

**RESOLUTION REU/3989/2022 of 19 December, which approves the Beatriu de Pinós grant rules for the hiring of post-doctoral research staff in the science and technology system of Catalonia (BP).**

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 Management of University and Research Grants - hereinafter, AGAUR in its Catalan initials) as an entity governed by public law and which acts in accordance with private law, with its own legal identity, with the full capacity to act and with its own assets in order to fulfil its duties.

It is the Agency's responsibility to implement grant, loan and subsidy programmes as well as other activities to promote university study, scientific and technical research and technological innovation in Catalonia.

AGAUR is affiliated with the Department of Research and Universities, in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Decree 115/2022 of 14 June, on the restructuring of the Department of Research and Universities.

The provisions set forth in Section IX of the Legislative Decree 3/2002 of 24 December, which approved the revised text of the Public Finance Law of Catalonia, in relation to the legal system of grants and transfers from the Government of Catalonia; Law 38/2003 of 17 November, on General Grants and Royal Decree 887/2006 of 21 July, which approves the Regulations of the aforementioned Law 38/2003 of 17 November, are all applicable.

Order VEH/79/2020 of 9 June is applicable, amending Order ECO/172/2015 of 3 June, on the forms of subsidy justifications.

Article 11 of AGAUR's Statutes, approved by the Government of Catalonia through Decree 168/2002 of 11 June, sets forth that it is the Board of Directors' responsibility to approve the calls for applications for grants and subsidies, as well as resolve them. These powers were delegated to the Chair of the Research Grant Executive Board (CEAR in its initials in Catalan) on 28 April 2022.

Therefore,

It is hereby resolved:

**Single Article**

To approve the Beatriu de Pinós grant rules intended for hiring post-doctoral research staff in the science and technology system of Catalonia (BP), the conditions of which are set out in the Annex to this Resolution.

**Repeal Provision**

Resolution REU/283/2022 of 9 February is repealed, which approved the grant rules for hiring of postdoctoral research staff in the Catalan science and technology system within the Beatriu de Pinós (BP) programme, opened by Resolution REU/531/2022 of 22 February, which will, however, remain in effect until the awarded grants have been completely processed within the framework of the corresponding call.

#### Final Provision

The following resources may be used, using all the administrative channels available, to appeal against this resolution: an appeal for reconsideration before the Chair of the Research Grant Executive Board (CEAR in its Catalan initials) within one month from the day following the publication of the Resolution in the Official Gazette of the Government of Catalonia (DOGC in its Catalan initials), in accordance with the provisions of Articles 123 and 124 of Law 39/2015 of 1 October, of the Common Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations; or appealing directly to the administrative appeal courts of Barcelona, within two months from the day following its publication in the DOGC, in accordance with the provisions set forth in Articles 8, 14 and 46 of Law 29/1998 of 13 July, Regulating Appeal Courts.

Barcelona,

p.p. (Resolution REU/1421/2022 of 10 May, DOGC 8668, of 16.05.2022)

Joan Gómez Pallarès  
Chair of the Research Grant Executive Board (CEAR)

## ANNEX

### I. Preamble

Coinciding with the European Union's goal of increasing the number and mobility of research staff in line with the Europe 2020 strategy and its flagship initiatives Innovation Union, Youth on the Move, and Agenda for New Skills and Jobs, the Government of Catalonia aims to bolster the research and development system so that it may draw research talent and facilitate the insertion of qualified personnel in the Catalan science and technology system.

In this sense, the Beatriu de Pinós grants directly contribute to the implementation of European research, encouraging international mobility, intersectorality, multidisciplinary and the recruitment of research staff with the potential to stand out as leaders in their field of research, giving them the opportunity to further their career development. The aim of the programme is also to bring this potential to institutional-based research groups in Catalonia in order to strengthen the country's critical mass in research in any scientific field.

Finally, and in order to promote the recommendations and good practices of the European Commission regarding the recruitment of research staff, the Beatriu de Pinós Programme aims to encourage beneficiary institutions to take due account of the principles and requirements of the European Charter and the Code of Conduct for Researchers (C&C), ensure the professional recognition and development of the research staff the hire, and offer them adequate monitoring, access to training and an optimal environment for achieving their goals and those of their projects.

#### —1 Subject

The purpose of these rules is to regulate grants awarded on a competitive basis for the recruitment and hiring of postdoctoral research staff in the science and technology system of Catalonia.

## —2 Beneficiary Entities

2.1 Universities within the Catalan university system, research centres, hospital foundations and Unique Scientific and Technical Infrastructures (ICTS) operating within Catalonia may benefit from these grants. Science and technology parks, technology centres, technology activity support centres and technology dissemination centres are excluded from these rules.

2.2 To obtain the status of beneficiary, entities must meet the following requirements and conditions:

- a) Have the administrative, financial and operational ability to be able to fulfil all the duties involved in the acceptance of the aid regulated by these rules.
- b) Have properly proved any previously awarded grants or aids awarded from the Government of Catalonia budgets.
- c) Be up to date with the State and the Government of Catalonia's tax obligations as well as with their Social Security contributions.
- d) Not be in any of the situations provided for in Article 13 of the Law 38/2003 of 17 November on general grants.
- e) Comply with the regulations on intellectual property.
- f) Submit a declaration as to whether other public or private funding for the same activity has been applied for or received, and state in detail the relationship with the awarding body and the amount requested or obtained.
- g) State the signs and information of a permanent nature, at least in Catalan, which contain the text that must be displayed in workplaces for the employees who work there, in accordance with Law 1/1998 of 7 January on Linguistic Policy.
- h) Comply with the reserve quota for the social integration of disabled people established by the legislation in force, if applicable.
- i) In the event that the institution has a workforce of 25 people or more, indicate, in accordance with the stakeholders, the measures used to prevent and detect cases of sexual harassment and harassment on the grounds of sex and to intervene in their workplaces, in accordance with Law 5/2008 of 24 April, Women's Right to Eradicate Gender Violence.
- j) Be registered in the census of the business tax in the event it is mandatory.
- k) Be registered in the corresponding registry.
- l) In the case of foundations and associations, to have adapted their statutes to Law 5/2011 of 19 July, which amends Law 4/2008 of 24 April, of the third book of the Civil Code of Catalonia, in relation to legal persons.
- m) In the case of foundations, to have presented the annual accounts to the Protectorate.
- n) Comply with the purpose of the funding, conducting the grant-funded activity under the terms and conditions of these rules.
- o) In accordance with the provisions of Law 17/2015 of 21 July, on Effective Equality between Women and Men, the beneficiaries of grants have to submit a statement of compliance in which it states that it has never been the subject of severe administrative penalties or final judgements for having carried out or tolerated employment practices which are considered discriminatory on the grounds of sex or gender.
- p) In the event that the entity has a workforce of more than 50 people, an equality plan must be in place, in accordance with Organic Law 3/2007, of 22 March, for the effective equality of women and men.
- q) The activities conducted within the framework of the grant will comply with the published European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity and that no research activities will be carried out expressly excluded in point 14.3 of these rules.
- r) The individual beneficiaries of the grants must have ethically exemplary conduct and must not carry out, encourage, propose or promote any type of corrupt practice and are

expected to inform the relevant bodies of any sign of these practices which, in their opinion, is apparent or could affect the procedure. They shall particularly refrain from conducting any action which could violate the principles of equal opportunities and free competition. In general, they shall accept the following obligations:

