

# Predoctoral study and mobility grant guidelines

Approved by the Research and Innovation Committee on 28 September 2023



Doctoral  
School

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Universitat Oberta  
de Catalunya

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# Scope of application

These guidelines apply to trainee predoctoral researchers who have signed a predoctoral contract with the UOC, according to the stipulations of article 21 of Spanish Law 14/2011 of 1 June 2011, on Science, Technology and Innovation, and Spanish Royal Decree 103/2019 of 1 March 2019, which approves the Statute for predoctoral trainee research staff (Spanish Official Gazette (BOE) no. 64, of 15 March 2019).<sup>1</sup>

# Expenses arising from doctoral degrees

While preparing their thesis, predoctoral students must meet the following expenses, among others:

- [E1] **Supervision, tutoring and continuous assessment of the thesis:** fee for the non-teaching academic service established by decree.
- [E2] **Administrative management of the academic record:** fee for the non-teaching academic service established by decree.
- [E3] **Enrolment in training activities:** public universities credit price for doctoral degree.
- [E4] **Enrolment in training activities:** training courses, specific courses, training actions to acquire knowledge, skills and experience related to transversal or transfer competencies.
- [E5] **Reading and defence of the doctoral thesis:** fee for the non-teaching academic service.
- [E6] **Application for the certificate:** fee for the non-teaching academic service
- [E7] **Congresses, conferences or seminars:** mobility to attend congresses, conferences or seminars.
- [E8] **Research or training stays:** mobility for research or training stays (transportation, lodging and maintenance).
- [E9] **Learning support services:** fee for the non-teaching academic service.
- [E10] **Learning resources and tools**
- [E11] **Application for the academic record:** fee for the non-teaching academic service.

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<sup>1</sup> [DECRETO 115/2023, de 20 de junio, por el que se fijan los precios de los servicios académicos en las universidades públicas de Cataluña y en la Universitat Oberta de Catalunya](#)

# Expenses covered by the Doctoral School

The UOC has a programme of grants associated with the Doctoral School for trainee researcher contracts. The Doctoral School covers the costs of the fees related to UOC grants for six semesters: [E01], [E02], [E03], [E04], [E05], [E07], [E08], [E09] and [E10]. It also covers the fees for non-teaching academic services established in [E6] and [E11] until the seventh semester (included).

## Expenses covered by other competitive grants

The Doctoral School covers the expenses of the following competitive grants:

### FI Ajuts Joan Oró grants for the recruitment of predoctoral trainee researchers

The FI grant covers the following expenses: [E1], [E3], [E4], [E7] and [E8].

The budget of the Doctoral School complements the following expenses: [E02], [E07]<sup>2</sup>, [E08]<sup>3</sup>, [E09] y [E10].

The Doctoral School does not cover the following expenses: [E01], [E03], [E04], [E05], [E06] y [E11].

### FI SDUR grants supporting university departments and research units for the recruitment of predoctoral trainee researchers

The FI grant covers the following expenses: [E1], [E3], [E4], [E7] and [E8].

The budget of the Doctoral School complements the following expenses: [E02], [E07]<sup>4</sup>, [E08]<sup>5</sup>, [E09] y [E10].

The Doctoral School does not cover the following expenses: [E01], [E03], [E04], [E05], [E06] y [E11].

<sup>2</sup> Providing the funds in the grant itself have been used up first, with a limit according to the budget approved each year for research training.

<sup>3</sup> Providing the funds in the grant itself have been used up first, with a limit according to the budget approved each year for research training.

<sup>4</sup> Providing the funds in the grant itself have been used up first, with a limit according to the budget approved each year for research training.

<sup>5</sup> Providing the funds in the grant itself have been used up first, with a limit according to the budget approved each year for research training.

## FPU grants for university teaching staff training

The FI grant covers the following expenses: [E8].

The budget of the Doctoral School complements the following expenses: [E1], [E2], [E3] (up to a maximum of 30 credits), [E4], [E7], [E08]<sup>6</sup>, [E9] and [E10].

