

Resolution by the Director of the Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia de la Universitat de Barcelona (IN2UB), 2023, by which a call for two Multidisciplinary Research Grants (Ajut a la Recerca Transversal) by the l'IN2UB (Call ART 2023) is launched

On their meeting on the 9th of February of 2023, the Steering Committee of IN2UB convened the release of two grants within the internal program of Multidisciplinary Research Grants (Call ART 2023).

The goal of this program is to promote collaborations in **multidisciplinary research among the members of the IN2UB**, belonging to different research groups and areas of these defined in the organization (or two different Faculties), and to support these initiatives by funding two of the proposed research projects.

The funding for each project will be 12.000EUR. It will be available for execution from the moment of the economic transfer to the grantees (during the third semester of the year 2023) and until December 15th of 2024. The execution period of the project (which will coincide with its duration) starts on the day after the resolution of the call takes place.

Therefore, and on behalf Rector's Resolution of September 20, 2022, on the delegation of competences:

I RESOLVE:

First.- To open the call of two Multidisciplinary Research Grants (ART), 2023 call, regulated as described in the annexed document.

Second.- That the actual allocation of the grants is conditioned to the existence of the adequate and sufficient funds, consisting in 12.000EUR per project. Therefore, a maximum total of 24.000EUR spending is expected, the necessary credit having been reserved to meet the obligations arising from this call, from the budget (Contracte Programa de Recerca) of IN2UB

Third.- To publish this resolution and its annexed regulations at UB Electronic Office. This publication will be valid for the purposes of deadlines compliance and other effects foreseen in the call. In addition, it will also be communicated to the researchers from the Institute and will be published at the official webpage of the IN2UB.

Dr. Guillem Aromí Bedmar

-Director of IN2UB-

Signature on behalf Rector's Resolution

Barcelona, 2023

Contra aquesta resolució, que esgota la via administrativa, independentment de la seva immediata executivitat, els interessats legítims poden interposar recurs contenciós administratiu davant del Jutjat Contenciós Administratiu de Barcelona, d'acord amb l'art. 8 de la Llei 29/1998, de 13 de juliol, reguladora de la jurisdicció contenciosa administrativa. El recurs es podrà interposar en el termini de dos mesos, a comptar des de l'endemà de la publicació de la resolució, segons el que estableix l'article 46 de l'esmentada Llei.

No obstant, es podrà, potestativament, interposar recurs de reposició en el termini d'un mes, a comptar des del dia següent al de la publicació d'aquesta resolució, de conformitat amb l'article 123 i següents de la Llei 39/2015, d'1 d'octubre, del Procediment Administratiu Comú de les Administracions Públiques. Cas d'interposar aquest, els interessats legítims no podran presentar el recurs contenciós administratiu fins que sigui resolt expressament o s'hagi produït la desestimació presumpta del recurs de reposició.

Altrament, els interessats podran interposar qualsevol altre recurs que creguin convenient en defensa dels seus drets.

ANNEX

Regulations of the Call

1. Objective of the Call.

1.1. The objective of the present call is to stimulate multidisciplinary research collaborations among the members of the IN2UB as well as enhancing the main strategic research goals of the institute. The two main areas of interest of the IN2UB are Human health and Environmental Nanotechnology. Therefore, this call will prioritize proposals that strengthen the strategic plan of the Institute, but not excluding other proposals. The six specific Research Lines (RLs) presented below will serve to enhance the two main flagship themes of the IN2UB: Biophysics and Biomechanics, Modelling, Simulation and Nanoscopic Methods, Nanopharmacy and Nanomedicine, Supramolecular Chemistry for Nanomedicine, Nanodevice Fabrication, Photoelectrocatalytic CO₂ reduction.

The grants aim at promoting the preparation of innovative multidisciplinary research projects, preferably to enhance the two flagship lines of the Institute, and thereby, to favour interactions among different groups of different research areas of the l'IN2UB as reflected on the website of the Institute on the day of publishing this call. It is thus mandatory that the projects are carried out by at least **two different IN2UB groups** from two different research areas of these defined at the Institute (or different Faculties), with significant contribution from both groups. This call also aims at causing a positive impact on the CV of the young IN2UB researchers.

1.2. In this call, maximum priority shall be given to eligible proposals by applicants that have never led an ART Grant before. However, the possibility to re-apply is given to grantees from calls from 2019 to 2021 (except for those who have not completed and/or satisfactory justified the grant from any previous call). Grantees from 2022 are not able to apply for this 2023 call. Thus, if the number of eligible proposals from novel applicants is below two, proposals from eligible 2019 to 2021 previous grantees will be considered.

2. Beneficiaries

2.1. Only IN2UB members can be beneficiaries of this call, and therefore, IP of the grant. One IP cannot apply for two grants.

