

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Masters and Doctoral Research Training Grants at the UAB for the 2007-2008 Academic Year

1st Notice and Call for Applications

Ref: PIF-UAB-07/08

Agreement of the UAB Research Committee, April 27, 2007

1. Purpose of the Competition

The purpose of this notification and call for applications (hereinafter referred to as the Call) is to award a number of grants for Research Training (RT) within the doctoral or official masters programmes offered by the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), for the purpose of preparing doctoral theses. These RT grants are awarded within the guidelines set by the UAB's new structure for academic career development (Agreement of the UAB's Governing Council 57/2006, of December 20th).

2. Eligibility Criteria

2.1. At the time of awarding the grant, the RT beneficiary must be in possession of a Spanish degree, engineering degree, architectural degree, or the equivalent degree certificate from a different university system.

2.2. The minimum grade in the candidate's academic record must be greater of equal to 1.5 points, calculated in accordance with the specific assessment criteria stipulated in section 21 of this Call.

2.3. Grant applicants must indicate which doctoral programme they wish to apply for, or must be pre-enrolled for an official masters programme at the UAB.

2.4. At the time of awarding the grant, the RT beneficiary must be able to show that they have been accepted in an official masters programme at the UAB or, in the case of doctoral studies, must present a letter of acceptance from the department where they wish to conduct their research.

3. Structure of the Awards

3.1. The grants are awarded in two stages, of two years each.

a) In the **first stage**, RT beneficiaries will be awarded a grant to undertake an official Masters degree leading to doctoral studies, or to study a number of ECTS credits on a doctoral RT programme, at the end of which they must have fulfilled the requirements necessary to be awarded a Research Competence (*Suficiencia Investigadora*) recognition.

Any RT beneficiary who, at the end of this first stage, complies with the requirements established in the previous paragraph will be requested to formalise an employment contract with the UAB, under the terms specified in section b), below. RT beneficiaries not meeting the above stated requirements will have an additional unfunded period of four months in which to comply with them. Funding for this additional period cannot be backdated from the second stage.

b) In the **second stage** of the grant, RT beneficiaries will sign an employment contract with the UAB, with a maximum duration of two years, in which to complete and submit their doctoral thesis. Submission of the thesis requires having obtained an Advanced Study Diploma (*Diploma d'Estudis Avançats*), or the certificate that replaces this in the new teaching structure which develops from the European Higher-Education Area. In the case of non-EU citizens, obtaining a work permit will also be required.

4. Grant Administration

The responsibility for the administration of the RT grants lies with the UAB's Research and Development Office (*Àrea d'Investigació i Desenvolupament*) and Academic and Research Staff Administration (*Administració de Personal Acadèmic i Investigador*).

5. Grant Evaluation and Awards

The responsibility for awarding the RT grants will lie with the UAB's Research Committee (*Comissió d'Investigació*), following evaluation and recommendation of the proposals by the departments involved in the Call.

6. Evaluation and Resolution Period

The final decision on the awarding of RT grants will be made on July 4th, 2007. On this date the provisional list of selected candidates will be published, together with a reserve list. Final lists will be published on July 21st, 2007.

7. Announcement of the Resolution

The provisional and final lists will be forwarded to all of the applicants for RT grants, using the e-mail address provided in the application forms. These lists will also be published on the public notice board of the UAB's Research and Development Area (Rectorate Building), as well as on the UAB's website <http://www.uab.cat/researchgrants>

8. Acceptance of the RT Grant

8.1. Once the final list has been published, those candidates who have been selected will receive a letter of notification of the award that will include the acceptance form.

Within a maximum period of 10 calendar days, starting on the day after the announcement of the grant award, the selected candidates must complete and return the acceptance form together with the agreement to comply with all the general conditions pertaining to this award.

8.2. Selected candidates who do not return the acceptance form within the period indicated will be deemed to have rejected the grant.

9. Formalization of the grant

9.1. To formalise the acceptance of the grant, the RT beneficiary will be required to supply the UAB's Research and Development Office, with the following documents, between 3rd and 17th of September.

