

III CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**CICA-INIBIC STRATEGIC GROUP RESEARCH GRANTS 2020:
CICA-INIBIC STRATEGIC GROUP (SG) SHORT-STAY RESEARCH GRANTS FOR RESEARCHERS
FROM EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS**

IMPORTANT DATES

Time frame for research stays	1 June to 9 October 2020
Deadline for applications submission	14:00 (Spanish peninsular time) on Friday, 17 April 2020
Final report submission	31 October 2020

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III CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

CICA-INIBIC STRATEGIC GROUP (SG) SHORT-STAY RESEARCH GRANTS FOR RESEARCHERS FROM EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS 2020

Financed by “Agrupacións Estratéxicas da Consellería de Educación, Universidade e Formación Profesional” de la Xunta de Galicia: Agrupación Estratéxica CICA-INIBIC (ED431E 2018/03) (RESOLUCIÓN do 24 de outubro de 2018. DOG Núm. 210. Luns, 5 de novembro de 2018. Páx. 47950).



XUNTA DE GALICIA

CONSELLERÍA DE EDUCACIÓN, UNIVERSIDADE
E FORMACIÓN PROFESIONAL

In accordance with the modification to Personal Income Tax and Regulations Act 40/1998 (9 December), these grants are exempt from income tax.

PREAMBLE

Biology and Chemistry have been two of the most important areas of specialisation at the University of A Coruña (UDC) ever since its foundation in 1989. Some of the strongest research lines at the university are in the fields of biomedical science and chemical and biotechnological resources. Advanced Scientific Research Centre (CICA) was set up in 2016 to promote and develop research in these areas. Its key lines of work focus on biotechnology, biomedicine, environment and new molecular materials.

Institute for Biomedical Research of A Coruña (INIBIC) is a centre for healthcare research, comprising the Coruña Integrated Management Area (XXIAC), which encompasses the core Coruña University Hospital Complex (CHUAC) and health centres within the management area, the Profesor Novoa Santos Foundation (managing body), and UDC.

As biomedicine is one of the primary lines of enquiry at CICA and a number of its research groups are already partnered with INIBIC, UDC took the decision to create a research group between the two bodies, to help make collaborations more effective and pool vital resources for research.

In November 2015, the CICA-INIBIC Strategic Group (SG) received a grant from the Galician Regional Government Department of Education and University Organisation (AGRUP 2015/05), which was extended in 2018 (ED431E 2018/03).

The present call for grant applications is in line with the ‘*Research internationalisation plan: Research stay programme for prestigious researchers*’, described in ‘*Axis 1: Collaborative research*’ of the CICA-INIBIC Strategic Group strategic plan; and with the ‘*Recruitment and repatriation of talent plan*’ included in ‘*Axis 3: Talent*’ of the same document.

This research stay programme is carried out in collaboration with the Technology Transfer UDC Office (OTRI) and the INIBIC Profesor Novoa Santos Foundation (FPNS).

1. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The aim of this grant programme by the UDC CICA-INIBIC Strategic Group (SG) is to increase the number of visiting researchers to the SG, as well as the number of partnerships on applications for international project funding, particularly on H2020/Horizon Europe schemes.

The grants awarded under this mobility programme are aimed at promoting short stays by researchers of any nationality with contractual ties to an European institution (university or other) capable of promoting or participating in a research project.

All stays will consist of a maximum one-week (from Monday to Friday) visit to at least one CICA-INIBIC SG research group (except in the case of applicants intending to apply for ERC funding). The complete list of SG host research groups is available on page 6 of this call, together with links to the research lines associated with each.

The overall objective of stays financed under this mobility programme should comply with one of the following:

- To establish or consolidate collaborations with the aim of presenting proposals for international collaborative research projects, especially those aligning with the goals of Horizon 2020/Europe.
- To establish or consolidate collaborations with the aim of presenting proposals for Horizon 2020/Europe Pillar 1 'Excellent Science' projects (especially Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action (MSCA) and European Research Council (ERC) grants), as well as equivalent funding programmes in Spain (national and regional) to join the CICA-INIBIC SG.

In the case of ERC grants, applicants are not required to specify the SG group or groups with which they may wish to collaborate during their stay but they must have an initial project idea to present an ERC application.

Applications for stays aimed at establishing partnerships for other types of funding schemes will also be accepted and assessed on a case by case basis.

Successful applicants are required to deliver a one-hour lecture during their stay and hold meetings in relation to future grant proposals with members of the intended collaborating research groups, SG management office staff and, if applicable, the UDC and INIBIC research and technology transfer offices (OTRI and FPNS, respectively).

They are also required to submit a report at the end of their visit, detailing all activities carried out, possible collaborations ensuing from their stay, and grant calls they intend to apply for. Awardees who do not produce a specific collaborative or individual project proposal by the end of their stay should provide a clear explanation for their failure to do so.

2. BUDGET

These grants are financed under budget item 6100242804 541A 64902, with a maximum allocation of **€3,000** for all short-stay grant activities. This amount may be increased if necessary and depending on availability of funds.