2.2. The projects will be led by one or two principal investigators (IPs), only if they belong to two different research groups from two different research areas of these defined at the IN2UB (or two different Faculties).

2.3. To apply as IP, the IN2UB researchers must hold a doctor degree, have full time dedication and be listed at the IN2UB census, at the time of publishing this call, as,

- Postdoctoral researchers with non-permanent contract through the UB, the FBG or CIBER.
- PDI professors of the UB with non-permanent contract with full time dedication.
- PDI professors of the UB with permanent contract after January 1st 2018.

Any contract typology other than those mentioned above is not applicable.

It is required to apply for this call not to have been PI (or Co-IP) of any competitive research project or grant for an amount equal or superior to that of the projects of the present call (with the

exception of the IN2UB ART grants). The candidates need to enclose a signed document stating that they fulfil this requirement. Researchers holding or having held a postdoctoral contract such as Marie Curie, Beatriu de Pinós o Juan de la Cierva, are eligible.

2.4. IPs having held an ART grant from the 2022 call, holding an active grant or one not satisfactory justified on the date of the call will not be able to apply for the present call.

2.5. If the contract of an IP expires before the end of the grant (15th December 2024) the head of the research group, who also has to be listed at the IN2UB census at the time of publishing this call and have full time dedication, must engage through a signed declaration to guarantee the pursuit of the goals of the project according to the plan of the proposal. Applicants responsible for the project (the IPs) must certify a contractual relationship within the IN2UB research group at the time of acceptance.

2.6. The **research team** of the project will be specified at the application, and it will be composed of the IPs and the remainder of the researchers that will participate. The number of team members is not limited and must belong to groups of at least two different research areas from the IN2UB (or two different Faculties).

2.7. If any of the IPs fail to comply with any of the requirements at any time during the duration of the project, he/she needs to communicate the new condition to the IN2UB Director, who shall terminate the grant immediately, unless it is advisable to maintain the grant for justified reasons.

2.8. This award is incompatible with other subsidies, awards, income or resources for the same purpose, from any administrations or public or private, national, European Union or international bodies. Potential beneficiaries should report any subsequent awards, as otherwise they would be in breach of the bases and general regulations of subsidies.

3. Project requirements.

3.1. The project must be multidisciplinary, therefore, at least two different groups from different research areas of these defined at the IN2UB (or two different Faculties) must participate, according to the information posted at the website of the Institute on the date of publishing this call.

4. Eligible expenses

4.1. The maximum funding is 12.000EUR per project, available from the moment of the transfer to the beneficiaries (during last 2023 trimester) until the 15th December of 2024. The funding shall be spent on small equipment (up to 10%), laboratory materials and up to 15% for outreach expenses (including the attendance to congresses or publication fees), always in relation to the project. It cannot be used to hire staff or on salary complements or for computer purchase. The Institute will not be responsible of any equipment maintenance or repair. The expenditure will be managed at the research office or the office of economic management of the project's IP. For projects with two IP's, the managing will be made from only one office, as decided by the research team awarded. The IP (responsible of the credit awarded) and the head of the research group (section 2.5) have to be from the same department. Permission requests for any extension approval (section 9.4) will be managed from the offices mentioned above.

5. Applications and Documents

5.1. The applications must comply to the normalized model and must be addressed to the Director of l'IN2UB by Generic Request (Instància Genèrica). The normalized form and the regulations may be downloaded from the UB Electronic Office or the IN2UB website.

5.2. The application must be accompanied by the following documents:

a) *Curriculum vitae* of the IP(s), which must be no longer than **4 pages** and produced in English, preferably using the model of the abbreviated CV of the Spanish Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación ([example](#)). At least one IP must apply and lead the project, while the participation of 2 groups from two different research areas of the Institute (or two different Faculties) is necessary.

b) Project. The project must be written in English and will be **no more than 4 pages** long (Font: Arial 10 pt. Interline space: multiple 1.25), featuring the following sections:

- Title/Key Words
- Summary (maximum of 250 words)
- Introduction, with a state-of-the-art description and explanation of the subject relevance.
(The above three sections must take maximum one page)
- Originality and relevance, explaining the interest of the multidisciplinary collaboration and indicate, if applicable, the research lines to enhance one of the Flagships of the Institute (see 1.1) (maximum one page)
- Objectives, working plan and chronology (maximum one page)
- Composition of the team, outlining the tasks assigned to each member. The research groups and IN2UB areas involved must be specified (at least two different areas or two different Faculties). This must take maximum ½ page.
- Economic budgeted (maximum ½ page)

c) Signed declaration stating that the candidate(s) has not been IP of another competitive grant as specified above (section 2.4 and 2.5).

d) A copy of the current work contract and, if necessary, commitment by the head of the research group (as described in 2.5) to pursue the goals of the project if the contract of the applicant expires before the end of the duration of the project (as indicated in point 2.5). The copy of the contract is not necessary for PDI professors of the UB with permanent contract after January 1st 2018

e) If the proposal includes any IP from a previous ART call (2019-2021), a copy of the proposal presented in that call must be included.