- Abide by the principles, standards and ethical rules of the activities, trades and/or professions related to the activity which has been subsidised or has received the public grant.
- Not carry out actions that jeopardise public interest.
- Report any improper situations that may arise in the calls for subsidies or grants or in the processes carried out as a result of these calls.
- Notify AGAUR of any possible situations of a conflict of interests immediately.
- Not request, either directly or indirectly, that a public officer or employee try to influence the awarding of a grant.
- Not offer or provide public officers or employees any material or personal advantages, to them or third parties, with the aim of influencing the procedure for awarding the grant.
- Collaborate with AGAUR in the actions carried out to monitor and/or evaluate compliance with the obligations set forth in the grant rules and of the call, particularly by providing information that is requested for these purposes related to the perception of public funds.
- Comply with the obligations to provide information imposed by the legislation on transparency on the awardees, without limiting the compliance with obligation of transparency that directly apply due to the legal provisions, in the circumstances set forth in the fourth section of Article 3 of the Transparency Law.

In the event of non-compliance with the ethical principles and rules of conduct, the penalty system provided for in Law 19/2014 of 29 December, and the penalties provided for in Article 84 regarding the beneficiaries of public grants, without prejudice of the other possible consequences provided for in the current legislation on matters of subsidies. Accreditation of these requirements must be made through the corresponding declaration of certification or responsibility that must be included in the application form.

### —3 Candidates

3.1 Individual candidates of any nationality must meet the following requirements:

a) Have obtained a doctorate qualification between the dates foreseen in the call (understood as the date of obtaining the doctorate as the date of the reading and approval of the thesis).

The period for obtaining the doctoral degree can be extended (see the corresponding call) if the candidate justifies any of circumstances below during this period:

- Having taken maternity or paternity leave.
- Have dependant children under the age of 6.
- Having taken care of people with a legally recognised physical, mental or sensory disability.
- Having suffered a serious illness or accident that requires major surgery or hospital treatment and which causes temporary incapacity for the person's normal occupation or activity for a minimum continuous period of 6 months. Minor surgery, out-patient surgery and rehabilitation treatment performed outside the hospital system are excluded.
- Have recognised refugee status according to the Geneva Convention of 1951.
- Have undergone any of the situations provided for in article 1 of Organic Law 1/2004, of 28 December, on comprehensive protection measures against gender violence.
- Have with a degree of disability which is greater than or equal to 33%, as issued by the evaluation and orientation teams at the Government of Catalonia care centres for people with functional diversity

b) Have, at the time of joining the receiving institution, a minimum of two (2) years of post-doctoral experience outside Spain. This post-doctoral experience, regardless of the type of

affiliation, may have been carried out in different institutions, provided that the total period of post-doctoral stay is at least two (2) years.

c) Not to have resided or worked in Spain for more than 12 months in the last three (3) years prior to the end date of the deadline for submitting applications. In the case of refugee research staff, the mobility rule applies from the date of obtaining official recognition of a refugee in accordance with the 1951 Geneva Convention.

3.2 One (1) of the grants is reserved for individual candidates with a degree of disability which is greater than or equal to 33%, as issued by the evaluation and orientation teams at the Government of Catalonia care centres for people with functional diversity or equivalent. In the event that no one opts for this aid, it will be reallocated, providing a balanced distribution by areas according to the applications submitted.

Individuals who opt for this position must state this and provide the supporting documentation at the time required by AGAUR. Non-accreditation of the degree of disability will imply an ordinary treatment of the application. People who apply for this position must comply with the requirements set out in section 3.1 of these grant rules.

3.3 Candidate benefiting from a Beatriu de Pinós grant cannot apply for a new call for these grants.

#### **4. The persons responsible for the application**

The persons responsible for the application must meet the following requirements by the end date of the application submission deadline:

a) Have a statutory or employment link with the beneficiary entity of the funding. This association should ensure sufficient supervision of the individual candidate.

For the purposes of these grant rules, part-time staff, staff on leave, visiting professors and emeritus professors will not be deemed to meet this requirement.

#### **—5 Execution Period**

5.1 The grants awarded are for a period of three (3) years.

5.2 The beneficiary entities must hire the candidate and formalise the contract in accordance with the regulations in force, corresponding to the period between the date of the publication of the awarding of the grant on the Electronic Noticeboard of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>>) and the specific call date. Only in exceptional and duly justified cases may the Chair of the CEAR authorise the postponement of the date of recruitment, provided that it is requested before the end of this period.

5.3 Failure to sign the corresponding contract within the period between the date of publication of the awarding of the grant on the Electronic Noticeboard of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>>) and the maximum date of hire is understood as a tacit waiver of the grant awarded, except under the provisions set forth in the previous section.

#### **—6 Amount of the Grant**

6.1 The amount of the grant for the hiring of research staff is 136,906.86 euros. This amount is to finance the cost of each contract for the three (3) years of this grant, and it includes the remuneration to be paid to the research staff as well as the employer's Social Security contributions. The grants awarded are subject to the tax regime in force at the time they are awarded.

6.2 In addition, the grant also includes an amount for compensation costs for termination of the contract due to expiration of the agreed time, with an amount equivalent to that provided for fixed-term contracts in Article 49 of the Revised Text of the Labour Act with a maximum of 3,441.60 euros per grant.

6.3 The beneficiary of the grant must assume any increase in contractual costs arising from any incident that may occur.

6.4 The beneficiary of the grant may increase the salary of the research staff hired and also take responsibility of the corresponding employer's Social Security contribution.

6.5 The grant has an additional amount of €12,000.00. This grant is intended exclusively for the actions executed by the individual candidate during the period under the contract subject to the grant and which must be managed by the beneficiary entity itself. This supplementary aid may include the following concepts:

- a) Training and qualification activities, such as carrying out training courses related to both the scientific field and professional training (aspects of management, organisation, entrepreneurship, dissemination and scientific communication, transversal skills, etc.)
- b) Notable research activities, such as attending and participating in conferences and congresses, carrying out fieldwork or short-term research stays abroad.
- c) Expenditure directly related to the research activities carried out by the candidate, such as attendance at international meetings and gathering, the financing of subscriptions to scientific associations and journals, the purchase of bibliographic material or expendable office material and laboratory, specialised scientific and technical services that cannot be performed at the host entity proper or the acquisition of specific software.
- d) Expenses related to the publication and filing of results and data may also be included, including technical services for their review, translation and adaptation.
- e) Expenses associated with intellectual property rights.
- f) A computer device for personal use by the candidate.

