on the AGAUR website (<http://agaur.gencat.cat>).

20.2 In addition to the acceptance document, the following documents must be submitted:

(a) A copy of the candidate's identity card or passport. If the identity number has changed from that given in the application, a copy of both the current number and the one given in the application must be provided.

(b) A copy of the candidate's doctoral degree certificate or a document certifying that the candidate has requested the issue of the doctoral degree certificate. If applicable, a document stating the date of the reading of the thesis (the date of the reading and approval of the thesis is considered to be the date of the award of the doctoral degree).

(c) If applicable, the mandatory documents relating to the candidate's maternity leave, paternity leave, care of children under 6 years of age, people with physical, mental or sensory disabilities, or dependants over 65 years of age requiring special care; serious illness or accident requiring major surgery or hospital treatment and causing temporary incapacity to carry out their regular work or activity for at least 6 consecutive months.

(d) A letter certifying the postdoctoral stays outside Spain, stating the dates of these stays. This certificate must be signed by the person responsible for supervising the stay or by a representative of the host organisation, which may be the legal representative, the management or the human resources department.

(e) A copy of the deed of incorporation and statutes of the entity with which the fellowship holder is associated.

(f) A copy of the identity document of the legal representative of the entity to which the fellowship is linked and a document certifying the powers of attorney.

(g) Pursuant to Article 15.2 of Law 19/2014, of 29 December, on Transparency, Access to Public Information and Good Governance, if the amount of the fellowship awarded is greater than 10,000 euros, it is necessary to provide a declaration of responsibility for the information on the remuneration of the management or administrative bodies, to be published in accordance with the corporate criteria adopted or, where applicable, in accordance with the corresponding regulatory development. This document may be replaced by a declaration of responsibility from the entity's legal representative stating that this information is available on the entity's website under the terms and conditions established by Law 19/2014, of 29 December, and the rest of the applicable regulations.

In the event that some of these documents have already been submitted in previous AGAUR calls or at the time of signing the application submission agreement, it is not necessary to submit them as long as it is stated that they are still in force. In accordance with section (d) of Article 53 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations, it has been established that, in the case of the universities and research centres of the CERCA programme, the Administration of the Government of Catalonia already has this information. Consequently, these institutions are not required to submit the documents referred to in sections (e), (f), and (g) of this Regulation.

20.3 Beneficiary status is acquired at the moment of acceptance of the fellowship. It is understood that entities that have not submitted the acceptance document and the other required documents within the legal time limit and under the conditions provided for in these Regulations and the relevant call for applications, without the need for prior request, tacitly renounce the fellowship.

—21 Rights and Obligations of the Parties

21.1 The hired researchers must fulfil the following obligations:

(a) Join the organisation for the planned period and carry out the activities described in their work plan.

(b) Comply with the internal regulations of the entities in which they carry out their activities and keep the activities carried out confidential, in accordance with the instructions and guidelines issued by the host entity.

(c) Work exclusively on the project described in the application. Additionally, and on a temporary basis, researchers may work on other related research or technological innovation projects that are of interest for the development of their project or training.

(d) Provide all the information requested and submit to the inspections, checks and controls that may be carried out by AGAUR and other competent bodies, in accordance with the regulations in force.

- (e) Comply with the basic ethical and intellectual property principles of the EU and Catalan legislation, as well as the best research practices based on the fundamental principles of integrity in research and the ethical principles established in Regulation 16.
- (f) Adhere to the principles of the European Charter for Researchers of the European Commission.
- (g) Participate in the conferences and courses organised by the universities of the Catalan university system, research centres, hospital foundations and the General Directorate of Research, aimed at the professional development of researchers in aspects not strictly related to the scientific field, such as management, entrepreneurship, leadership, intellectual property, etc.