5.3. Commitment by each of the head of the research group (as described in 2.5), approving the proposal presented in the call.

6. Application Deadline

Applications may be submitted from the day following the publication of the call until May 31st of 2023. The application form, together with all the accompanying documents must be sent by UB General Request and indicated below:

(Àmbit: Recerca – Subàmbit: Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia).

Exposo: Publicada la convocatòria “Ajuts a la Recerca Transversal de l’Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia Universitat de Barcelona, convocatòria 2023”

Sol·licito: Participar en la convocatòria “Ajuts a la Recerca Transversal de l’Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia Universitat de Barcelona, convocatòria 2023”

Send a copy of the register confirmation to in2ub@ub.edu

The reference code for each application will be the one from the UB General Request.

7. Admission of applications.

7.1. After the submission’s deadline, and within a period of fifteen working days, a list of preliminary admitted and excluded proposals will be posted UB Electronic Office and at the official web page of the IN2UB, indicating the reasons of exclusion.

7.2. In case that a proposal presents a form defect, is not complete or lacks any of the required documents (with the exception of the *Curriculum Vitae*, which cannot be amended and failure to present it entails direct exclusion), the affected proposers will be requested to provide explanations, amendments or missing documents within a period of ten working days. If this request is not satisfied, it will be understood that the application has been waived. Amendments and allegations will also be submitted by UB General Request as follows:

(Àmbit: Recerca – Subàmbit: Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia).

Exposo: Publicada la llista provisional de persones admeses i excloses “Ajuts a la Recerca Transversal de l’Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia Universitat de Barcelona, convocatòria 2023”

Sol·licito: Participar en la convocatòria “Ajuts a la Recerca Transversal de l’Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia Universitat de Barcelona, convocatòria 2023”

Send a copy of the register confirmation to in2ub@ub.edu

The reference code for each amendments or allegations will be the one from UB General Request.

7.3. At the end of the period for amendments to the provisional list, and within a period of ten working days, the definitive list of admitted and excluded proposals will be published, which will be made public on the UB Electronic Office and on the IN2UB website.

8. Evaluation

8.1. The proposals will be evaluated by a Scientific Evaluation Committee named by the IN2UB Director, consisting of three members. The threshold for a proposal to be eligible is 60% of the maximum marks. The best two proposals will be retained.

8.2. Evaluation Criteria:

a) Each PI's CV will be marked with a maximum of 10 points. The following merits will be considered: peer reviewed publications, books, communications to congresses, participation in competitive and non-competitive projects, research stays at other institutions, thesis and master supervisions, patents and outreach activities (other relevant merits may be considered). In case that there are 2 PI's, an average of both CVs will be made.

b) The project will be marked with a maximum of 10 points:

b.1) The quality of the project will be evaluated; in particular, multidisciplinary, originality, innovation character, a proportionate distribution of tasks among the participating groups. The following items may be considered for the evaluation:

- Introduction; state of the art and interest of the subject
- Originality and relevance
- Multidisciplinary
- Objectives; the working plan and chronology

b.2) Proposals addressed to strengthen the strategic research lines of the Institute will be especially valued (see 1.1).

b.3) Maximum priority will be given to those applications where none of the PIs have led an ART project from 2019-2021 (point 1.2).

8.3. During the evaluation, the commission could require further information to support specific declared merits. If this request is not satisfied in ten working days, the alleged merit will not be taken into account for the purpose of evaluating the candidate.

9. Resolution and Grant Allocation

9.1. The evaluation performed by a Scientific Evaluation Committee designed by the IN2UB Director will elaborate a justified prioritized list of the proposals. It will then communicate it to the Director de l'IN2UB.

9.2. The resolution of the call corresponds to the Director. It will be published on the UB Electronic Office, to the web page of the IN2UB and it will be communicated to the beneficiaries, who will have ten working days to accept the grant. The beneficiaries will receive a certificate of the grant award.

9.3 The maximum delay for the resolution of the call will be four months from the day after the submission deadline or (if it is the case, the deadline of amendments submission). If none of the applicants meets the necessary requirements or does not reach the 60% score threshold established in section 8.1, the award of the grant may be forfeited, and a resolution will be issued to this effect.