- a) Copy of their national ID Card or passport. Non-EU citizens will also be required to provide a Spanish foreign-residents' ID number (NIE) or Entrance-authorisation card.
- b) Copy of the official master's registration form or, if relevant, proof of acceptance in the doctoral programme.
- c) Authenticated copies of all of the documentation required in section 20 of this Call.
- d) Photocopy of Spanish Social Security Card, indicating the corresponding Social Security Number. In the event of not having such a number, this must be requested from any office of the Spanish *Tresoreria General de la Seguretat Social* (Social Security Offices). Grant holders from outside Spain who have never had a Spanish

Social Security number must fill in forms TA.1 and TA.2 and bring them with them to the UAB's Research and Development Office so that a Social Security number can be requested.

e) Spanish bank account details¹.

f) 3 photographs.

10. Rights of RT beneficiaries

The rights of the RT beneficiaries are as follows:

- a) To receive the financial support which is established for the present Call in sections 13 and 14.
- b) To obtain the necessary collaboration and support from the UAB for the correct development of their studies and research programme.
- c) To receive the intellectual property rights that derive from their research activity, in accordance with their contribution and with current Spanish legislation.
- d) To make use of the services offered by the university and to participate in all its activities, in accordance with the UAB's internal regulations.
- f) To receive all the social rights and advantages enjoyed by the UAB's academic staff.
- g) To apply for complementary grants for brief trips away from the UAB in order to complete their research training in relation to the research project they are undertaking.

11. Obligations of RT beneficiaries

The obligations of the RT beneficiaries are as follows:

- a) To join the department and carry out the activities included in their doctoral or research training programme, complying with the objectives of their training programme, and when relevant, with any directives established by their thesis director.
- b) To comply with the university's internal regulations.
- c) To carry out the teaching assistance duties in accordance with what is determined in section 16.
- d) To justify the grant, within a maximum period of one month from its termination (regardless of the cause of that termination) by submitting a standard-form report to the Research and Development Office on all of the work carried out over the totality of the grant period. This report must confirm the effective achievement of the objectives.

¹ Foreign residents who do not have a Spanish bank account are requested to let the UAB's Research and Development Office as soon as possible.

- e) To include, in any written materials derived from the research performed, the expression: “With the support of the *Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*”.
- f) To request authorisation from the *Vicerektorat d’Investigació* (Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research) for any change or incidence that affects the development of the grant.
- g) To notify any renunciation of the grant, in writing and explaining the reasons, to the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research.
- h) To provide any and all information requested by the UAB and co-operate fully with any verification or control activities that the UAB may require.
- i) To request and obtain, for the second training stage, a Spanish work permit [Non-EU citizens only].
- j) To ensure that the thesis director, where relevant, is associated to the UAB through any of the forms stipulated in its Statutes, and that the presentation and defence of the doctoral thesis is carried out at the premises of the UAB.
- k) To notify the UAB’s Research and Development Office of the successful presentation and defence of the doctoral thesis, within a maximum period of one month from completion. The interested party must also present a copy of the provisional doctoral certificate.

12. Obligations of the university

The university’s obligations are as follows:

- a) To provide the necessary identification credentials to trainee researchers during the first stage of the grant.
- b) To formalise the contracts for the second-stage RT beneficiaries in accordance with current and applicable legislation.
- c) To provide RT beneficiaries with the support they need and to supply them with the means or equipment necessary to carry out their work in adequate conditions.
- d) To oversee and foster the adequate development of the RT beneficiary’s training programmes.
- e) Oversee and ensure fulfilment of the requirements of the Spanish incompatibilities regime.

13. Financial issues associated with the grant

13.1. The full amount of the grants for the first stage is **€11.460** gross per annum, and **€16.100** gross per annum for the second stage. These amounts will be paid in 12 and 14 monthly instalments, respectively.

13.2. The grants will also include the public registration fees for the official postgraduate programmes (doctoral or official masters) as well as thesis tutorship fees. In no case will payment be made of academic or other fees for doctoral programme courses that comprise more than 32 credits, or for official Master programmes comprising more than 60 annual credits, over the period of the award. The costs of transferring (i.e., recognising) credits from other academic institutions are not eligible.

13.3. The RT beneficiary will be included in the general Social Security system in accordance with the stipulations of Spanish *Real Decreto* 63/2006, of January 27.

14. Payment

Payment will be made on a monthly basis, directly to the RT beneficiary, once the director of the university department has confirmed that said RT beneficiary has joined the host department. All taxes and social security costs will be applied in accordance with applicable law.

