

Talent recruitment and retention program 2023-2024

Grants for the completion of a final master's project at the IRBLleida

The Biomedical Research Institute of Lleida Fundació Dr. Pifarré (IRBLleida) is established with the aim of creating synergies between basic research, clinical research and epidemiological research, so that biomedical research is the driving force for improving daily clinical practice, for the benefit of the entire population. The purpose of IRBLleida is to promote, develop, transfer, manage and disseminate excellence research, scientific and technological knowledge, teaching and training in the field of life and health sciences. To this end, it promotes relationships and the exchange of knowledge between research staff and research groups belonging to the various centers and entities in the biomedical field, which operate mainly in the Lleida area; promotes collaboration with other institutions and entities, prioritizing the realization of joint projects; collects funds to finance excellence research activities of interest to the aforementioned centers and devices; and manages the resources assigned to the research entrusted to it by the various institutions and entities that are part of it.

The IRBLleida offers **6 grants of five months** for the realization of experimental end-of-master's projects in research laboratories of the IRBLleida.

Eligibility. At the time of application, candidates must be enrolled in the [Master's in Biomedical Research \(UdL\)](#), the [university Master's in Health Education \(UdL\)](#), the [university Master's in Research, Innovation and Transfer in Health \(UdL\)](#) or a master's degree related to the field of biomedicine at a Spanish or European university (see Annex I) . The final master's research project will be carried out in one of the IRBLleida research groups participating in the call.

Aids. The scholarships will offer a monthly payment of 500 euros gross for five months in the first semester of 2024. In order to be able to carry out the internships, an essential requirement will be the signing of an Educational Cooperation Agreement between the university that organizes the Master's and IRBLleida, which will include insurance coverage. Each IP of the IRBLleida will be able to host a maximum of 1 scholarship candidate.

The regulation of external academic internships that take place within the framework of these grants will be established in Royal Decree 592/2014, of July 11, which regulates the external academic internships of university students.

Participation in the call. Interested students must submit their application through the [IREP Master Students fellowships](#) attaching the following information:

- CV of the candidate
- Letter of motivation including a brief description of your previous research experience
- Proof of enrollment in one of the Masters
- Academic certificate of the Degree that gave them access to the Master's

Students will be able to choose **three** of the IRBLleida research groups that offer a place to host a student through the application (see Annex II).

Selection process. Candidates who are eligible according to the call criteria will be prioritized by IRBLleida's Internal Scientific Evaluation Committee (CIAC) following the following criteria:

- 1) Prioritization of 12 files according to grade academic file of the degree. This section will add up to a maximum of 70pts.
- 2) Personal interview of 20 minutes which will consist of 10 minutes of presentation of the letter of motivation by the candidate and 10 minutes of questions from the panel (3 members of the IRBLleida without conflict of interest). This section will add up to a maximum of 20 points.

Calendar

Research groups query: From September 1th to 22th, 2023

Start of the call: October 4th, 2023

Closing of the call: November 24th, 2023

Prioritization of 12 files according to degree grade: November 29th, 2023

Claims for prioritization: Until December 5th, 2023

Personal interviews: From December 11th to 12th, 2023

Provisional resolution: December 13th, 2023

Allegations to the provisional resolution: Until December 20th, 2023

Final resolution: December 21, 2023

Annex I

[University Master in Regenerative Medicine and Advanced Therapies \(CEU\)](#)

[Master in Molecular Biology and Biomedicine \(UdG\)](#)

[Master's in Genetics and Genomics \(UB\)](#)

[Master in Advanced Immunology \(UB/UAB\)](#)

[Master in Omics Data Analysis \(UVic-UCC\)](#)

[Master in Biomedicine \(UB\)](#)

[Master of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biomedicine \(UAB\)](#)

[Master in Translational Biomedical Research \(VHIR-UAB\)](#)

[Master of Advanced Microbiology \(UB\)](#)

[University Master in Statistics and Operational Research](#)

Annex II

Supervisor(s): Jose Manuel Valdivielso Revilla

Research Group: Vascular and Renal Translational Research Group

Contact: josemanuel.valdivielso@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Role of PTEN in renal tubular endocytosis of proteins. Implications in human proteinuric diseases.

Supervisor(s): Andreu Casali Taberner

Research Group: Drosophila Models of Disease

Contact: andreu.casali@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Characterization of the Notch ligand Delta as a metastasis supressor gene.

Supervisor(s): Milica Bozic

Research Group: Vascular and Renal Translational Research Group

Contact: mbozic@irblleida.cat

Proposal Title: Ageing and Kidney Disease: Exploiting the synergistic renoprotective effect of SNCA and its interacting partners to target renal injury and senescence.

Supervisor(s): Joaquim Egea Navarro

Research Group: Developmental and Oncogenic Signaling

Contact: joaquim.egea@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Role of the RhoGTPase RhoE in the formation of cortical folds during brain development.

Supervisor(s): Juan Miguel Díaz Tocados

Research Group: Vascular and Renal Translational Research Group

Contact: jmdiaz@irblleida.cat

Proposal Title: Study of the effects of targeted deletion of alpha synuclein in osteocytes on the differentiation of bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells.

Supervisor(s): Rosa M Soler/Ana Garcerá

Research Group: Neuronal Signalling Unit

Contact: rosa.soler@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Spinal Muscular Atrophy: molecular mechanisms and new therapeutic strategies.

