



**IDIBAPS Doctoral programme Yielding Novel
Advancements in Medicine and Innovative Solutions**

Informational Booklet



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What is DYNAMIS?

DYNAMIS, acronym for Doctoral programme Yielding Novel Advancements in Medicine and Innovative Solutions, is a **new international PhD programme** launched by the Fundació de Recerca Clínic Barcelona-Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques August Pi Sunyer (FRCB-IDIBAPS) and co-funded by the European Union.

In the framework of this programme, IDIBAPS will launch two international peer-reviewed calls. This programme includes two international peer-reviewed calls from IDIBAPS. Interested in starting your PhD? These could be the right opportunities for you!

DYNAMIS aims to train its Doctoral Candidates (DCs) to address **real-world medical challenges** by exposing them to both translational research and clinical settings. In this way, the candidates will be more prepared to understand and meet patients' needs, following an approach "*from bedside to the bench*". At the same time, they will be trained to actively think about the impact of their research and its implementation, developing a "*from the bench to bedside*" mindset. To favor the acquisition of this holistic understanding of biomedical research, the DYNAMIS DCs will be **co-supervised by a clinical scientist and a translational researcher**. The DCs will have the possibility to develop their PhD project choosing from a variety of research lines, proposed by different co-supervisors. The research topics cover diverse areas such as, for example: Neuroscience, Cardiovascular pathobiology, Cancer, Immunology. You can explore the research lines for the first DYNAMIS call at the [DYNAMIS website](#).

Additionally, the DCs will have the possibility to expand their profile beyond their field, sector and national borders. The DYNAMIS programme relies in fact on the **triple "I" principle**:

- Interdisciplinarity
- Internationality
- Intersectoriality

To comply with this principle, IDIBAPS has partnered with **33 Associated Partners (APs)** spanning different Countries, disciplines and sectors (discover more on our Associated Partners on the [DYNAMIS website](#)). Through these partnerships, the DYNAMIS DCs will benefit from **training, supervision and secondment opportunities**, thus having the chance to:

- Gain a holistic perspective in health research and innovation
- Learn from a worldwide network of experts and gain international visibility
- Increase their employability through inter-sectorial exposure

Each DC must make a compulsory **secondment of the duration of minimum 1 month** in an international institute and/or a different sector (e.g. industry). Nonetheless, longer periods for secondments could be agreed depending on different aspects. The type and location of the secondments vary depending on the chosen research line, and they will be established when defining the DC's research project, upon the candidate arrival.

Start of the DYNAMIS fellowship: moving your first steps into the PhD

Before and at the start of their fellowship, DCs will receive full support from the DYNAMIS Programme Manager. This includes assistance with relocating to Barcelona, familiarizing themselves with IDIBAPS' working procedures, facilities, organizational structure, and health and safety policies. One-to-one orientation meetings will be provided for each person at their arrival. Moreover, also during the starting, linked to the IDIBAPS International PhD programme, all DYNAMIS DCs together with other R1 researchers will benefit from the trainings offered in the PhD welcome days.

During the first weeks of the fellowship, the DCs will define their individual **research projects and secondments plan** along with the host Group Leaders and the host organization of the secondment. Subsequently, to ensure compliance with the highest standards of ethics and research integrity, the projects will undergo evaluation by the Hospital Clínic (HCB) Ethics Committees for Investigation with medicinal products (CEIm) and/or the Ethical Committee of Animal Experimentation of the University of Barcelona (CEEAA-UB), as applicable. Additionally, during the first 6 months of the contract, each DC, together with their supervisors, will develop a **“Personal Career Development Plan” (PCDP)**, which will be reviewed and updated annually. This plan will comprise the DC's research, training and career goals and needs.

In order to obtain their PhD degree, all DYNAMIS DCs will **enroll full-time in a chosen Doctoral programme offered by the University** (for example the University of Barcelona, UB), assisted by the DYNAMIS Programme Manager. Once a year, each DC will have a **Thesis Advisory Committee (TAC)**, with one IDIBAPS and two external members, organized by the Doctoral Programme of the University in which the DC is enrolled in collaboration with IDIBAPS. Additionally, one of the two DC co-supervisors will also participate in the TAC meetings. The annual feedback from the TAC will be key for evaluating DCs' progress in science and career development, offering valuable recommendations.

Throughout the PhD, DCs will receive high-level guidance from the programme. All this is ensured by two entities, the **Management Committee (MC)**, including different stakeholders from Clínic Campus, and the **External Advisory Board (EAB)**, consisting of 4 internationally recognised external researchers in fields relevant to DYNAMIS objectives.