15. Incompatibilities of the grant

15.1. The status of RT beneficiary under the terms of this programme is not compatible with any other contractual or statutory relations that may limit the exclusivity of dedication to research activities. In case of incompatibility, the university will proceed to revoke the grant.

15.2. Payments can be authorised in relation to teaching activities (courses, conferences or lectures) or research activities (books or articles) that are directly associated to the research being carried out by the RT beneficiary, as long as these are of an occasional nature and not a regular source of income. Authorisation for these payments will be the responsibility of the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research.

15.3. The award of an RT grant does not imply any form of commitment by the university to employ the beneficiary on the university staff at the end of the period of the grant.

16. Teaching

16.1. Acceptance of the grant automatically implies the RT beneficiary's participation in a programme of collaboration with teaching activities of up to 45 hours in the first year, 70

hours in the second year and 90 hours in the last two years. Teaching commitments of more than 60 hours a year will not, under any circumstances, imply an increase in the variety of the subjects to be taught. Teaching in the first year are expected to be primarily concentrated in the second semester and will not be related to a highly heterogenic typology of teaching.

16.2. Notwithstanding the provisions in the preceding paragraph, annual teaching hours will be updated in accordance with the maximum number of teaching hours allocated to the category of Assistant Lecturer in the UAB.

16.3. Teaching assistance will, in no case, imply responsibility of the trainee researcher for the subject or its programming.

16.4. These collaborations must be accredited by the departments involved for purposes of the curriculum.

17. Interruptions

17.1. During the first stage, the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research may agree to a temporary interruption of the grant, during which there will be no financial payments, for a maximum period of one year, provided that the interested party presents a reasonable written request, and that this is agreed to by the head of department and, where relevant, by the thesis director.

17.2. Temporary suspensions for reasons of maternity, adoption or permanent or pre-adoption fostering of children of less than six years of age will be for the same period as those legally established for such cases. During this period, 100% of the grant payments will be maintained.

17.3. In accordance with applicable law, temporary suspensions of the first-stage grant or the second-stage work-contract grant for the reasons specified in paragraph 17.2, will be extended for the same duration as that for which they were suspended.

18. Period and duration of the grant

18.1. Grants will be awarded for a maximum duration of 48 months from the date of incorporation, which is considered to be the date of the resolution awarding said grants. The grants, through a favourable report provided by the head of department or, when relevant, the thesis director, can be renewed for full calendar years, up to a maximum of three renewals. The second renewal provides access to the second stage, and the beneficiary must have fulfilled the research-competence requirements and any other

specific requirements determined in the doctoral programme for which he or she has enrolled, or the equivalent for official masters programmes, and must have obtained the corresponding work permit.

18.2. Financial allocations which RT beneficiaries may receive from other grants of similar characteristics in terms of objectives and amount, will be deducted from the overall total.

19. Positions offered

The positions offered, along with the descriptions of the departments offering these, can be found in Annex I of this Call, and are also available at the <http://www.uab.es/researchgrants> website.

20. Period and presentation of applications

20.1. Each applicant may apply for more than one grant but a separate application form must be completed for each grant and profile of interest to the applicant. This will therefore mean, in such an event, that each application form should indicate the reference of the position being applied for and the order of priority of the different applications.

20.2. The deadline for presenting applications will be June 15, 2007. Applications will not be accepted before May 7, 2007.

20.3. All compulsory fields on the application form must be fully completed. This must be submitted in digital format, together with copies of the following documents:

- a) National ID card or Passport.
- b) *Curriculum vitae*
- c) Academic transcript (except UAB graduates)
- d) Copy of degree certificate (except UAB graduates)
- e) In the case of degrees obtained from foreign universities, and only if the country where such degrees were obtained is not included in the table of university-system equivalences approved by the AGAUR (resolution EDU/3600/2006, of October 24, DOGC 16/11/06 <https://www.gencat.net/diari/4762/06312049.htm>) it will be necessary to submit a report from the university of origin, indicating the maximum and minimum grade qualifications within the corresponding evaluation system, and also stating the minimum grade required for a pass.