21.2 The beneficiaries of the fellowships must comply with the following obligations:

- (a) Extend the employment contract to full-time, in accordance with the applicable employment and tax regulations for the candidate, at least for the period specified in the relevant call.
- (b) Recruit the researchers exclusively for the project specified in the application. Additionally, researchers may be recruited on a temporary basis for other related scientific or technological innovation activities that are of interest for the development of their project or training.
- (c) In the case of non-EU researchers facilitate all the legal procedures (obtaining visas, residence permits, etc.) for their recruitment.
- (d) Provide AGAUR with a certificate of recruitment of the contracted researchers within two months of the day after the recruitment takes effect.
- (e) Provide the contract researchers with the support and information they need to carry out their research, as well as the necessary means or equipment for the normal development of the activity, and guarantee the researchers the rights and benefits enjoyed by that the centre's staff of the same or similar category. Publicise the recruitment of the postdoctoral researcher through the usual communication channels (website, business cards, etc.), as long as this fact is a common practice of the entity.
- (f) Comply with the basic principles of EU and Catalan legislation on ethics and intellectual property, and ensure the monitoring of good research practices based on the basic principles of integrity in research.
- (g) Adhere to the European Commission's Code of Conduct for the recruitment of researchers.
- (h) Promote compliance with the Action Plan of the European Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R) applied by AGAUR and the beneficiary organisation, where appropriate. This plan concerns: measures to ensure an appropriate and attractive institutional environment and a framework of activities to support the professional development of researchers and transferable skills; ensuring open, transparent and merit-based recruitment measures (OTM-R); and measures to implement responsible research and innovation (RRI), including policies on open access to publications and data management, measures to promote gender equality, ethics and integrity.
- (i) Provide the postdoctoral researcher with a range of training activities, both in terms of scientific and transversal skills in line with the European Competence Framework for Researchers, such as teaching or mentoring activities, as part of their professional development, in order to make a significant contribution to his/her career.
- (j) Periodically monitor the progress of the postdoctoral researcher and take corrective measures in case of deviations or delays in the researcher's work plan.
- (k) Provide all requested information and submit to the inspection, verification and control actions that may be carried out by AGAUR and other competent bodies, in accordance with the regulations in force.
- (l) Keep the original receipts and other documents related to the grant for at least five years from the end date of the fellowship.

(m) Fulfil the information obligations that the transparency legislation imposes on the beneficiaries in relation to the relevant administrations, without prejudice to the fulfilment of the transparency obligations that directly concern them by virtue of legal provisions, in the situations established by the corresponding sections of Article 3 of Law 19/2014, of 29 December, on Transparency, Access to Public Information and Good Governance.

—22 Recruitment Accreditation and Payment of the Fellowship

22.1 Payment of the grant will be made by bank transfer to the account specified by the beneficiary entity, without the need to present guarantees.

22.2 The payment of 50% of the fellowship for the recruitment of the candidate and the payment of 100% of the additional amount must be made at the time when the host entity certifies the recruitment of the researcher, within two months of the day after it becomes effective, by submitting the standard form and the following documents:

(a) A copy of the signed contract stating the gross annual remuneration, the duration and dates of the contract and the place where the researcher is to provide his/her services.

(b) If the research project includes aspects that require ethical assessment, a copy of the favourable report issued by the relevant ethics committee and linked to the host organisation. If this report is not available at the time of joining the entity, the candidate must state that he/she has started the procedure and the expected date for obtaining it. The second payment is 30% of the amount for the recruitment of the candidate and must be made at the time when the beneficiary entity submits the scientific and technical follow-up report to AGAUR, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 26.

The payment of the remaining 20% of the amount for the recruitment of the candidate and, if applicable, of 100% of the end-of-work compensation will be made after the justification for the grant has been submitted and reviewed, in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

22.3 In accordance with the provisions of Article 24 of Law 5/2007, of 4 July, on Fiscal and Financial Measures, at the time of acceptance, and to make the payment of the grant, AGAUR will verify ex officio that the beneficiary entities are up to date with their tax and Social Security obligations. In the event that this check is not possible, AGAUR will ask the beneficiary entities to provide positive certificates proving that they are up to date with their tax obligations.

—23 Withdrawals and Substitutions

The total or partial withdrawal of this contract must be notified in writing to the Executive Management of AGAUR by the person responsible for supervising the candidate's research activity, signed by the legal representative of the entity, within a period of one month from the day following the date on which the withdrawal takes effect. In all cases, the supporting documents for the period of use of the fellowship must be submitted in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

In the event of a total or partial withdrawal, or if the acceptance document is not submitted under the conditions and within the time limits provided for in these Regulations and in the relevant call for applications, the body responsible for deciding on the award or the Executive Director of AGAUR may award the fellowship to candidates from the reserve list. The decision to award substitutions shall be notified to the interested person individually or through its publication on the Electronic Board of the Government of Catalonia, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 40 and 41 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations, as long as it is later than the resolution awarding the fellowships.

Substitutions shall not be accepted after the date specified in the relevant call for proposals.

—24 Changes and Incidents

The beneficiary entity must carry out the subsidised activities in accordance with the proposed project. However, in duly justified circumstances, the Executive Management of AGAUR may, at the request of the beneficiary entity, authorise any modification of the work plan or of the proposed project, as well as resolve any incident that does not involve a change in relation in the candidate, in the terms of these Regulations and of the relevant call, or in the conditions and purpose of the fellowship.

Exceptionally, and in duly justified circumstances, the President of the CEAR may authorise a change of host centre at the prior request of the person concerned, the researcher in charge and the legal representatives of the organisations involved, provided that the requirements of the call for proposals are met and a positive scientific assessment report is obtained on the new proposal and the suitability of the change in relation to the originally proposed project.

—25 Research Stays

25.1 Contracted researchers may spend time in other academic and research institutions outside the beneficiary entity to carry out tasks related to their project, provided that they have the approval of the responsible researcher and the beneficiary entity.

25.2 Contracted researchers may also spend time in non-academic organisations, including public administrations, non-governmental organisations and private companies, provided that this contributes significantly to their research careers. Contracted researchers must have a supervisor at the institution where they are staying, in order to receive cross-sectoral guidance and to ensure the continuity and implementation of the project.

25.3 Stays shall not exceed nine months, either in a single period or divided into shorter periods.

—26 Teaching

Where applicable, the host entity may, at the request of the researchers recruited, establish a programme of collaboration in teaching activities for training purposes up to the annual maximum provided for in Article 22 of Law 17/2022, of 5 September, which must be included in the employment contracts.

Collaboration in teaching activities must be certified by the beneficiary entity for the purposes of the researchers' curriculum vitae.

—27 Monitoring

In order to assess the fulfilment of the objectives set out in the application, the beneficiary entity shall submit the following documents during the eighteenth month of the contract:

- a) The scientific and technical follow-up report, in accordance with the model available on the AGAUR website.
- b) The data management plan of the research project in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 30 herein.

After the end of the fellowship period, AGAUR may request information from the beneficiary entities and the candidates in order to monitor the impact of the programme on the research careers of the candidates.

—28 Justification Deadline and Form

28.1 Beneficiary entities must justify the actual execution of the fellowships and provide evidence of this within the two months following the end of the fellowship, using the standard forms available on the AGAUR website (<<http://www.gencat.cat/agaur>>), by means of the support account modality, without the need to provide proof of expenditure.

The supporting documents must be submitted to AGAUR's electronic register through the EACAT platform or through the procedure associated with AGAUR files (attachment of documents and other requests), which can be found in the "Procedures" section of the website of the Government of Catalonia (<<http://web.gencat.cat/ca/tramits/>>).

28.2 The documents to be attached are the following:

(a) A scientific and technical report explaining the fulfilment of the objectives of the fellowship, including the activities carried out and the results obtained, signed by the recruited candidate and by the researcher responsible for supervising the research activities. This report shall follow the standard model. Where appropriate, the beneficiary entities shall update the ethical implications section and provide all relevant documentation. This report shall also include a certificate from the researcher responsible for supervising the research activities of the candidate, attesting to the work developed and the dates on which it was carried out, signed by the legal representative of the entity.