Expenses arising from the purchase of office equipment and scientific/technical equipment, including computers of all kinds, excepting those specified in point f) in these rules, and technical services for the facility, the maintenance or repair of office equipment and scientific/technical or computer equipment, shall be borne by the receiving entity and may not constitute eligible costs of this additional funding.

6.6 The grant may be reduced in whole or in part before its definitive awarding is issued as a consequence of restrictions deriving from the fulfilment of budgetary stability objectives and financial sustainability.

## —7 Eligible expenses

7.1 All expenses that these grant rules hereby establish are considered eligible expenses, in addition to meeting the following requirements:

- That the expenditure can be unequivocally verified as being related to the nature of the grant activity, is strictly necessary and will be carried out under the terms and conditions specified in these grant rules. Under no circumstances may the cost of the eligible goods or services exceed their market value.
- That the expenditure will be made and implemented during the period of the eligible activity and that the payments have really been made prior to end of justification period.
- That the expenditure is identifiable, controllable and subject to market prices and the principles of publicity, competition and transparency set out in the applicable regulations.
- That the expenses can be verified. To this end, the beneficiary entities must keep proof of the successful implementation of the actions.

7.2 Under no circumstances are any indirect taxes, personal income tax, interest on debt from bank accounts and other financial expenses, interest payments, administrative and criminal surcharges or fines, levies or costs of legal proceedings considered eligible expenses. In-kind contributions, particularly those that correspond to internal expenses for the use in internal services that are justified by an invoice or similar document which do not entail an effective outflow of funds shall not be considered eligible either.

7.3 No contractual expenses for periods during which the researcher has not carried out effective work may be subject to funding.

7.4 When the amount of eligible expenditure exceeds the amount established by Law 9/2017 of 8 November on public sector contracts for minor contracts, the beneficiary must request at least three quotes from different suppliers or providers, prior to contracting the commitment for the work, the provision of the service or the delivery of the good, unless, due to its special characteristics, there are not enough suppliers or providers in the market to carry out, provide or supply it. The selection of bids/quotes which are included in the justification, or, as applicable, in the grant application, must be conducted in accordance with the criteria of efficiency and economy. In addition, the selection must be expressly justified in a report when it is not the most economically advantageous proposal. The three bids/quotes must come from companies that are not part of the same group of companies, in accordance with the terms set out in Article 42 of the Commercial Code.

7.5 The regulations on cash payments are contained in Article 7 of Law 7/2012 of 29 October, which states that the beneficiary entities cannot pay for transactions in cash when one of the parties acts as an employer or professional, for amounts equal to or greater than €2,500.00 or the equivalent in foreign currency.

## —8 Applications and Documentation

8.1 Applications must be submitted electronically in two phases and accompanied by the documentation provided for in these rules.

a) First phase (provisional application of the individual candidate):

The provisional application may be submitted by the individual candidate, or researcher from the receiving research group who is to coordinate the candidate's research activity, electronically through the "Procedures" section on the Government of Catalonia's website (<<http://web.gencat.cat/ca/tramits/>>) following the instructions provided.

Within the framework of these rules, only one candidate and one lead researcher can be listed as such in a single application for each call.

In the event of an interruption due to accidental circumstances in the electronic operation of the site, and provided that it is technically possible, the user accessing the site will see a message that will inform them of this circumstance and will advise them where they can alternatively present the documentation in person as well as informing them of the effects of this interruption in calculating the deadlines. However, when it is not technically possible for the user to access and view the said message and it is a procedure that can only be carried out electronically, if there is an interruption during the last day established to carry out the corresponding process, it may be done over the next three consecutive days.

Applicants may submit digitalised 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 document annex that must be attached to the form according to the instructions on the standard form. The information to be specified in the annex is as follows: a brief CV of the candidate; description of the most notable components of the research group, the researcher responsible for the grant and the entity hiring the candidate; brief description of the scientific activity to be carried out, including a work plan for the scientific and training activity to be carried out; areas of impact, communication and publication; and ethical aspects of the planned research project. All this is distributed in the sections on curriculum, host entity, project and research and training activities, impact and ethical aspects. The ethics section of the annex includes a table of ethical self-assessment to be completed by all applicants and entities and is not subject to evaluation.

The form must be submitted with the annex in order to proceed to the evaluation phase.

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

Projects will preferably be submitted in English for evaluation.

Since this is a competitive procedure, no improvements to the application will be accepted after the deadline for submission of applications.

The evaluation will be carried out exclusively on the information provided in the form and in the corresponding annexes. In the event that the report is left blank or is illegible, the evaluation will be carried out solely on the information provided on the form in the initial submission period.

b) Second phase (to be carried out by the beneficiary of the grant):

To access the second phase it is essential that the applicant entities have previously signed the agreement for the processing of personal data in the context of calls managed by AGAUR and for accessing their grant management application (BOGA) in accordance with the procedure which can be found on the AGAUR website (<http://agaur.gencat.cat/ca/lagaur/procediment-de-presentacio-de-persones-juridiques/>).

Once the deadline for the submission of provisional applications has passed, depending on the call, a time period will be opened so that the entities applying for the grant can access the AGAUR's grant application management system (BOGA) to confirm or reject the applications submitted by the individual candidates. To confirm the provisional application, the legal representative of the entity has to sign the confirmation document generated by BOGA and send it to AGAUR through the EACAT platform, or through another valid electronic registry, within the said deadline.

The confirmation document will include a confirmation statement or a statement or declaration demonstrating compliance with the following requirements set out in rule 2. In order to continue with the procedure, it is essential that the duly signed application is submitted to the AGAUR electronic register within the deadline provided for in the call.

8.2 At any moment during the processing of applications, AGAUR may require the documentation deemed necessary to verify that the requirements set forth in the grant rules and the call are being met. Failure to provide the requested documentation within legally stipulated period may result in the grant being denied.

8.3 In general, actions that require notification to applicants are made public on the Government of Catalonia's electronic noticeboard (<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>) and, for information purposes, on the AGAUR website. Particularly in the event that the application needs to be amended, the interested party shall be notified by the administration posting on the electronic noticeboard of the Government of Catalonia the relevant proceedings from the executive director in relation to the basic documentation and non-basic documentation to be amended. The proceedings must state the reasons and state that, in the event of non-amendment of the application within ten days from the following day the publication of the document corresponding to the electronic noticeboard of the Government of Catalonia with regard to basic documentation, it is understood that the applicants have withdrawn their application, in accordance with the provisions of Article 68 of the Law 39/2015 of 1 October, on common public administration procedure.

8.4 The presentation of the application means that these rules are accepted in their entirety and authorises AGAUR to obtain certificates or verify the necessary data to process the grant, which have to be issued by other public entities, research centres, universities and particularly, the State Tax Administration Agency (AEAT) or any other administrative body, with the aim of successfully awarding the corresponding call. In the event of any technical problems arising which prevent or hinder the transfer of data, this documentation may be requested from the corresponding entity.

## —9 Personal Data

The data provided by applicants and entities will be incorporated into AGAUR's processing system for the purpose of managing and resolving the awarding of the grant, in accordance



with that stipulated in these grant rules, and it will be processed in a legal, fair, transparent, appropriate, relevant, accurate and up-to-date manner, complying with the provisions set forth in Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and the Organic Law 3/2018 of 5 December (LOPDGDD). The legal basis for the processing of the data is to comply with the legal obligation of the data controller, reinforced by the consent of the data subject. This data shall be kept for the time strictly necessary to fulfil the aforementioned purpose, respecting that stipulated in these grant rules of the call and the applicable standards as regards the storage of the data at all times. AGAUR certifies it has implemented the technical and organisational measures included in Regulation (EU) 2016/679, in order to guarantee the security and integrity of the personal data contained in the documents, thereby preventing the alteration, loss and unauthorised access or processing of the data. AGAUR may communicate the data of the applicants and entities to the Department of Research and Universities so that it can exercise its power to control the management of AGAUR as an entity which is attached to this department. The passing of certain types of data to third parties in the public or private sector may also take place; this may be so that these entities may intervene in the course of the grant management process which may be necessary to correctly adjudicate the award or it is provided for in any regulation which is enforceable by law.

If the data subject does not inform us otherwise, it will be understood that their data has not been modified and that they are committed to notify AGAUR of any variation that should occur.

The applicants can exercise their rights of access, rectification, restriction of processing, erasure or opposition to the processing of their data, or exercise their right to portability, by writing to AGAUR's registry (Passeig de Lluís Companys, 23, 08010 Barcelona), or to the following email address: [lopd.agaur@gencat.cat](mailto:lopd.agaur@gencat.cat) or the Data Protection Officer at AGAUR, Microlab Hard SL (c/ Santiago Rusiñol, 8, Local 11, 08750, Molins de Rei), email address [sagaur@dpo.microlabhard.es](mailto:sagaur@dpo.microlabhard.es). A copy of their ID must be attached or the email must be signed with a recognised electronic signature. In the event of disagreeing with the processing, you also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Catalan Data Protection Authority.

#### —10 Deadline for submitting applications

The deadline for submitting applications will be that provided for in the corresponding call.

#### —11 Competent Body and Decision-making body that issues the resolution

The competent body of the proceedings is AGAUR's executive director. The awarding of the grant is the responsibility of the AGAUR's Board of Directors and, by delegation, the Chair of the CEAR or the person occupying this position of Chair, according to the resolution of the Board of Directors of 28 April 2022, (Resolution REU/14212022 of 10 May, DOGC no. 8668, of 16.5.2022).

#### —12 Award Procedure

The procedure for awarding these grants has a competitive basis, given that the grants are awarded through the comparison of the applications submitted, in order to establish a priority between them in accordance with the criteria of evaluation set out in these grant rules and in the call, and to award, within the limit of the available credit set out in the call, those that have obtained a higher evaluation in application of those criteria.

Only the documentation submitted with the application is taken into account for the evaluation and therefore, the hearing stage of the process is dispensed with, in accordance with that set forth in Article 24.4 of Law 38/2003 of 17 November on General Subsidies.

#### —13 Evaluation and Selection

13.1 Once the requirements of the applications have been technically validated, these will

undergo the process of scientific assessment by external experts, in accordance with the AGAUR's Assessment Regulations, taking into account the specific assessment and selection criteria established in these grant rules and in the call.

The applications are evaluated in two (2) phases.

13.2 The first evaluation phase consists of the individual and online evaluation of each application by external experts in their respective areas of expertise, taking into account the specific characteristics of their field of research, and which generates a scientific-technical evaluation rating expressed on a scale from 0 to 10 with the following criteria and weight:

a) Candidate's CV (45%). Research experience and the scientific and technological activity developed are valued, as are the quality and impact of publications and the scientific production generated, international mobility and intersectoral experience in projects in collaboration with companies and knowledge transfer to the private sector. The candidate's autonomy, initiative, independent thinking and proven leadership will also be valued.

b) Host entity (25%). The scientific record and international impact of both the researcher responsible for the grant and the recipient research group and its suitability to the specific field of knowledge of the proposal, the experience of the researcher responsible for the grant, the recipient group and the host entity in hiring and training of research staff and their ability to implement and coordinate the planned research and training activities, as well as the ability to insert trained staff into the research system. The suitability of the recipient entity's infrastructures and facilities is also valued.

c) The project and research and training activities that will be developed over the three years (10%). The novelty and originality of the proposed research activities, the clarity in the formulation of the problem and identification of the objectives, the suitability of the methodological approach, and the viability of the proposal and the work plan will be valued, including research stays and professional training activities of the candidate, the interchange of knowledge between the host group and the candidate, and how the proposal will have a global impact on the candidate's future career.

d) Impact (20%). The strategic impact of the proposal, the measures to exploit and disseminate the results of the proposed project, as well as the quality of the proposed communication campaigns are assessed according to the following sections:

d.1) Potential and strategic impact in the field of research and the development of new products and processes of interest to society, as obtained from the project and the research activities set forth in the proposal (10%).

d.2) Dissemination and communication activities (10%). Dissemination activities to members of the scientific community and communication activities planned within the project framework, defined as initiatives of awareness-raising and transmission aimed at the general, non-specialised public and generating public knowledge of the value of science in the benefit of society.

As a result of this assessment, an overall score for the application is generated, expressed on a scale of 0 to 10.

This score provides for a preliminary classification of the proposals which must be subsequently reviewed.

13.3. In the second phase of evaluation, evaluation committees are set up in the form of panels for each knowledge area, in accordance with the list of areas that can be consulted in the evaluation section of the AGAUR website.

These evaluation committees are made up of external members and experts with a recognised trajectory in various scientific fields, thus providing a transversal and multidisciplinary vision, following the AGAUR Evaluation Regulations. The panels review all the scores obtained in the preliminary phase of the evaluation, taking into account the evaluation criteria and weightings described in this rule, the specific aspects of the various fields of knowledge that make up each of the areas and the complementary interdisciplinary evaluation provided by the members of each panel. Based on this review, each panel

agrees on a final score for each application, which may confirm the provisional scores for the first phase or justifiably agree on a new score.

13.4 The selection of proposals will be made by a Selection Committee, which will take into account the AGAUR's current evaluation regulations, which can be consulted on the agency's website ([www.agaur.gencat.cat](http://www.agaur.gencat.cat)), as well as the assessment criteria, the balanced distribution by areas, institutional interests and budget availability. Taking the above criteria into account, the Evaluation Committee shall set the minimum score to access the funding.

13.5 The Evaluation Committee is designated and appointed by the Chair of the CEAR and the Director General of Research. It is chaired by the latter, or the person delegated to this task, and is comprised of a minimum of two members and a secretary, who shall be AGAUR's executive director or the person delegated to this task, who will have an advisory capacity but will not be able to vote.

AGAUR must ensure gender equality in the Evaluation Committee.

13.6 The Selection Committee may propose a reserve list, properly prioritised, made up of those applications that have not been approved due to lack of sufficient budget, but that have achieved a sufficient technical quality to access the grant.