21. Evaluation and selection criteria

21.1. The average grade on the report will be obtained by applying the criteria established by the following *Real Decretos*: RD/1994 of June 10, RD1497/1987 of November 27 and RD1044/2003 of August 1. These are available from

<http://www.uab.es/servlet/Satellite?cid=1096476753786&pagename=UAB%2FPage%2FTemplatePageLevel2>

21.2 Each of the departments involved will produce a list of candidates, ranked in accordance with the results of the assessment of the academic-transcript, as stipulated in the previous paragraph. The departments may evaluate, if relevant, candidates' other merits (masters completed, professional experience, publications, reports, congresses, knowledge of languages, etc) and once each candidate has been evaluated globally and in accordance with the needs of each department, the departments will then produce a list ranking the candidates, together with a proposal for resolution, which will be submitted to the *Comissió d'Investigació* (Research Committee) for approval.

22. Substitutions

Any vacancies that are caused by renunciation of the trainee researcher, or through other causes, may be filled within a period of three months from the incorporation of the person causing the vacancy, with people taken from the candidates on the waiting list. If the vacancy exceeds this period, it will not be filled until the following notification. The period between the start date for the trainee researcher established by this present notification and the start date of the substitute trainee researcher cannot be recovered.

23. Objections and Contentions

In a period of ten calendar days, counted from the day after the publication of the provisional and final lists of admissions, respectively, the interested parties may present any objections they consider opportune to the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research.

If the answer to the objections submitted in accordance with the paragraph above is not satisfactory, the interested parties may appeal in writing to the Vice-Chancellor within a maximum period of one month.

Against the decision of the *Comissió d'Investigació* (Research Committee) to rank and definitively award grants, interested parties may present a motion to appeal to the Vice-Chancellor within a maximum period of one month.

In accordance with the stipulations of article 111 of Spanish Law 30/1992, of December 26, pertaining to the legal system for public administrations and common administrative procedure, the submission of an appeal against the agreements and resolutions of the competent bodies does not imply any obligatory suspension of the execution of the actions being appealed against.

ANNEX I

List of positions for UAB trainee research staff, in the notification of May 7, 2007, for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Code	Department	Number of position	Profile of the position	Reference
402	Mathematics	2	Mathematics	402-01-2/07
403	Chemistry	2	Analytical Chemistry	403-01-2/07
403	Chemistry	1	Computational Modelling in Catalysis	403-02-1/07
403	Chemistry	1	Beta-Peptide Cyclobutanic Structure	403-03-1/07
403	Chemistry	1	Functionalised Ligands. Applications in Nanoparticles and Radiopharmacy	403-04-1/07
403	Chemistry	1	H.pomatia (earth snail) metallothioneins. Molecular Structure, Function and Interactions	403-05-1/07
403	Chemistry	3	Organic Chemistry	403-06-3/07
404	Physics	2	Theoretical Physics	404-01-2/07
406	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	2	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Enzymology, protein structure and function	406-01-2/07
406	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	1	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Chromatin structure and gene expression regulation	406-02-1/07
406	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	2	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Metabolism, Control, Animal and Plant Models, in-vivo Studies	406-03-2/07
406	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	1	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Molecular Basis for Cell Survival and Cell Death	406-04-1/07
406	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology	1	Biophysics	406-05-1/07
409	Genetics and Microbiology	2	The evolutionary genetics of adaptation and speciation	409-01-2/07
409	Genetics and Microbiology	2	Mutagenesis, genetic toxicology, DNA repair and cancer predisposition Syndromes	409-02-2/07
409	Genetics and Microbiology	1	Applied Microbiology. Genetic and Molecular Analysis of Antibacterial Resistance Determinants	409-03-1/07
409	Genetics and Microbiology	1	Applied Microbiology. Environmental Mycobacteria. Study and utilities	409-04-1/07
410	Business Economics	1	General, Financial and Analytical Accounting. Analysis of Financial Statements	410-01-1/07
410	Business Economics	1	Marketing and Market Research	410-02-1/07
410	Business Economics	2	Company Management and Strategy. Corporate Finance	410-03-2/07
412	Economics and Economic History	10	The Foundations of Economic Analysis	412-01-10/07
413	Audio-visual Communications and Advertising	1	Audiovisual Communication	413-01-1/07