Our Training and Career Development opportunities

The DYNAMIS DCs will have access to **high-quality training** activities being organized in IDIBAPS such as the [Stepping Stone](#) programme, the IDIBAPS seminars or the Clínic Summer Schools. They will also take part in IDIBAPS initiatives directly targeting the PhD community, such as yearly IDIBAPS PhD Day. To discover more on the training opportunities offered at IDIBAPS, please refer to the section “Working in IDIBAPS”.

Additional programme-specific training will be provided, encompassing the **DYNAMIS doctoral schools and tailored mentoring programme**. The DCs will have to attend three

mandatory DYNAMIS doctoral schools, one per year. The aim of the doctoral schools is to complement the training that the DCs will receive at the host laboratories, by providing lectures on four main tracks:

1. Translational biomedical research and technology
2. Cross-cutting issues (e.g., Ethics, Open Science, Gender dimension in research)
3. Innovation and knowledge transfer
4. Professional empowerment.

During the schools, the DYNAMIS DCs will also have the opportunity to present the progress of their projects to the Management Committee and the External Advisory Board to receive constructive feedback.

The DYNAMIS mentoring programme is double-faceted and relies on two different mentoring schemes:

1. A peer-to-peer mentoring
2. Mentoring from a senior mentor different from the co-supervisors.

Each DC will be matched with a more senior IDIBAPS student to guide and support them in their projects, training, and other relevant aspects of their PhD (1). At the same time, the DC will be mentored by a senior figure (2) that will provide tailored guidance, addressing the DC specific needs and career objectives. The DCs will be supported by the Management Committee to identify such senior mentors among, e.g., senior and junior Group Leaders, medical doctors, research managers, professionals working in industry, policy making and complementary fields. Depending on the research groups that the candidate will join, additional training opportunities will be offered and covered by the Group Leaders.

The DYNAMIS programme ensures a high-quality supervision as all co-supervisors are committed to follow the principles outlined in the [MSCA Guidelines on Supervision](#) and the [European Charter for Researchers](#). Additionally, the co-supervisors will engage in mandatory training and professional development on supervision, regardless of their previous supervision experience.

Ultimately, through tailored co-supervision bridging clinical and translational aspects, extensive training and career development opportunities, as well as mandatory international and/or intersectoral secondments, DYNAMIS aims to support the DCs in successfully defending their doctoral theses and to prepare them to become the **next generation of leaders in translational research, as well as in the clinical and private sector.**



Associated partners

-  Universities and Research Centres
-  Technological Centres
-  Industry (including SMEs) and Innovation Actors
-  Hospitals
-  Patient Organisations
-  Funding agencies
-  Networks

DYNAMIS is co-funded by the European Union through the **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)** – the EU’s flagship funding programme for doctoral education and postdoctoral training of researchers. The DYNAMIS DCs will thus be MSCA fellows, implying a specific set of rules and conditions. Please check the [Information package for Marie Skłodowska-Curie fellows](#).

➤ Curious about the MSCA programme? Find more information [here](#).

DYNAMIS: Benefits and Conditions

DYNAMIS provides **highly attractive working conditions**, in line with the revised European Charter for Researchers, as IDIBAPS has the recognition [“HR Excellence in Research”](#) since 2015. Those conditions are, among others, a competitive salary – including a leaving and mobility allowance – and a family allowance to fellows with family obligations.

Contract duration

The DYNAMIS programme offers a **48-month employment contract hosted at IDIBAPS** to carry out a research project. This includes a mandatory secondment of **at least one month at another institution abroad and/or from another sector**. Longer and/or additional secondments are strongly recommended and will be decided jointly with the co-supervisors. The research project will culminate in the submission and defense of a PhD thesis.

Included Benefits

In conformity with national legislation, DYNAMIS DCs will have an employment contract with **full social security coverage**. The social security scheme includes health and accident insurance, pension and unemployment benefits, parental leave, temporary or permanent disability, and family benefits (such as sick leave for children). All IDIBAPS employees receive a free, annual comprehensive medical check-up and benefit from additional private health insurance that covers accidents in the workplace and during the commutes between their residence and workplace.

IDIBAPS also offers the DCs a **flexible remuneration plan**, allowing them to allocate a part of their salary to cover daily expenses, such as lunch, public transport, or private health insurance for the DCs and their family members, which are exempt from the Spanish taxation (Personal Income Tax, IRPF). Nursery school vouchers may also be included in this plan for DCs with children aged between 0-3.

To accurately calculate your net salary, please consider that, as included in the [2025 “Guide on Salary Calculations for MSCA fellowships in Spain”](#):

- The employer’s contribution to the Spanish welfare system and redundancy payment is subtracted from the total amount of granted money dedicated to cover the cost of researchers, while the rest is dedicated to gross salary (amount reflected in the pay slip);
- From the gross salary the employee’s contribution and taxes are withheld, obtaining the net salary (final income).