#### —14 Ethical Principles

14.1 Actions funded under this programme shall respect the ethical principles and applicable laws of the European Union, its member states and international law, including the European Charter and Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and its additional protocols.

14.2. Special attention will be paid to the principle of proportionality, the right to privacy, the protection of personal data, the right to physical and mental integrity, the right to non-discrimination, to the need to vouch for the protection of the environment as well as a high degree of protection of human health.

14.3. Funded activities will focus exclusively on civil applications, so the following fields of research will not be funded: activities aimed at human cloning for reproductive purposes; activities aimed at modifying the genetic heritage of human beings that could make these changes heritable (except for research related to the treatment of gonadal cancer, which can be funded); activities aimed at creating human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of acquiring stem cells, including by nuclear transfer of somatic cells leading to the destruction of human embryos. Researchers must complete an ethical self-assessment included in the standard application form in which all ethical issues related to the purpose, execution and possible impact of the activities to be financed are referenced and described, as well as a description on how ethical aspects will be ensured should the research so require.

14.4. All those activities carried out outside the European Union must comply with European legislation and that which is applicable in Catalonia, and under no circumstances the laws of the target country.

14.5. Beneficiary entities that participate in the programme must complete a statement of compliance that states that the activities will comply with the published European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity and that no research activities will be carried out expressly excluded in point 3 of these rules.

14.6. Beneficiary entities must have been granted the necessary licensing and have control measures in place to ensure the requested research and innovation activities can be performed. They must also have the authorisations of the corresponding Ethics Committees when the research and innovation activities present ethical aspects to be considered and/or have been indicated in the ethical self-assessment form of the standard application form. This documentation will only need to be submitted if the AGAUR expressly requests it during the process of issuing the grant.

14.7. All proposed financing for grants involving the use of embryonic stem cells, human embryos, genetic editing with living things, organoids, and artificial intelligence applications

that affect individual rights will be subject to an ethical review by AGAUR or the body to which this has been delegated. AGAUR will ensure the transparency of the ethical evaluation procedures, notwithstanding the confidentiality of the content of said procedures.

14.8. Where appropriate, AGAUR may carry out checks and evaluate the ethical aspects of any funded project, activity or initiative. Verifications of ethical aspects may be carried out with the support of external experts in ethics.

14.9. Where applicable, the funded activities must comply with the principle of not causing significant damage to any of the six environmental goals of the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

14.10. Research and innovation activities that do not comply with ethical and integrity regulations and are therefore not ethically acceptable shall not be funded. It will also be possible to revoke the grant if in the course of the project the systematic non-compliance of ethical aspects is verified.

### —15 Processing and Resolution

15.1 Before awarding the grants, the competent body has to determine whether an application is inadmissible or rejected, which shall be informed to the pertaining entity as published on the Government of Catalonia electronic noticeboard <https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>.

15.2 Applications which do not comply with the requirements that cannot be amended or which do not meet the deadline for the submission of applications established in these rules shall be deemed inadmissible.

Applications which lack the presentation of any of the documents referred to in these rules or the failure to rectify the requirements that can be rectified within a period of 10 days shall be rejected.

15.3 When the eligible applications for the grant exceed the available budget, the Selection Committee will determine the allocation of funds in accordance with the evaluation and selection criteria established in Rule 13.

15.4 Once the Selection Committee's minutes have been reviewed, the competent body will draw up the final resolution proposal and pass it up to the awarding body.

15.5 The grant allocation decision will state, as a minimum, the amount of the grant, the terms and conditions that have to be met by the beneficiary entity, the term of execution and the justification of the subsidised activities, and the source of the funding that is financing the grant.

15.6 The awarding of the grant will be notified to the interested parties as posted on the electronic noticeboard of the Public Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>). The grant award will indicate the appeals that may be filed. The presentation in the appeal phase of that documentation that has been required in the amendment process will not be accepted.

### —16 Resolution Deadline

16.1 The maximum legal period for the award is six months from the date of publication of the call in the DOGC. Having elapsed this period without an express resolution being made, the requested grant is deemed to have been tacitly rejected.

16.2 In those periods in which interested parties are required to submit amendments, additional documentation and other necessary elements, the passage of the maximum period for resolving and notifying is suspended for the period between the notification of the request and its effective compliance by all the entities addressed or during the period established in article 22.1.a) of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, for complying with the requirement.

The expiration of the period may also be suspended if any of the other causes listed in the aforementioned article 22 occur, a circumstance that must be notified to the persons concerned in those cases where the rule requires it.

### —17 Acceptance of the Grant

17.1 Grants must be formally accepted using a standard model signed by the beneficiary entity's legal representative, in which they have to undertake to fulfil these grant rules and the corresponding call.

The acceptance form must be submitted on the AGAUR electronic register using the EACAT platform or through the Procedure Associated with an AGAUR file (contribution of documentation and other requests), which can be found in the "Procedures" section of the website of the Generalitat of Catalonia (<<http://web.gencat.cat/ca/tramits/>> ), in the maximum term which is foreseen in the corresponding call.

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

17.2 In addition to the acceptance document, the following documentation must be provided:

- a) A copy of the candidate's DNI (Spanish National ID Card), passport or NIE (Foreign National ID Card).
  - b) A copy of the doctoral degree or the receipt of the application for the issuance of the candidate's doctoral degree. If applicable, a document stating the date the thesis was read (with the date of reading and approval of the thesis understood as the date of obtaining the doctorate).
  - c) Where applicable, a statement stating from the candidate that he or she has had maternity leave, paternity leave or devoted their time to the care of children under the age of 6, persons with physical, mental or sensory disabilities, or persons over the age of 65 years who depend on the candidate and require special care, or who have suffered a serious illness or accident that requires major surgery or hospital treatment and which causes temporary incapacity for the person's normal occupation or activity for a minimum continuous period of 6 months. The mandatory documentation must be attached to this declaration.
  - d) A certificate from the research staff proctor who has supervised or is supervising the postdoctoral stay or stays carried out outside Spain for the activities carried out, indicating the dates on which these stays were carried out.
  - e) Copy of the deed of incorporation of the entity to which the grant is linked and of its statutes.
  - f) Copy of the identification document of the legal representative of the entity in connection with the grant and a document accrediting the powers of attorney.
  - g) In accordance with Article 15.2 of Law 19/2014 of 29 December on Transparency, Access to Public Information and of Good Governance; if the amount of the awarded grant exceeds €10,000, the statement of compliance must be provided on the information regarding the remuneration received by their management or administrative bodies, for the purpose of making it public, in accordance with their corporate criteria and, if necessary, according to the corresponding implementing regulations. This document can be replaced by a statement of compliance from the entity's legal representative stating that this information is published on the entity's website under the terms and conditions established by Law 19/2014 of 29 December and the remaining of the applicable regulations.
- In the event that some of these documents have already been submitted in previous AGAUR calls or at the time the agreement provided for in Rule 8 is formalised, these do not have to be re-submitted as long as the applicant entity provides a declaration specifying these documents and the date on which they were submitted, stating that they are still valid.