413	Audio-visual Communications and Advertising	1	Audiovisual Journalism	413-02-1/07
413	Audio-visual Communications and Advertising	1	Advertising and Public Relations	413-03-1/07
414	Journalism and Communication Sciences	2	Journalism and Communication Sciences	414-01-2/07
421	Teaching of Musical, Artistic and Corporal Expression	2	Music Teaching	421-01-2/07
421	Teaching of Musical, Artistic and Corporal Expression	1	Voice Education and Vocal Health	421-02-1/07
423	Mathematics and Sciences Education.	1	Mathematics Education	423-01-1/07
423	Mathematics and Sciences Education.	1	Science Education	423-02-1/07
429	English and Germanic Studies	1	English Language and Linguistics. Applied English Language and Linguistics	429-01-1/07
429	English and Germanic Studies	1	Literature in English. Cultural Studies in English	429-02-1/07
430	French and Romance Studies	2	French Language and Literature	430-01-2/07
432	Applied Pedagogy	2	Didactics and Management School	432-01-2/07
433	Political Science and Public Law	2	Political Science and Administration Studies	433-01-2/07
433	Political Science and Public Law	2	Philosophy of Law and Gender	433-02-2/07
434	Sociology	1	Sociology	434-01-1/07
436	Philosophy	1	Philosophy	436-01-1/07
441	Translation and Interpreting	2	Translation and Interpretating	441-01-2/07
441	Translation and Interpreting	2	East Asia	441-02-2/07
442	Systematic and Social Pedagogy	1	The Theory and History of Education	442-01-1/07
447	Chemical Engineering	3	Bioprocess Engineering and Applied Biocatalysis	447-01-6/07
447	Chemical Engineering	2	Environmental Engineering	447-02-4/07
454	Antiquity and Middle Ages Studies	1	Greek philology. Mythography	454-01-1/07
456	Cell Biology, Physiology and Immunology	2	Plant and Animal Cytology-Histology: Neurogenesis and cell Proliferation	456-01-2/07
456	Cell Biology, Physiology and Immunology	2	Animal Physiology	456-02-2/07
456	Cell Biology, Physiology and Immunology	2	Cell Biology: Cytogenetics and Reproduction	456-03-2/07

457	Animal Health and Anatomy	1	Animal Health	457-01-1/07
458	Animal and Food Science	1	Molecular Genetics applied to veterinary science	458-01-1/07
461	Telecommunications and Systems Engineering	3	Antenna and microwave systems	461-01-3/07
461	Telecommunications and Systems Engineering	1	Applied Communication Theory	461-02-1/07
461	Telecommunications and Systems Engineering	2	Modelling, Simulation and Optimisation of Logistical Systems	461-03-2/07
461	Telecommunications and Systems Engineering	2	Automation and Advanced Systems of Control	461-04-2/07
464	Basic, Evolutionary and Educational Psychology	1	Educational Psychology	464-01-1/07
467	Clinical and Health Psychology	1	Adult Psychopathology	467-01-1/07
467	Clinical and Health Psychology	1	Child and Adolescent Psychopathology	467-02-1/07
469	Computer and Operating Systems Architecture	6	Computer Architecture and Technology: High-Performance Computation	469-01-6/07
470	Microelectronics and Electronic Systems	1	Micro- and Nanosystems for Medical Applications and for Personal Autonomy	470-01-1/07
470	Microelectronics and Electronic Systems	1	Micro- and Nanosystems for Neuroscience and Knowledge-Science Applications	470-02-1/07
470	Microelectronics and Electronic Systems	1	SoC and NoC Fault-Tolerant Design for Aerospace Applications	470-03-1/07
470	Microelectronics and Electronic Systems	1	Minirobots and Collaborative Microrobots	470-04-1/07
470	Microelectronics and Electronic Systems	1	Multimedia Systems	470-05-1/07
471	Computer Sciences	2	Computer Vision - Driving Assistance	471-01-2/07
471	Computer Sciences	1	Computer Vision - The Computational Perception of Colour and Texture	471-02-1/07
471	Computer Sciences	2	Computer Vision	471-03-2/07
472	Information and Communications Engineering	1	Security in Networks and Distributed Applications	472-01-1/07
472	Information and Communications Engineering	1	Optimal Codes and Cryptographic Applications	472-02-1/07
472	Information and Communications Engineering	1	Interactive Coding of Images	472-03-1/07