The number of grants awarded will depend on the availability of funds.

3. TERMS AND AMOUNT

The grant covers travel expenses from the point of origin to A Coruña, internal travel expenses, accommodation (in a university residence), living expenses during the stay, and insurance.

The time frame for research stays will run from **1 June to 9 October 2020**.

Grants are limited to one application (and one award) per person.

Awardees will undertake to make the work proposed in their application the sole focus of their activity during their stay.

This grant is **NOT COMPATIBLE** with other sources of funding for the same activity.

4. APPLICANT PROFILE

Applications will be admitted from researchers of any nationality who wish to establish or consolidate a collaboration with one or more CICA-INIBIC SG research groups. Applicants should be in possession of a PhD on the date of publication of the call and have a contractual relationship with an European institution (university or other) capable of promoting or participating in a research project.

Researchers intending to apply for ERC grants are not required to specify the SG group or groups with which they may wish to collaborate during their stay, but must align their project with one or more SG areas of enquiry.

5. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Candidates are required to complete the application form provided (Annex I) and accompany their application with the following documentation:

- Photocopy of national identity document, passport or other official form of identification.
- Photocopy of primary degree certification.
- Photocopy of PhD certification.
- Applicant CV (no preferred format), organised according to the assessment criteria outlined below.
- Application statement, including:
 - Reasons for interest in research stay programme.
 - Purpose of stay (establish partnership for collaborative project, MSCA/ERC grant proposal, etc.)

Only one application per person will be accepted.

6. DEADLINE AND PLACE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Applications will remain open until **14:00 (Spanish peninsular time) on Friday 17 Abril 2020**.

All documentation should be submitted by email to: proyectos.cica@udc.es . The subject line should contain the text: "Visiting researcher short-stay grants".

7. ASSESSMENT AND SELECTION

Applications will be assessed by a selection committee within a maximum 30 working days as from the deadline.

The decision of the committee will be published upon completion of the assessment process.

Applications will be scored out of a total **10 points** based on the following scoring system:

a) Excellence of research record

CV (no preferred format). The committee will assess the candidate's status and contribution to research based on articles published in academic journals (citations, impact index, etc.), scholarly and applied books and chapters, patents awarded or licensed, and any other indicators of contribution, including technology transfer.

International activity. The committee will assess the candidate's direct participation in international programmes, projects and contracts, funding obtained through competitive international funding calls, and international mobility.

Maximum **5 points**.

b) Collaboration with SG

Purpose and relevance of collaboration, groups with which the candidate is interested in working, and funding calls for which the project will be submitted. Candidates intending to apply for ERC funding are not required to identify a specific group (or groups) with which they may wish to collaborate, but should explain the line of research they propose to follow.

Maximum **5 points**.

8. AWARDEE OBLIGATIONS

During their stay at the SG, successful candidates are required to:

- Hold meetings with groups with a view to establishing partnerships for collaborative project proposals (see section 1, 'Programme objectives').
- Hold meetings with OTRI or FPNS and/or SG management office.
- Deliver a lecture of approximately one hour in duration.

Successful candidates undertake to submit a proposal for a collaborative research grant under the Horizon 2020/Europe, MSCA or ERC schemes (or the programme stated in their application) in partnership with UDC or INIBIC.

Awardees who do not comply with this condition will be required to account for their failure to do so.

Awardees are also required to submit a short final report of the activities carried out during their stay (meetings, lecture title, collaborations, etc.) ([Annex II](#)). This report should be submitted by email no later than **31 October 2020** to: proyectos.cica@udc.es.

All information requested should be provided without delay to allow arrangements for the visit to be made as quickly as possible.

9. DECISION AND APPEALS

The list of successful candidates will be published on the CICA website (<http://cica.udc.es/>).

Applications may be rejected on the grounds of concealment, alteration or distortion of the information provided, or failure to comply with the terms and criteria of the call. A request for redress may be submitted by the applicant 10 days after publication of the list.

10. CONFIDENTIALITY

All documents and/or information not already in the public domain will be treated as strictly confidential and not divulged under any circumstances without the prior written authorisation of the parties affected.

11. RESEARCH GROUPS LISTED BY CICA-INIBIC SG

- AQUATERRA. Sustainable Management of Water and Soil Resources

<https://cica.udc.es/es/grupo/gestion-sostenible-de-los-recursos-hidricos-y-del-suelo>

- BIOCOST. Coastal Biology

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/biologia-costera>

- BIOENGIN. Environmental Bioengineering and Quality Control

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/bioingenieria-ambiental-y-control-de-calidad>

- CellCOM-SB. Translational Research in Cell Communication and Signalling

<http://www.mayan-lab.com/>

- Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases

<http://www.inibic.es/portfolio-items/enfermedades-cardiovasculares-y-metabolicas/?portfolioCats=58>

- DICOMOSA. Behavioral and molecular diagnosis applied to health

<https://investigacion.udc.es/en/Research/Details/G000120>

- EnQA. Chemical and Environmental Engineering

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/ingenieria-quimica-ambiental>