Contra la resolució del Director, que esgota la via administrativa, independentment de la seva immediata executivitat, es podrà interposar recurs contenciós administratiu davant del Jutjat Contenciós Administratiu de Barcelona, d'acord amb l'art. 8 de la Llei 29/1998, de 13 de juliol, reguladora de la jurisdicció contenciosa administrativa. El recurs es podrà interposar en el termini de dos mesos, a comptar des de l'endemà de la publicació de la resolució, segons el que estableix l'article 46 de l'esmentada Llei.

No obstant, es podrà optar per interposar un recurs de reposició, en el termini d'un mes, a comptar des de l'endemà de la data de la publicació, davant el mateix òrgan que l'ha dictat. En aquest cas, no es podrà interposar el recurs contenciós administratiu en tant no recaigui resolució expressa o presumpta del recurs de reposició, d'acord amb allò que disposen els articles 123 i següents de la Llei 39/2015, d'1 d'octubre, del procediment administratiu comú de les administracions públiques.

Altrament, els interessats podran interposar qualsevol altre recurs que creguin convenient en defensa dels seus drets.

10. Justification and Execution

10.1. Three months after the end of the project, the beneficiaries will submit a report to the Director of IN2UB explaining the activities and the expenditures made (with an extension of no more than three pages). This report must include an assessment of the benefits of the collaborations facilitated by this project. If the final report is not presented in due time, the PI(s) will not be able to apply for any other ART.

10.2. The beneficiaries engage in stating explicitly in the communications or publications derived from the project the support received by the Multidisciplinary Research Grants Program of the IN2UB 2023 and include the affiliation to the IN2UB at their publications or communications.

10.3. The beneficiaries accept the engagement to give an oral presentation based on the project the day of the annual meeting of the IN2UB.

10.4. Applications to extend the project, which may be made from the moment that the award is granted until December 1st 2024, must be communicated to the Director by UB Generic Request, who will approve the extension if the duly justified circumstances recommend it.

Any approved extension will be managed from the office where the grant is awarded. It should be considered that extensions may have to be managed through an exceptional credit incorporation, which may compromise the budget in part or in its totality. The Institute will not be responsible if the budget is not fully recovered. Any extension must be ended before the 31st of October 2025, otherwise the remaining budget will be refunded to the Institute. During the extension, the IP(s) must guarantee a contractual relationship within the IN2UB research group. But if the contract(s) finishes before, the head of the research group, will engage through a signed declaration to guarantee the completion of the project, in the same terms described at section 2.5. Only one extension will be permitted for each grant.

11. Clarifications

It is the responsibility of the Director of IN2UB to clarify any doubts in the interpretation of this call.

Notes

1. The research team may have as many members as are necessary to reach the proposed goals.
2. The conditions established in section 2 (Beneficiaries) concern the project's PI(s). Therefore, the team may be composed of collaborators that do not fulfil the requirements of the PIs.

Any questions may be addressed to in2ub@ub.edu.

12. Right to information regarding the processing of personal data.

12.1. Handling of your personal data is responsibility of Secretaria General de la Universitat de Barcelona, located at Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 585, 08007 Barcelona with e-mail address, secretaria.general@ub.edu.

12.2. The sole aim for handling personal data is managing the grants.

12.3. The legal basis is the fulfillment of a mission carried out in the public interest (Law 1/2003, of February 19, on universities in Catalonia; Organic Law 2/2023, of March 22, on the University System; and Law 38/ 2003, of November 17, General of Subsidies).

12.4. Your data will be kept for the time necessary to fulfill the purpose for which it was collected and to determine the possible responsibilities that could arise from its treatment.

12.5. The recipients of the data are the University and, if there are any, those in charge of the treatment. So are the entities other than the University of Barcelona that form part of the evaluation commission in fulfillment of the functions that these bases attribute to them. In the event that you are awarded a grant, the tax administrations and the General Treasury of the Social Security, if applicable, will also be recipients of the necessary data. Likewise, we will publish the resolution with the data of the admitted and excluded persons and the resolution with the data of the aid beneficiaries on the UB website indicated in these rules. No other transfer of data is contemplated, unless it is a legal obligation. In this case, only the necessary data will be sent.

2.6. You can access the data, request its rectification, deletion, opposition, portability or limitation, by writing to the General Secretariat of the University of Barcelona by post (Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 585, 08007 Barcelona), or by email (secretaria.general@ub.edu). You must attach a photocopy of your ID or another valid document that identifies you.

12.7. If you consider that your rights have not been properly preserved, you can notify the UB data protection representative by post (Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 585, 08007 Barcelona), or by email (protecciodedades@ub.edu).

12.8. You also have the right to file a claim with the Catalan Data Protection Authority.

12.9. By submitting the application, the proposer declares to have read this right of information and, in the event that he/she provides personal data of third parties, he/she undertakes to provide them with the content of this section of the regulations.