Please refer to the guide for any additional information on this matter.

Do consider that, if you are a DYNAMIS fellow with demonstrated family obligations (or if you acquire family obligations during your fellowship), your gross salary will be different. For any questions regarding this matter, you can contact us at academic@recerca.clinic.cat.

Employment and working conditions allow both women and men to conciliate family and work (maternity and paternity leave, flexible working hours, teleworking, nursery school vouchers). All full-time IDIBAPS employees are annually entitled to **22 working days of paid holidays, 6 days of leave for personal matters and around 16 working hours that can be utilized as needed**. Additional types of paid leaves are available for specific situations, including sickness, hospitalization, or death of family members, marriage, moving, and other instances of force majeure.

The HR department provides relocation services for international scientists to facilitate seamless integration into the research centre, counting also with the welcoming services of [EURAXESS Catalonia](#) and UB, the [Barcelona Centre Universitari](#). Additionally, the HR and Academic Coordination teams will support the DCs during the secondments as well as for any other matter related to their employment conditions.

The DYNAMIS DCs will receive additional services from the University of Barcelona (UB) and the Hospital Clínic Barcelona (HCB), such as, access to a variety of discounted services including sports, training, leisure, mental health, wellbeing etc.

Salary

Annual gross salary of €30,770.40, including living and mobility allowances (to be increased according to the applied salary increases). All other employer-related costs are covered by the programme. Bear in mind that this salary does not correspond to the final pay slip, as an amount will have to be detracted to get the net salary (see the section “Included benefits”).

Family allowance

Optional **€7,920/year for eligible fellows** with family obligations (marriage, a relationship with equivalent legal status to a marriage, or children) at the time of recruitment or acquired during the programme. The family obligations will need to be proved.

Contract extensions

The fellows may take time off from the DYNAMIS program due to illness, pregnancy-related illness, and maternity/paternity leave, in line with statutory provisions. Extension of the contract is not ensured but can be determined on a case-by-case basis according to the availability of the European Commission or IDIBAPS own resources.

Selection process

DYNAMIS will launch two international, peer-reviewed calls to recruit 10 talented predoctoral researchers. **5 DCs will be recruited in the first call**, opening in October 2025. Applicants will select **3 preferred host research groups** and indicate their research interests.

The evaluation will follow the criteria of **Open, Transparent and Merit-based Recruitment (OTM-R)**, in agreement with the European Charter of Researchers (discover more on the OTM-R policy [here](#)). For a detailed scheme of the evaluation criteria that will be used during the selection process please refer to our Guide for Applicants, available on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

The **evaluation process will take approximately 16 weeks** and includes:

- **Eligibility screening:** Verification of eligibility criteria.
- **Remote evaluation:** Conducted by external expert panels to shortlist candidates for interviews.
- **Online oral interview:** Conducted by a Selection Committee to assess scientific knowledge, motivation, and alignment with the programme.
- **On-site visit to IDIBAPS:** Finalists will meet up with up to three group leaders in person.
- **Final selection and offer:** Selected candidates will receive an official offer indicating their assigned host group. Once selected, fellows will have up to 16 weeks to begin their fellowship.

The exact calendar of the evaluation process of the 1st DYNAMIS call, included the dates on which the results of each selection step will be published, can be found in our Guide for Applicants, available on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

Applicants with an excellent academic record in scientific disciplines such as Biology, Physics, Pharmacy, Biotechnology, Medicine or related fields are invited to apply. This includes students who have completed their medical residency.

- Before applying, **check the eligibility criteria in the Guide for Applicants!**
- If after checking the Guide for Applicant you have any additional questions on the application process, check our **FAQs** (available on the [DYNAMIS website](#)) and/or join us for the **online informational session** that will take place on **November 10th, at 1:00 PM (CET)** at the following link:

<https://clinic.zoom.us/j/95849999691?pwd=PElf64KLzbqiNX1yBkPZ9OlmLboh3E.1>

In case you cannot join, a recording of the session will be available on the same website shortly after.

- Still lost? Send us an email at academic@recerca.clinic.cat.



Working at IDIBAPS

The **August Pi i Sunyer Biomedical Research Institute (IDIBAPS)** is a leading biomedical research centre located in the city center of Barcelona, Spain. Founded in 1996, it was created to enhance the already outstanding clinical research of Hospital Clínic de Barcelona. Today, more than 100 clinical and laboratory groups work in close collaboration, driving forward innovative translational and multidisciplinary research aimed at addressing key biological and clinical challenges that impact human health.

