



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

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

(Version 2.0)



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1. Who are DYNAMIS Doctoral Candidates?

The DYNAMIS Doctoral Candidates (DCs) are talented researchers of any nationality with high motivation to address real-world medical challenges and acquire both a clinical and translational perspective on biomedical research. The candidates may come from different scientific backgrounds (e.g., Biology, Medicine, Physics, Engineering, among others). What is important is that they accomplish the eligibility criteria in terms of academic background (see question 2). The DYNAMIS DCs possess an excellent academic record and do not yet hold a PhD.

2. Which candidates are eligible to apply?

Eligible candidates will meet the following requirements:

- Have already completed studies to access a doctoral programme in Spain:
 - *European Higher Education System:* university degree and Master (at least 300 ECTS) or equivalent education to access to a PhD programme in Spain. Completed studies are required (i.e., the Master's thesis — or equivalent — must have been defended by the call deadline);
 - *Non-European Higher Education System:* university degree that gives access to doctoral studies in the Country of issue (certified by the competent body). Also in this case, completed studies are required (i.e., the Master's thesis — or equivalent — must have been defended by the call deadline).

The supporting documentation must be delivered both legalised and officially translated in English (if applies).

- Not have resided/carried out a main activity (study/work) in Spain for more than 12 months in the last 3 years prior to the call deadline (according to the Marie Skłodowska-Curie programme's mobility rule). Please, consider that this also applies to any remote activity carried out with an employer/institution in Spain.
- Not already hold a PhD
- Good command of English

For more information on the eligibility criteria please refer to our Guide for Applicants available on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

3. Could I apply if I am not an EU resident?

Yes, you can. This program is open to candidates living all over the world, EU and non-EU residents! This opportunity is offered to candidates of any nationality.

4. Should I be able to prove that I fulfil all eligibility criteria?

Yes. During the application, it will be necessary to present academic documentation to prove your fulfilment of eligibility criteria (check question 2 and our Guide for Applicant, available on the [DYNAMIS website](#)). If you reach online interview step of evaluation process, your good command of English will have to be proved. Once selected, all candidates must be able to **prove their fulfilment of the mobility rule**,



through documents related to their work, studies, residency, etc. Candidates must meet all eligibility requirements at all levels to be formally hired by the programme.

5. Could I apply if I have lived or studied/worked in Spain previously?

Yes, if you have not lived or carried out an activity (study/work) for more than 12 months out of the last 36 months before the call deadline in Spain, and thus you fulfil the transnational mobility rule (see question 2). Please note that this rule also applies to any remote activity carried out for a Spanish employer or institution.

6. Could I apply if I do not have my master's degree yet?

No. **You must have already defended your thesis by the time of the call deadline** and you should provide a Master's certificate or degree title within the academic documentation (see the eligibility criteria, question 2).

However, some exceptions may apply if your previous degree already grants you access to a Doctoral Programme in the country where it was issued. This must be evidenced by a Certificate of Eligibility issued and signed by a competent authority. A template for this certificate is available at the following [link](#), if necessary.

7. Can I perform patient care or other activities as a DYNAMIS predoctoral fellow?

A full-time research contract is offered (37.5 hours/week), so the DYNAMIS programme is in principle not designed to be combined with regular clinical duties or others. However, if a candidate has a specific demand in that case, it will be evaluated to consider its compatibility with the full-time research contract.

8. Is there an age limit to apply to the DYNAMIS programme?

There is no age limit to apply to the programme. The eligibility criteria are those listed in question #2.

9. Which research areas are covered by the DYNAMIS programme?

The research areas covered may vary from the 1st to the 2nd call. You can explore more on the [dedicated webpage](#). In the case of the 2nd call, you can find the covered research areas in the document "Research Lines_DYNAMIS" available on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

The research topics covered all are related to IDIBAPS research 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

Some of them can be related to IDIBAPS research programmes (internal collaborations focused on a main topic of interest):

- Translational cancer research
- Lymphoid neoplasms
- Metabolism and disease programme (MetaDis): a multidisciplinary approach to understanding metabolic diseases
- Synaptic autoimmunity in neurology, psychiatry and cognitive neuroscience
- Translational research programme for brain disorders

10. Can I apply if I do not have a biomedical background?

Yes, you can. The DYNAMIS programme is open to graduate students with different scientific backgrounds not necessarily related to biomedicine, like Physics or Mathematics among others (see question 1).