17.3 Beneficiary status is obtained at the time the grant is accepted. It is understood that entities which have not submitted the acceptance document and the rest of the documentation by the deadline and under the conditions provided for in these grant rules and corresponding call are tacitly renouncing the grant.

#### —18 Rights and obligations of the parties

18.1 The research staff under contract must comply with the following obligations:

- a) Join the entity in the planned period and carry out the activities described in its work plan.
- b) Follow the internal regulations of the entities where they perform their tasks and keep the activity carried out confidential, in accordance with the instructions and guidelines issued by the host entity.
- c) Be exclusively dedicated to the project listed in the application. In addition, on a temporary basis, he/she may be engaged in other research or technological innovation projects that are related and are of interest for the development of his/her project or training.
- d) Provide all the information requested and be willing to undergo inspections, checks and controls that may be undertaken by AGAUR and other competent bodies, in accordance with the regulations in force.
- e) Follow the ethical principles and standards on intellectual property of the European Union and Catalan law, as well as good research practices based on the fundamental principles of integrity in research and the ethical principles set forth in Rule 14.
- f) Follow 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 dedicated to the professional development of research staff in those aspects not strictly related to the field, such as management, entrepreneurship, leadership, intellectual property, etc.
- h) To make public, in an open repository, the scientific articles generated within the framework of the project financed by this grant, in order to guarantee open and free access to third parties. Open access to publications must be provided as soon as possible and no later than a maximum embargo period of 6 months from the official date of publication of the scientific article (12 months for the social sciences and humanities). Cases of longer embargoes or exclusion from open dissemination must be duly communicated and justified before the AGAUR sufficiently in advance, which must issue its approval.

It is recommended to store the research generated within the project framework in an open depository and the project data is managed in accordance with international FAIR principles (easy to find, accessible, interoperable and reusable data) is recommended. Open dissemination of project results for reasons of security, privacy, protection of personal data or commercial or industrial exploitation may be excluded.

18.2 Beneficiary entities must comply with the following obligations:

- a) Extend the full-time employment contract, in accordance with current employment and tax regulations corresponding to the candidate, at least for the period provided for in the corresponding call.
- b) Incorporate the research staff hired on an exclusive basis in the project included in the application. Additionally and temporarily, the research staff may be added to other related scientific or technological innovation activities that are of interest to the development of his/her project or training.

- c) In the case of non-EU research staff, facilitate all legal procedures (obtaining a visa, residence permit, etc.) for their hiring.
- d) Certify to AGAUR the incorporation of the hired research staff within two months from the day after their incorporation takes effect.
- e) Provide the hired research staff with the support he/she needs and provide access to the information necessary to carry out the research, as well as the means or equipment required for the normal development of the activity, as well as guarantee the rights and benefits of the researcher enjoys at the centre of the same or similar category. Make public the hiring of the postdoctoral researcher through the usual channels of communication (website, business cards, etc.), provided that this is common practice at the entity.
- f) Follow the ethical principles and standards on intellectual property of the European Union and Catalan law, as well as ensure good research practices based on the fundamental principles of integrity in research are followed.
- g) All projects that have accredited in the submission phase that some of the ethical aspects foreseen in Rule 14 concur or that AGAUR requires some type of information and/or ethical documentation in this respect, will not be able to begin the activities of the projects affected by these aspects until this documentation has been submitted and then accepted by the AGAUR.
- h) Follow the European Commission's Code of Conduct for the recruitment of research staff.
- i) Be aligned with the action plan of Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R), a European initiative applied by AGAUR to promote the guarantee of excellence in research, an attractive institutional environment and a framework of actions to support the professional development of research staff through: interdisciplinary research options; the creation of international networks and relations; compliance with measures of the institution's European HRS4R strategy; the assurance of OTM-R (open, transparent, and merit-based recruitment) measures; the promotion of responsible research and innovation (RRI); open access to publications and data management policies; the fostering of transferable skills through intercultural and transversal competencies, such as leadership, research management and entrepreneurship; training on how to gain access to industry and other sectors of employment; good mentoring practices and the provision of senior research staff (R4) with tools to train research staff in the early stages of their training (R1 and R2).
- j) Provide the postdoctoral researcher with a series of training activities in terms of scientific and practical skills, such as teaching or tutoring activities, as part of their professional development to contribute significantly to their career.
- k) Regularly monitor the progress of the postdoctoral researcher and take corrective measures if deviations or delays are observed in their work plan. The postdoctoral researcher, together with the person designated by the beneficiary entity, must establish a personalised professional development plan in order to help the researcher achieve his/her goals, interests and needs. This plan must be submitted to AGAUR in accordance with the provisions of Rule 19. This plan must be monitored by the beneficiary entity.
- i) Make public, in an open repository, the scientific articles generated within the framework of the project financed by this grant, in order to guarantee open and free access to third parties. Open access to publications must be provided as soon as possible and no later than a maximum embargo period of 6 months from the official date of publication of the scientific article (12 months for the social sciences and humanities). Cases of longer embargoes or exclusion from open dissemination must be

duly communicated and justified before the AGAUR sufficiently in advance, which must issue its approval.

It is recommended to store the research generated within the project framework in an open depository and the project data is managed in accordance with international FAIR principles (easy to find, accessible, interoperable and reusable data) is recommended. Open dissemination of project results for reasons of security, privacy, protection of personal data or commercial or industrial exploitation may be excluded.

m) Provide all the information requested and be willing to undergo inspections, checks and controls that may be undertaken by AGAUR and other competent bodies, in accordance with the regulations in force.

n) Keep the original receipts and other documentation related to the grant for a minimum period of five years from the date of completion of the grant.

o) Comply with the obligations to provide information imposed by the legislation on transparency on the beneficiaries in relation with the aforementioned Administration or administrations, without limiting compliance of the transparency stipulation that directly apply due to the legal provisions, in the circumstances set forth in the corresponding sections of Article 3 of Law 19/2014 of 29 December, on Transparency, Access to Public Information and Good Governance.

#### —19 Payment

19.1 Payment of the grant will be made, without the need to provide collateral, by bank transfer to the account indicated by the beneficiary entity.

19.2 The amount of the grant will be paid in three instalments. The payment of 40% of the grant for the recruitment of the candidate and the payment of 60% of the additional aid shall be processed at the time when the recipient entity certifies the incorporation of the hired research staff, within two months from the day after it becomes effective, in writing from the researcher of the recipient research group who is to coordinate the candidate's research activity, stating the date of incorporation at his/her place of work and a copy of the signed contract, stating the gross annual salary, the contract duration and dates, and the place of provision of the Ph.D.'s services. This documentation shall be accompanied by the candidate's personalised professional development plan.

The second payment is 50% of the grant for hiring the candidate and 20% of the additional aid must be processed at the time the grant beneficiary submits to AGAUR the scientific-technical monitoring report, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 25.