The Doctoral School does not cover the following expenses: [E05], [E06] and [E11].

## FPI grants for predoctoral contracts for the training of doctors <sup>7</sup>

The FPI grant covers the following expenses: [E1], [E2] and [E8].

The budget of the Doctoral School complements the following expenses: [E3] (up to a maximum of 30 credits), [E04], [E07], [E9] and [E10].

The Doctoral School does not cover the following expenses: [E01], [E02], [E05], [E06], [E08] and [E11].

## PFIS predoctoral health research training contracts

The PFIS grant does not cover any of the expenses mentioned above for predoctoral studies.<sup>8</sup>

The budget of the Doctoral School complements the following expenses: [E1], [E2], [E3] (up to a maximum of 30 credits), [E4], [E7]<sup>9</sup> and [E8]<sup>10</sup>.

The Doctoral School does not cover the following expenses: [E05], [E06] and [E11].

## ITN-MSCA Marie Skłodowska-Curie / Doctoral Network

Expenses [E1], [E2], [E3], [E4], [E7] and [E8] are covered by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie programme or by the student.

The budget of the Doctoral School complements the following expenses: [E9] and [E10].

The Doctoral School does not cover the following expenses: [E01], [E02], [E03], [E04], [E05], [E06], [E07], [E08] and [E11].

## DI Industrial Doctorate Programme

Expenses [E1], [E2], [E4], [E5], [E6], [E7] and [E8] are covered by the Industrial Doctorate programme or by the student.

<sup>6</sup> Providing the funds in the grant itself have been used up first, with a limit according to the budget approved each year for research training.

<sup>7</sup> Last call prior to 2022.

<sup>8</sup> They will have to apply for an M-AES grant to finance the stay abroad.

<sup>9</sup> Providing the funds in the grant itself have been used up first, with a limit according to the budget approved each year for research training.

<sup>10</sup> Providing the funds in the grant itself have been used up first, with a limit according to the budget approved each year for research training.

The budget of the Doctoral School complements the following expenses: [E3] (up to a maximum of 30 credits), [E9] and [E10].

The Doctoral School does not cover the following expenses: [E01], [E02], [E04], [E05], [E06], [E07], [E08] and [E11].

## Clarifications

Applications for the grants that the Doctoral School complements, must be submitted through the indicated channels and with the required documentation, and will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis and until the end of the budget.

Any other financial aid for the recruitment of predoctoral trainee researchers not mentioned in this document requires that all corresponding expenses be covered by the student themselves or by the project/research fund. **We advise principal investigators to budget for these expenses in their project proposals, wherever possible.**

**Trainee researchers with a UOC contract who receive financial assistance may be eligible for UOC mobility grants, provided that they have first spent their mobility budget and there is some of the UOC mobility budget remaining.**

People with a UOC employment contract will be eligible for a range of training activities, which form part of a training plan for the Doctoral School and the research centres.

**Research assistants, part-time staff and UOC staff are not covered by these guidelines.**

The prices of the teaching and non-teaching academic services, as set forth in the decree establishing the price of academic services provided by the public universities of Catalonia and the UOC, only allow entitlement to the rebates/exemptions stipulated in the decree if on the date of commencement of academic activity, the applicant meets the conditions that make them eligible, namely: (i) recipients of Spanish government grants, (ii) members of large families, (iii) distinctions and special awards, (iv) disabled people with a recognized degree of disability of 33% or more, (v) victims of terrorism, etc.

Supporting documents for the eligibility requirements for deductions and exemptions must be provided within a maximum of fifteen (15) calendar days from the start of the academic activity, except in cases of disability, where it can be provided within fifteen (15) calendar days after the date of recognition of the disability.

Discounts and exemptions in the fees for teaching and non-teaching academic services will not be applied to previous academic semesters retrospectively, except for the disability

exemption, which after it has been recognized applies from the date of the application for recognition.

The fee for the non-teaching academic service established for learning support services is set by the university's Board of Trustees.

Barcelona, 4 October 2023.

Signed, David Masip Rodó  
Director of the Doctoral School