11. How do I apply?

Applications for the DYNAMIS programme must follow the detailed steps below:

1. First you should be sure you accomplish the eligibility for the programme (see section 4). Otherwise, your application will not be acceptable for evaluation.
2. Once your fitting to the programme is ensured, submit the requested information through the online platform Smart Peer Reviewers, that ensures full protection on personal data to all applicants. Please **access the application form through this [link](#)**.

IMPORTANT: to access the application form, you must first register in the platform. When creating your account on the application platform for the first time, we recommend checking your SPAM folder if you do not receive a confirmation email in your inbox.

3. Fill in the application form, bearing in mind that all information (i.e., both your responses and the uploaded documentation) must be provided in English.
4. The application can be saved as a draft and submitted at a later stage. Please remember to submit your application before the call deadline; otherwise, it will not be received.

To be able to submit your application, you must complete all mandatory questions and upload the required academic documentation. Specifically:

- a. For studies completed within the European Higher Education Area (EHEA): candidates must provide proof of having completed at least 300 ECTS credits. Completed studies are required (i.e., the Master's thesis — or equivalent — must have been defended by the call deadline). All



academic transcripts and relevant degree certificates must be uploaded. This includes transcripts and certificates for all previous university degrees (e.g., Bachelor's and Master's).

- b. For studies completed outside the European Higher Education Area (EHEA): in addition to academic transcripts and degree certificates for all previous degrees (e.g., Bachelor's and Master's), candidates must provide evidence that their qualifications grant access to doctoral studies in the country where they were obtained. To this end, they must upload a Certificate of Eligibility signed by a competent authority (a template is available at the following link, if required).

In all cases, submitted documents must be officially translated into English and duly legalized.

5. Once you submit your application through the platform, you will receive a confirmation email, and the Human Resources Department will automatically receive a copy of your application and supporting documents.

More information on how to apply is available on the Guide for Applicants on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

12. How many applications can be submitted?

One application per person can be submitted.

13. How many research lines must I select?

It is mandatory to select 3 research lines in the [online application form](#).

14. Should I contact the hiring research groups beforehand?

You may contact the co-supervisors responsible for the research line of choice via email to request further details (the mail addresses can be found on the Research Lines document available on the [DYNAMIS website](#)). This contact, however, is **entirely optional** and should be based on your individual needs.

15. How does the DYNAMIS co-supervision model work?

The PhD project of the DYNAMIS fellows will be co-supervised by one clinician-scientist and one basic or translational researcher. Therefore, the leadership of each research line (check our research lines on the [DYNAMIS website](#)) bridges two different mindsets that respond to the double nature of IDIBAPS research institution: acquiring a clinical perspective, the DYNAMIS Doctoral Candidates will be more prepared to understand and meet patients' needs, following an approach "*from bedside to the bench*"; at the same time, the translational approach will train them to actively think about the impact of their research and its implementation, developing a "*from the bench to bedside*" mindset.



16. Is it possible to update my application after the call deadline?

No, modifications concerning the information included in the forms will not be accepted after the call deadline.

17. Is it possible to submit additional material after the call deadline?

No, it is not possible, unless it is specifically requested by the DYNAMIS Programme Manager.