The payment of the remaining 10% of the grant for hiring the candidate, the remaining 20% of the additional aid, and if applicable, 100% of the work completion compensation will be made once the grant justification has been submitted and reviewed, in accordance with the stipulations provided in these grant rules.

19.3 If a partial renunciation should take place which involves the justification of a contracting period of less than 18 months, the maximum amount of the additional grant would be the amount set forth in the corresponding call.

19.4 In accordance with that set forth in Article 24 of the Law 5/2007 of 4 July, on Tax and Financial Measures, at the time of acceptance and to make the payment of the grant, AGAUR itself will verify whether the beneficiary entities are up to date with their tax and social security contributions and obligations. In the event that it is not possible to do this, AGAUR shall require the beneficiary entity to provide certificates which verify they are up to date with the said payments.

#### —20 Suspensions

20.1 In the event the calculation of the contract were suspended due to temporary incapacity and intervals dedicated to the taking of full-time leave for reasons of gestation, pregnancy, risks during the period of gestation, pregnancy and lactation, birth, maternity, paternity, adoption, guardianship for the purposes of adoption or foster care, or



breastfeeding accumulated to full days, or for similar situations related to the above, as well as the taking of full-time leave for reasons of work-life balance or the care of minors, family members or dependants, and the time spent taking leave to care for a child or family member during the contract period as well as the situation provided for in article 45.1. n) of the revised text of the Labour Law as a measure to protect women who are victims of gender violence, the beneficiary entities may request the recovery of the suspended period.

The periods of time devoted to part-time leave for birth, maternity, paternity, foster care for the purpose of adoption or family fostering, and the reduction of working hours for reasons of breastfeeding, the birth of a premature child or hospitalisation after childbirth, legal custody, care of minors affected by cancer or serious illness, family members affected by accident or serious illness or dependent persons, or gender violence, or reductions in working hours due to similar situations related to the above, as well as for reasons of work/life balance or care of minors, family members or dependants, during the term of the contract subject to the grant, will involve the extension of the contract for the time equivalent to the working day that has been reduced.

The request for recovering the suspended period must be accompanied by the corresponding supporting documentation, the contract extension and, if applicable, the accreditation of the corresponding re-incorporation and leave. Beneficiary entities must send this documentation to AGAUR before the grant has been exhausted.

20.2 The suspension of the contract duration and its re-initiation must have the authorisation of the body competent to issue grant awards or the Executive Directorate of AGAUR. The authorisation resolution will determine the duration of the contract re-initiation.

#### **—21 Waivers and Substitutions**

The waiver, either total or partial, must be communicated to the Executive Directorate of AGAUR in writing justified by the researcher of the recipient research group who is to coordinate the research activity of the candidate, with the approval of the entity's legal representative, within a maximum period of one month from the day after it occurred. In all cases, the documentation justifying the period of use of the grant must be submitted in accordance with the provisions of these rules.

In the event of any waiver, either total or partial, or the acceptance document not being delivered under the conditions and within the period provided for in these grant rules and the corresponding call, the competent grant awarding body or the executive director of AGAUR may award the grant to the candidate or candidates on the reserve list. The decision to grant the substitutions will be notified individually to the person concerned or be posted on the electronic noticeboard of the Government of Catalonia, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 40 and 41 of Law 39/2015 of 01 October on Common Administrative Procedure of public administrations, as long as it is subsequent to the awarding of the grant. Substitutions will not be accepted beyond one month after the day after the maximum date of incorporation provided for in the call.

#### **—22 Changes and Incidents**

22.1 The beneficiary entity must carry out the grant activity in accordance with the project submitted. However, when the circumstances of the case so advise and are duly reasoned, the Executive Directorate of AGAUR may authorise, at the request of the beneficiary entity, the variation in the work plan or the proposed project, as well as resolving any incident that does not involve a change with regard to the candidate or a substantial change in the terms of the grant rules and the call and in the conditions and purpose of the grants.

22.2 Exceptionally, and taking into account duly substantiated circumstances, the Chair of the CEAR may authorise, with the prior request of the person concerned, the lead researcher and the legal representatives of the institutions involved, to change the reception centre, provided that the call requirements are met and a positive scientific

evaluation report of the new proposal and the suitability of the change in relation to the project initially proposed according to the grant rules of the call is obtained.

### —23 Research stays

23.1 The contracted researchers may initiate stays in other academic and research institutions related to the project being carried out outside the beneficiary entity of the grant, provided that they have the approval of the lead researcher and the beneficiary entity of the grant.

23.2 Contracted researchers may also undertake stays in non-academic organizations, including public administrations, non-governmental organizations and private companies, provided that they make a significant contribution to the impact of the grant. The hired researchers must have a supervisor at the institution where the stay takes place, in order to receive cross-sectoral guidance and thus ensure the continuity and execution of the project, as well as the achievement of the objectives and obtaining the expected results.

23.3 Stays must be carried out for a period not exceeding nine (9) months, either in a single period or divided into shorter mobility periods.

### —24 Teaching

24.1 If applicable, it is the power of the entity hosting the hired research staff, and at their request, to establish a collaboration teaching programme for training purposes of up to the maximum per year set out in Article 22 of Law 17/2022 of 5 September, which must be stated in his/her employment contract.

24.2 The collaboration in teaching activities, for the purposes of the curriculum, must be certified by the beneficiary entity.

### —25 Monitoring

25.1 In order to assess compliance with the objectives set out in the application, the entity receiving the grant must submit a scientific/ technical report during the 18th month of the contract.

25.2 AGAUR shall monitor and support each hired researcher in order to ensure the programme objectives are achieved, which include, among others, providing good working conditions, intersectoral mobility and the skills and knowledge to enhance their development as lead research staff. Likewise, AGAUR shall carry out monitoring that aims to ensure that the hired researcher through the grant meet the objectives of the rules and the call, the proposal submitted and the programme.

25.3 Once the grant period has ended, AGAUR may request information from the beneficiary entities and the candidates as a means to monitor the impact of the programme on the research career of the candidates.

### —26 Deadline and Justification of the grants.

26.1 Beneficiary entities must justify the effective execution of the projects and certify it during the two months following the end of the grant, regardless of the reasons that cause it, through the standard models that can be obtained at the offices of AGAUR (Passeig Lluís Companys, 23, 08010 Barcelona) and also on its website (<http://www.gencat.cat/agaaur>).

The supporting documentation must be submitted on the AGAUR electronic register using the EACAT platform or through the Procedure Associated with an AGAUR file (contribution of documentation and other requests), which can be found in the "Procedures" section of the website of the Generalitat of Catalonia (<<http://web.gencat.cat/ca/tramits/>> ).

Eligible expenses are those stipulated in Rule 6 of the grant rules.

26.2 The documentation to be attached is as follows:

a) Scientific-technical report explaining the fulfilment of the objectives and purpose of the grant, indicating the activities carried out and the results obtained, signed by the hired

candidate and with the approval of the researcher of the recipient research group the candidate has coordinated with during his/her research activity. This report should follow the standard model and be delivered preferably in electronic format. If applicable, it is necessary to fill in the section on ethical aspects and provide documentation accrediting the ethical aspects of the activities carried out.

b) A certificate from the researcher of the recipient research group the candidate has coordinated with during his/her research activity, accrediting the work or research project carried out and the dates on which it was carried out, with the approval of the entity's legal representative.

c) A certificate of the cost of hiring the candidate during the grant period, detailed monthly for the entire period (salary and employer fee), issued with the approval of the entity's legal representative to which the copy of the last two payslips must be attached. If required, the beneficiary entities must make the necessary documentation available to AGAUR in order to manage possible incidents corresponding to the contract.

d) A classified list of the expenses incurred with the additional aid, signed by the legal representative, with identification of the concept, the creditor, invoice number or document of equivalent probative value, the amount, the date of issue and, if applicable, the date of payment. In the event that the grant is awarded in accordance with a budget, a settlement must be submitted indicating, where appropriate, the reasons for the deviations from the initial budget. This expenditure ratio must follow the standard model.

e) Where applicable, a detailed list of the other income or subsidies that have financed the grant activity, indicating the amount and source. When the receipts of the expenses are partially charged to other subsidies, it will be necessary to indicate the exact amount or percentage imputed to each, identifying the organisations that have granted them.

In the event that the actual final cost of the subsidised activity is lower than the initially budgeted cost, the amount of the subsidy granted will be reduced in the same proportion. 26.3 Deadline extensions for reasons related to the project are not accepted without prior justification, which must be accepted by the Executive Directorate of AGAUR. If the extension is requested, the application must be submitted before the end of the initial justification period.

In the event that the actual final cost of the subsidised activity is lower than the initially budgeted cost, the amount of the subsidy granted will be reduced in the same proportion.

26.4 The beneficiary entities must keep the applicable supporting documents of funds received, including electronic documents, whilst they may be subject to inspections and control.

The awarding body must verify, through the techniques that have been agreed and will be published on the AGAUR website, any receipts deemed appropriate and which provide reasonable evidence of the appropriate implementation of the grant will require the submission of the said receipts from the beneficiary as proof of expenditure for the selected expenses.

## —27 Incompatibilities

27.1 The incompatibilities considered in the employment contract and signed by the contracting institutions or entities shall be applied to the contracts subject to the grant, in accordance with current legislation.

27.2 The grant regulated by this resolution is incompatible with any other public or private aid granted for the same purpose.

27.3 Applicant entities must report any other grants or subsidies awarded for the same project at the time of submitting the application or at any time when this situation occurs.

27.4 The grants regulated by this resolution are compatible with professional or research activities that are of interest for the training objectives of the grant, including teaching duties. The grant is also compatible with aid for attending congresses, meetings and scientific conferences and aids for brief research trips and other training activities.

27.5 The affiliated entity of the researcher is responsible for authorising these compatibilities; which in turn must be officially reported to AGAUR when they occur.

#### —28 Publicity

28.1 Throughout the project's term, the candidates and the beneficiary entities must take the appropriate measures to maintain open and fluent communication with the public and the media regarding the project and highlight the financial support, as provided for in the corresponding call.

28.2 In the publications and other results that may be produced thanks to this grant, mention must be made of the support received, as provided for in the corresponding call

28.3 Beneficiaries must inform AGAUR of publications in major scientific journals and appearances in the media with significant impact.

#### —29 Publication of grants awarded

29.1 In accordance with article 15 of the Agreement GOV/85/2016 of 28 June, the grants will be made public for general knowledge by means of their posting on the electronic noticeboard of the Administration of the Government of Catalonia (<https://seu.gencat.cat/ca/informacio-publica.html>)

29.2 In accordance with Article 15 of Law 19/2014 of 29 December on Transparency, Access to Public Information and Good Governance, the grants must also be published in the Transparency Portal of the AGAUR website.

#### —30 Notifications

30.1 The resolution on inadmissible and withdrawn applications and the resolution on the awarding of grants are announced on the electronic noticeboard of the Public Administration of the Government of Catalonia. This notification replaces the individual notification and has the same effects. In order to publicise the above and for informative purposes, the result of the resolution may be viewed on the AGAUR website.

30.2 In accordance with the provisions of Law 39/2015 of 1 October on Common Administrative Procedure of public administrations, the rest of the administrative proceedings issued in relation to this procedure must be issued by means of electronic notification. For this purpose, the address for notification purposes must be stated on the application form.

For all legal purposes, notification is understood to have occurred upon the access to its content.

When ten calendar days have elapsed after the notification has been made available without the content being accessed, it shall be understood that the notification has been rejected, unless ex officio or at the request of the recipient it is proven he/she was unable to access it.

30.3 For other communications from AGAUR, which are not considered notifications, electronic means will be used, sent to the e-mail address indicated by the applicant in their application.

#### — 31 Verification and Control

31.1 AGAUR is responsible for verifying that the grant rules approved by this resolution and other applicable regulations have been met. AGAUR may review the grants already awarded, in particular the possibility of modifying the award decision in the event of altered conditions or the concurrent obtaining of other grants.

31.2 The beneficiary entities must provide all the information required by the General Intervention Board of the Government of Catalonia, the Audit Office or other competent

bodies, in accordance with the Government of Catalonia's regulations on the subject of subsidies.

31.3 With regards to statements of compliance, these involve the applicant having the relevant documents proving the declared data. If the administration identifies any inaccuracies or false information in the data provided, this fact, after hearing the concerned party, shall result in the corresponding procedure being annulled. If this conduct is classified as a breach of applicable legislation, it will give rise to the initiation of the appropriate disciplinary proceedings in accordance with the penalty system referred to above.

### **—32 Invalidation of the awarding of the grant and refund of the amounts unduly received**

32.1 The grounds set forth in Article 36 of Law 38/2003 of 17 November i on General Subsidies are considered causes for the decision on the awarding of the grant to be declared invalid and entail an obligation to return the amounts received.

32.2 The refund of the amounts received and the requirement to pay the interest on arrears corresponding to the time the grant was paid until the date for the demand of the refund is also agreed in the cases established in Article 37 of Law 38/2003 of 17 November, on General Subsidies and Article 99 of the Legislative of Decree 3/2002 of 24 December, which approved the revised text of the Public Finance Law of Catalonia.

### **—33 Revocation**

33.1 Any amendment of the initial conditions for granting the aid must be authorised in advance by the corresponding body.

33.2 The total or partial breach of the requirements and obligations set forth in these grant rules and other applicable regulations gives rise to opening non-compliance proceedings. The resolution of these proceedings may cause the total or partial revocation of the grant and the obligation to return the corresponding amount.

### **—34 Applicable Regulations**

In all matters not provided for in these rules, the entities benefiting from the grant are subject to the provisions on subsidies in Section IX of the Revised Text of the Public Finance Law of Catalonia, approved by Legislative Decree 3/2002 of 24 December, as well as the basic regulations on subsidies and other applicable regulations.