Supervisor(s): Jordi Calderó Pardo /Olga Tarabal Mostazo

Research Group: Experimental Neuromuscular Pathology

Contact: jordi.caldero@udl.cat, olga.tarabal@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Therapeutic effect of Nusinersen and Nusinersen-like ASOs on multi-organ disease associated with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA).

Supervisor(s): Carles Cantí /Judith Herreros

Research Group: Calcium cellular signalling

Contact: judith.herreros@udl.cat, carles.canti@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Targeting ion channels to disrupt the glioblastoma microenvironment.

Supervisor(s): Conchi Mora Giral

Research Group: Research Group in Immunology and Metabolism

Contact: conchi.mora@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Role of cyclin D3 in the regulation of redox balance in pancreatic beta cells from NOD mice. Implications for autoimmune diabetes.

Supervisor(s): Diego Arango del Corro / Águeda Martínez Barriocanal

Research Group: Molecular Oncology

Contact: darango@irbllleida.cat, amartinez@irbllleida.cat

Proposal Title: Investigation of the molecular mechanisms underlying the initiation and progression of gastrointestinal (colorectal/gastric) and endometrial tumors.

Supervisor(s): Núria Eritja Sánchez

Research Group: Oncological Pathology

Contact: neritja@irbllleida.cat

Proposal Title: Navigating the path from endometriosis to ovarian cancer: Unraveling the ARID1A expression role.

Supervisor(s): Elisa Cabiscol Català

Research Group: Biochemistry of Oxidative Stress

Contact: elisa.cabiscol@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Astroglia in the brain of the FXN^{I151F} Friedreich ataxia mouse model. Cross talk in astrocyte-neuron functional cooperation.

Supervisor(s): Alberto Marin / Rui Alves

Research Group: Systems biology and statistical methods for biomedical research

Contact: alberto.marin@udl.cat, rui.alves@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Adaptive laboratory evolution of hypersaline microbes for growth in pre processed organic residues.

Supervisor(s): Ester Vilaprinyo / Rui Alves

Research Group: Systems biology and statistical methods for biomedical research

Contact: ester.vilaprinyo@udl.cat, rui.alves@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Connecting metabolism and gene expression during adaptive responses to temperature and hyper salinity stresses.

Supervisor(s): David de Gonzalo Calvo / Ferran Barbé

Research Group: Translational Research in Respiratory Medicine

Contact: dgonzalo@irbllleida.cat

Proposal Title: SARS-CoV-2-encoded microRNAs as a novel tool for the management of the respiratory post-acute sequelae in the survivor of critical COVID-19.

Supervisor(s): Jordi Torres Rosell/Neus Colomina Gabarrella

Research Group: Cell cycle

Contact: jordi.torres@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Replication fork remodelling and genome integrity in cancer cells.

Supervisor(s): Adriano Targa /Ferran Barbe

Research Group: Translational Research in Respiratory Medicine (TRRM)

Contact: adrianotargads@gmail.com , febarbe.lleida.ics@gencat.cat

Proposal Title: The impact of obstructive sleep apnea on the circadian rhythms.

Supervisor(s): Helena Fernández Lago

Research Group: Research group of health care (GReCS)

Contact: helena.fernande@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Evaluating the Effects of a Treadmill Gait Training in a Gamified Virtual Reality Environment With tDCS in Parkinson's Disease.

Supervisor(s): Montserrat Gea Sánchez

Research Group: Research group of health care (GReCS)

Contact: montse.gea@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Assessment of the impact of public policies of the agricultural campaign in Lleida in the framework of COVID-19. A multidisciplinary, multifactorial approach to the social determinants of health.

Supervisor(s): Gerard Piñol / Farida Dakterzada

Research Group: Cognition and Behavior Study Group

Contact: gerard_437302@hotmail.com , fdakterzada@gmail.com

Proposal Title: Study of an active anti-tau immunization in the pathology and progression of Alzheimer's disease.

Supervisor(s): Filip Bellon

Research Group: Research group of health care (GReCS)

Contact: filip.bellon@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Deployment of the Euthanasia Law in Catalonia: A Critical Review of Experiences of Nursing Care.

Supervisor(s): Mariona Jové / Natalia Mota

Research Group: Metabolic physiopathology

Contact: mariona.jove@udl.cat , natalia.mota@udl.cat

Proposal Title: The great longevity puzzle: energetic metabolites in plasma.

Supervisor(s): Reinald Pamplona / Natalia Mota

Research Group: Metabolic physiopathology

Contact: reinald.pamplona@udl.cat , natalia.mota@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Metabolic mysteries: exploring longevity of mammals in heart.

Supervisor(s): Mariona Jové / Reinald Pamplona

Research Group: Metabolic physiopathology

Contact: reinald.pamplona@udl.cat , mariona.jove@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Cracking the Longevity Code: Centenarians and the Quest for the Fountain of Youth.

Supervisor(s): José Tomás Mateos García

Research Group: Research group of health care (GReCS)

Contact: josetomas.mateos@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Socioeconomic predictors of pathological gambling in the adolescent population of Catalonia.

Supervisor(s): Erica Briones Vozmediano

Research Group: Research group of health care (GReCS)

Contact: erica.briones@udl.cat

Proposal Title: Impact on health and use of health services of the living and working conditions of migrant workers in the agricultural industry in Spain.