



DOCTORAL INPhINIT FELLOWSHIPS INCOMING PROGRAMME

Call for applications 2024 Key information

The Doctoral INPhINIT Fellowships Incoming Programme is addressed to **Early-stage researchers of any nationality** who wish to carry out their PhD projects in accredited centres with the Spanish Seal of Excellence Severo Ochoa, María de Maeztu or Health Institutes Carlos III and Portuguese research units accredited as "excellent" according to the evaluation of the Fundação de Ciência e Tecnologia. In addition, researchers establish a personal career development plan including transnational, intersectoral and interdisciplinary mobility opportunities, and attend a full range of complementary training workshops.

This programme is focused **exclusively on STEM disciplines**: life sciences and health, experimental sciences, physics, chemistry and mathematics.

"la Caixa" Foundation will select international candidates. Subsequently, the selected candidates, will propose the Host organisation and the predoctoral position in which he/she would like to carry out the research project. If there is agreement between the host organisation, the supervisor and the candidate, the fellowship will be awarded.

Fellowship provisions



- **Duration: 4 years maximum**
- **Number of fellowships:** to be confirmed.
- **Recruitment date:** September/November 2024. January 2025 under extraordinary circumstances.
- **Funding per fellow:**
 - **107.400 euros (35.800 euros per year)** including salary and all compulsory employers' contributions (employee social security contribution and income taxes, when appropriate).
 - **10.500 euros (3.500 euros per year)** for research costs such as conferences and workshops attendance, short-stays, consumables and intellectual property costs, among others.
 - **Tuition fees to the PhD programme**



- **Complementary training:** the programme offers specific training meant to help fellows strengthen the skills required for a successful PhD and to prepare and design their professional career. The programme consists of 3 residential training sessions, as well as continuous support for either personal or technical needs.
- **Participation in outreach and social events.**

Eligibility requirements



- **Experience:** candidates must be in the first four years of their research career. Furthermore, **they must not have already obtained a doctoral degree or have started a doctoral programme before the academic year 2024-2025.**
- **Academic record:** at the time of recruitment, candidates must have completed studies that allow them to enrol in an official doctoral programme in Spain/Portugal. Verification of the level of studies equivalent to those mentioned above will be carried out by the host university when the admission procedure begins.
- **Mobility:** candidates must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Spain/Portugal for more than twelve months in the three years immediately preceding the closing date of the call.
- **Level of English:** candidates must accredit the required level of English by submitting one of the certificates specified in the Call rules.

Evaluation and selection process

The Doctoral INPhINIT fellowships programme aims to recruit excellent Early-Stage Researchers with very solid theoretical backgrounds, with curiosity and ambition; with incipient skills to express themselves clearly and defend their ideas with creativity, independence and originality. Researchers may be focused on the academic side or be more industry-oriented.

The selection process is made up of three consecutive phases:



- **Phase 1 - Eligibility**

All applications are reviewed to check the accomplishment of the eligibility criteria published in the rules for participation.

- **Phase 2 - Shortlisting**

Each eligible application is assessed remotely for at least two evaluators with relevant experience in the same discipline. The criteria governing the evaluation in this phase are as follows:

1. **Academic record and curriculum vitae (50 %):** the candidate's qualifications will be evaluated as well as the academic and/or professional curriculum in relation to the career stage and the opportunities they may have had.
2. **Motivation and statement of purpose (30 %):** the excellence of the ideas introduced in the statement of purpose will be assessed, considering their originality, innovative approach and their potential impact as well as the suitability of the host institution chosen and the studies or research to pursue.
3. **Reference letters (20 %):** the reference letters received will be assessed, considering both the specificity of their content regarding the candidates as well as the profile of the referees.

- **Phase 3 - Selection interviews**

Shortlisted candidates are invited to a personal interview before a multidisciplinary committee, which evaluates them according to the criteria listed below:

1. **Candidate's potential (40 %):** the candidate's potential will be assessed considering their soft skills, such as clarity, consistent discourse and articulation of ideas, ability to express complex and independent reasoning, originality, entrepreneurship, leadership and teamwork.
2. **Motivation and statement of purpose (30 %):** the excellence of the ideas introduced in the statement of purpose will be assessed, considering their originality, innovative approach and their potential impact as well as the suitability of the host institution chosen and the studies or research to pursue.
3. **Academic and professional background (30 %):** academic and professional background of the candidate in relation to the career stage and the opportunities they may have had.