18. Which communications will I receive along the selection process?

At the end of each evaluation phase, the candidates will be informed by the DYNAMIS Programme Manager of their result, and if they move to the next stage of the selection process. For an exact timeline of when you can expect the communications, please consult our Guide for Applicants, available on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

19. When and how will the results of the calls be communicated?

The results of the 2nd DYNAMIS call will be published in **mid-December 2026**. The detailed timeline of the DYNAMIS evaluation process is contained in the Guide for Applicants available on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

20. Which is the timeline of the process for accepting the fellowship?

Candidates being offered the fellowship should actively **accept the offer within 7 working days**. Otherwise, reserve list candidates may be contacted. It is expected the candidate **to start within 4 months** (from end of December to April 2027 for the 2nd DYNAMIS call), although exceptions may be considered if justified. For more information, please refer to our Guide for Applicants available on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

21. How many fellowships are available?

10 fellowships are available in total between the 1st and 2nd DYNAMIS call. In the 1st Call, 5 positions were awarded. **In the 2nd call, 5 positions will be open**. Additional positions may be awarded in the event that positions from the previous call, already awarded, cannot be filled or are declined, subject to availability and institutional approval.

22. What is the duration of the fellowship?

The duration of the fellowship is **48 months (4 years)**.

23. When should the fellowship start?

For the 2nd DYNAMIS call, the expected fellowship starting date should be between **the end of December 2026 and the beginning of April 2027**. For more information, please refer to our Guide for Applicants available on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

24. Are there any secondment opportunities available?

The DYNAMIS fellow must undertake a **compulsory secondment of at least 1 month** in an international and/or intersectoral institution (e.g., in one of the DYNAMIS Associated Partners, check the list on the [DYNAMIS website](#)). The type and location of the secondments **vary depending on the chosen research line** (check each research line and relative secondment opportunities on the [DYNAMIS website](#)) and they will be established when defining the DC's research project, upon the candidate arrival.

25. Which secondments opportunities will be provided?

As explained in question 24, the secondment opportunities will vary depending on the chosen research line (consult the research lines in the relative document available on the [DYNAMIS website](#)). The secondments will have to be in a different institution, whether international and/or from another sector (e.g., industry), for the requirements of the DYNAMIS programme. For more information on this matter, check the Informational Booklet on the [DYNAMIS website](#).

Despite there is a minimum of at least 1 month-time secondment, longer secondments can be recommended in certain cases. As a particular example, an international secondment of at least 3-month can provide the DC with the opportunity to defend a PhD thesis with an international mention.

26. Which are the conditions of the fellowship?

The conditions are listed below:

- **Type of contract:** Temporary predoctoral contract (4 years)
- **Working hours:** Full time (37,5 hours / week)
- **Working conditions:** Holiday entitlement of 22 days + 6 days for personal affairs, full social security coverage (national insurance contribution and Spanish corresponding rights)
- **Annual gross salary:** €30,770.40 (including living and mobility allowances)
- **Optional:** €7,920/year family allowance for eligible fellows with family obligations (such as marriage, a relationship with equivalent legal status, or children) either at the time of recruitment or acquired during the programme. Proof of family obligations will be required.
- **Access to training and career development opportunities:** the fellow will take advantage of the training programmes and seminars offered by IDIBAPS, as well as programme-specific doctoral schools and international and/or intersectoral secondments.

For more information, please refer to the Informational Booklet available on the [DYNAMIS website](#).



27. Can the DYNAMIS fellowship be prolonged?

Extension of the contract is not ensured but can be determined on a case-by-case basis when the DC justifies a long leave, over 1-month, linked to cases such as maternity/paternity, disease, or others. It will be made according to the availability of the European Commission or IDIBAPS own resources.

28. Are reference letters mandatory?

Yes, they are. Two reference letters are mandatory to complete the application. However, candidates will only be asked to provide the contact details of two referees in the online application form. The referees will then be contacted by IDIBAPS to request the reference letters.

29. How do I know about the state of my application?

Applicants will be informed of the progress at all stages of the process by the DYNAMIS Programme Manager. The candidates being assessed in the remote evaluation phase and the face-to-face interview phase (online and then on-site) will receive e-mail communications informing them about their status in the process. They can ask more details at any stage through writing an e-mail to academic@recerca.clinic.cat.