(b) A certificate of the recruitment costs of the candidate detailed monthly for the entire duration of the fellowship (salary expenditure and employer's contribution), signed by the legal representative of the entity. If required, beneficiary entities must provide AGAUR with the necessary documentation for the management of any incidents relating to the recruitment.

(c) A copy of the document from the General Treasury of the Social Security entitled "Report on Data for Contributions / Employees on behalf of Others" (IDC in Spanish).

(d) A classified report of the expenses incurred with the additional amount, signed by the legal representative, indicating the concept, the creditor, the number of the invoice or document of equivalent probative value, the amount, the date of issue and, if applicable, the date of payment. This statement of expenditure must follow the standard model.

In the case of a partial withdrawal before the fellowship has been used for at least 18 months of the grant, the maximum justifiable amount of the additional payment is the amount provided for in the relevant call for proposals.

(e) Where applicable, a detailed list of other income or subsidies which have financed the subsidised activity, indicating the amount and the source. Where receipts for expenses are partly covered by other grants, the exact amount or percentage of each grant must be given, together with an indication of the bodies granting them.

If the actual final cost of the funded activities is lower than the initially estimated cost, the amount of the fellowship awarded will be reduced by the same proportion.

28.3 Extensions of the justification period for the proposed project will not be accepted without prior justification, which must be accepted, where appropriate, by the Executive Director of AGAUR. Requests for extensions must be submitted before the end of the initial justification period.

28.4 Beneficiary entities must keep the supporting documents regarding the use of the funds received, including electronic documents, during the period in which they may be subject to verification and control actions.

—29 Incompatibilities

29.1 The incompatibilities provided for in the employment contract and signed by the contracting institutions or entities, in accordance with the legislation in force, shall apply to the contracts that are the subject of the fellowship.

29.2 The fellowships governed by this Resolution are incompatible with any other public or private subsidy awarded for the same purpose.

29.3 Applicant entities must provide information on any other grants or subsidies awarded for the same project, both at the time of submitting the application and at any time when this situation arises.

29.4 The fellowships governed by this Resolution are compatible with other additional salary payments for the development of professional or research activities that are of

interest and are directly related to the training and research objectives of the fellowship, including additional salary payments for teaching or research tasks, provided that they do not compromise the purpose of the fellowship. The fellowship is also compatible with subsidies for participation in congresses, meetings or scientific conferences and with grants for short research stays and other training activities.

The approval of these compatibilities is the responsibility of the host institution, which must officially notify AGAUR at the time.

—30 Open Access to Scientific Results

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

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

According to the Catalan Open Science Strategy, research actions that receive public funding from the Government of Catalonia must establish a data management plan. This plan must be submitted together with the scientific and technical follow-up report during the 18th month of the contract (Section 27 of these Regulations) and must be signed by the applicant and the responsible person.

The data management plan must contain, at least, the following information: description of the data to be collected or generated during the project, the methodology and standards to be applied (formats, metadata, structuring, etc.), how the data will be processed and stored, when and how they will be made available (choice of repositories, possible access restrictions, etc.) and how they will be preserved after the end of the project.

In order to draw up this plan, it is recommended to use *eiNa DMP*, a tool developed by the Catalan Consortium of University Services, and check the corresponding guidelines (<<https://www.csuc.cat/ca/serveis/cora-eina-dmp>>). However, other formats suitable for the research project may be chosen.

—31 Publicity

Throughout the duration of the project, the persons and entities involved must take the appropriate measures to maintain fluid communication with the public and the media about the project, highlighting the financial support, as specified in the relevant call for proposals.

In the publications and other results that may be produced thanks to this fellowship, the support of the Beatriu de Pinós Postdoctoral Fellowships Programme of the Ministry of Research and Universities of the Government of Catalonia must be mentioned and the reference number of the fellowship must be included.

In addition, the beneficiary entity must include on its website the corresponding logo contained in the Visual Identification Programme, published on the website <<http://www.gencat.cat/piv/>>.

—32 Publicity of the Fellowships Awarded

In accordance with Article 85 of the Agreement GOV/85/2016, of 28 June, the fellowships will be published for the general knowledge of the public through 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 19/2014, of 29 December, on Transparency, Access to Public Information and Good Governance, subsidies must also be published on the Transparency Portal of the AGAUR website.

—33 Notifications

33.1 The decision on inadmissible and withdrawn applications and the final decision on the award of fellowships will be published on the Electronic Board of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia. This notification replaces individual notifications and has the same effect. For the purpose of wider diffusion and information, the result of the decision may be consulted on the AGAUR website.

33.2 In accordance with the provisions of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations, any other administrative act issued in relation to this procedure must be notified electronically. Therefore, the address for notification purposes must be indicated in the application form.

The notification shall be deemed to have been sent for all legal purposes when its contents are accessed.

If ten calendar days have elapsed from the date on which the notification was made available without its contents being accessed, the notification shall be deemed to have been rejected, unless it can be proved ex officio or at the recipient's request that the recipient was unable to access it.

33.3 All other communications from AGAUR that are not considered notifications, will be sent by electronic means to the e-mail address provided by the applicant in the application.

—34 Verification and Control

34.1 AGAUR is responsible for verifying compliance with the regulations approved by this Resolution and the other applicable regulations. AGAUR may review grants already awarded, in particular the possibility of modifying the award decision in the event of changes in the conditions or the simultaneous award of other grants.

34.2 The beneficiary entities shall provide all the information required by the Government of Catalonia, the Audit Office (Sindicatura de Comptes) and other competent bodies, in accordance with the regulations of the Government of Catalonia on subsidies.

34.3 With regard to declarations of responsibility, these entail that the person concerned is in possession of the relevant documents attesting to the information declared. If the Administration verifies the inaccuracy or falsity of the declared information, this fact entails, after hearing the person concerned, cancelling the corresponding procedure. If such conduct is considered an infringement under the applicable legislation, it shall give rise to the initiation of the appropriate infringement proceedings, in accordance with the applicable sanctions regime.

34.4 Beneficiary entities and fellowship holders must submit to the administrative and on-the-spot checks carried out by AGAUR, in accordance with its subsidy control action plan, as well as to the checks carried out by the competent bodies of the regional, national and Community administrations.

To this end, the awarding body may request any supporting documents that it deems necessary to obtain adequate evidence on the appropriate use of the grant, for which purpose it shall require the beneficiary to provide supporting documents for the selected expenditure.

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

Where appropriate, on-the-spot verifications shall be carried out during the execution of the subsidised actions. Their purpose is to check that the actions are actually being

carried out and that the obligations of the recipients and the beneficiary entities are being met.

—35 Invalidity of the Award Decision and Repayment of Amounts Unduly Received

35.1 The causes of invalidity of the award decision are those provided for in Article 36 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, on Subsidies, which entail the obligation to return the amounts received.

35.2 The repayment of the amounts received and the demand for interest on the corresponding delay shall also apply from the date of payment of the grant until the date on which the repayment is agreed, in the cases established in Article 37 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, on Subsidies and in Article 99 of Legislative Decree 3/2002, of 24 December, approving the Consolidated Text of the Catalan Public Finance Act.

—36 Sanctions

Any modification of the initial conditions for awarding the fellowship must be approved in advance by the competent body.

In the event of non-compliance with the provisions of these Regulations, the sanctions regime laid down in Law 38/2003, of 17 November, and the Consolidated Text of the Catalan Public Finance Act, approved by Legislative Decree 3/2002, of 24 December, shall apply, if such non-compliance constitutes an infringement under the aforementioned legislation, regardless of the total or partial repayment of the fellowship amount.

—37 Applicable Regulations

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