IDIBAPS forms part of a stimulating research and innovation ecosystem, together with Hospital Clínic – a century-old reference hospital covering nearly all medical and surgical specialties – and the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences of the University of Barcelona, founded in 1843 and recognized internationally for its excellence in medical education and research.

The institute has pioneered [research programmes](#) to strengthen the role of clinician-scientists, ensuring fruitful collaboration between research and clinical practice. This translational spirit has positioned IDIBAPS as a reference in Spain, ranking first in scientific productivity among Spanish Research Healthcare Institutes. The institute conducts cutting-edge research across [five main areas](#):

- Biological aggression and response mechanisms
- Liver, digestive system and metabolism
- Oncology and haematology
- Respiratory, cardiovascular and renal pathobiology and bioengineering
- Clinical and experimental neuroscience

IDIBAPS is strongly committed to training the next generation of researchers. It hosts a vibrant community of junior scientists, offering excellent opportunities for research, career development, and access to state-of-the-art facilities, including modern laboratories, core technologies and comprehensive research support services. Researchers benefit from a wide range of training and career development opportunities. The [Stepping Stone programme](#) provides high-quality training to various profiles of researchers and support staff from IDIBAPS research groups. This programme aims to equip our community with tools and knowledge in both scientific areas and other key topics essential for professional development. The institute also runs a dynamic **seminar programme** that brings together local and international experts, fostering knowledge exchange and keeping the community up to date with the latest scientific advances. In parallel, the Toolbox Seminars offer practical resources to support professional development and address non-scientific topics. Mentoring and supervision are also provided within the research groups and are complemented by in-house training activities, seminars, workshops and social events.

PhD students benefit from a vibrant doctoral community that organizes scientific and networking activities, such as the **annual PhD Day**. Furthermore, the Academic Coordination

Office prepares the **PhD Welcome Days**, an initiative specifically aimed at helping new candidates integrate into the institute and build connections with their peers.

IDIBAPS is committed to providing an excellent working environment, as recognized by the [HR Excellence in Research Award from the European Commission](#). Dedicated departments ensure safe and functional research spaces, as well as specialized support in communication, dissemination, and knowledge transfer. Researchers are encouraged to engage in scientific exchange through lab meetings, seminars, and clinical sessions with peers.

With its strong track record of excellence, international visibility and collaborative environment, IDIBAPS offers an outstanding setting to develop a scientific career in biomedical research.

Life in Barcelona

Barcelona is the capital city of the autonomous region of **Catalonia**, in Spain. It is a vibrant, cosmopolitan city that blends rich history and traditions with modern innovation. Nestled between the Mediterranean Sea and the scenic Collserola hills, it offers a unique lifestyle marked by sunny weather, stunning architecture, and a dynamic cultural scene. Its diverse neighborhoods, efficient public transport, and **strong international community** make it an ideal place to live, work, and explore.

Accommodation

Barcelona offers a range of housing options, from shared flats to studio apartments. Be aware that rental contracts often require a deposit (1–2 months' rent) and may be in Catalan or Spanish.

Registration & NIE

Moving to Barcelona for more than 3 months, requires that you get a *NIE* (*Número de Identificación de Extranjero*) — your foreigner ID number. If you're a non-EU citizen planning to move to Barcelona for more than 3 months, you will need to obtain first a residence permit and, once in Spain, apply for a TIE (*Tarjeta de Identidad de Extranjero*), which includes the NIE number. The NIE number itself is permanent, but the TIE card (which contains the NIE) may need to be renewed depending on the type of permit. The NIE is essential for opening a bank account, signing a lease, or receiving your salary.

Another compulsory step is to register your address at the local [Ajuntament \(City Hall\)](#) via the *empadronamiento* process.

Healthcare

Spain has a **public healthcare system**, and researchers affiliated with institutions often get access through social security. Private insurance options are also available. EU citizens can use the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), while non-EU citizens may need to arrange coverage before arrival.

Banking & Mobile

To open a bank account, you'll need your NIE and proof of address. For mobile service, a number of providers offer prepaid and contract plans.

Public Transport

Barcelona has an excellent public transport system — metro, buses, trams, and regional trains. The [T-mobilitat card](#) is a rechargeable travel card that offers discounted fares. Biking is also popular, and the city has some public transport-sharing systems.

Language

While many people speak English in academic settings, daily life often requires basic **Spanish or Catalan**. Free or subsidized language courses are available through universities and local councils.

Please find below a useful website from the Barcelona City Council to help you envision living and working in Barcelona, and to guide your first steps in the city:

- [All you need to know | Barcelona International Welcome | Barcelona City Council](#)