- ENVENEIF. Ageing and Inflammation

<http://www.inibic.es/portfolio-items/envejecimiento-e-inflamacion/?portfolioCats=75>

- EXPRELA. Gene Expression Regulation and Applications

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/regulacion-de-la-expresion-genica-y-aplicaciones>

- FENM. Endocrine, Nutritional and Medical Physiopathology

<http://www.inibic.es/portfolio-items/enfermedades-endocrinas-nutricionales-y-metabolicas/?portfolioCats=79>

- FISAPLANT. Plant Physiology and Applications

<https://investigacion.udc.es/en/Research/Details/G000722>

- GIBE. Research in Evolutionary Biology

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/grupo-de-investigacion-en-biologia-evolutiva>

- GRICA. Research in Environmental Change

<https://cica.udc.gal/en/groups/research-group-into-environmental-change>

- Research in Microbiology

<http://www.inibic.es/portfolio-items/investigacion-en-microbiologia/?portfolioCats=97>

- GIR. Research in Rheumatology

<http://www.inibic.es/portfolio-items/reumatologia/?portfolioCats=75>

- METMED. Metals in Medicine and the Environment

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/metales-en-medio-ambiente-y-medicina>

- MICROALGAE. Microalgae Analysis and Applications

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/estudio-y-aplicaciones-de-las-microalgas>

- NEUROcom. Neuroscience and Motor Control

<http://www.inibic.es/portfolio-items/neurociencia-y-control-motor/?portfolioCats=89>

- NEUROVER. Vertebrate Neuroanatomy

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/neuroanatomia-de-vertebrados>

- Epithelial Plasticity and Metastasis

<http://www.inibic.es/portfolio-items/plasticidad-epitelial-y-metastasis/?portfolioCats=89>

- QANAP. Applied Analytical Chemistry

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/quimica-analitica-aplicada>

- QUIMOLMAT. Molecular Materials Chemistry

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/quimica-molecular-y-de-materiales>

- REACT! Chemical Reactivity and Photoreactivity

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/reactividad-quimica-y-fotorreactividad>

- TCMR. Cell Therapy and Regenerative Medicine

<http://www.inibic.es/portfolio-items/terapia-celular-y-medicina-regenerativa/?portfolioCats=75>

- XENOMAR. Marine Organism Genetics

<https://cica.udc.es/en/groups/genetica-de-organismos-marinos>

ANNEX I: APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT DETAILS

SURNAME(S)		NAME	
ID/PASSPORT	ADDRESS		
CITY		COUNTRY	ZIP CODE
TELEPHONE	EMAIL		
RESEARCH GROUP AND INSTITUTION			
TYPE OF FUNDING TO BE SOUGHT FOLLOWING RESEARCH STAY: <input type="checkbox"/> H2020/HORIZON EUROPE COLLABORATIVE PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> MSCA <input type="checkbox"/> ERC <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)			

NAME OF HOST CICA-INIBIC SG RESEARCH GROUP(S) (if applicable)

DATES OF VISIT

Place, date
(applicant signature)

Signed:

SUPPORT DOCUMENTS (photocopies DO NOT require an official stamp)

- Photocopy of national identity document, passport or other official form of identification
- Photocopy of academic degree certification.
- Photocopy of doctoral degree certification.
- Applicant CV, organised according to the assessment criteria outlined in the call.
- Application statement, detailing purpose and relevance of research stay, type of collaboration, and alignment with CICA-INIBIC SG research lines.
- Declaration of funding applications for the same purpose.

Other funding sought or awarded for the same purpose

Funding body	Date of application or award	Status (pending or awarded)	Amount (€)
Total			

The applicant hereby declares that the information presented in this application is true and accurate, and undertakes to comply with the conditions of funding, if awarded.

Place, date.....
(applicant signature)

Signed:

ANNEX II: FINAL REPORT

AWARDEE DETAILS

SURNAME(S)		NAME	
ID/PASSPORT	ADDRESS		
CITY		COUNTRY	ZIP CODE
TELEPHONE	EMAIL		
RESEARCH GROUP AND INSTITUTION			
TYPE OF FUNDING TO BE SOUGHT FOLLOWING RESEARCH STAY: <input type="checkbox"/> H2020/HORIZON EUROPE COLLABORATIVE PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> MSCA <input type="checkbox"/> ERC <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) <input type="checkbox"/> NONE (GIVE REASONS)			

NAME OF HOST CICA-INIBIC SG RESEARCH GROUP(S) (if applicable)

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SUPPORT DOCUMENTS

- Final report (including all meetings, lectures and other activities carried out during stay). Maximum 2 pages.
- Brief description of grant proposal (H2020/Horizon Europe collaborative project, MSCA, ERC, etc.) and SG partner(s) (if applicable). Explanation of reasons for not presenting any grant proposal, if applicable. Maximum 2 pages.

Place, date.....

(Awardee signature)

Signed: