**CALL FOR GRANTS FOR YOUNG AND EMERGING RESEARCH PROJECTS 2024**

# INTRODUCTION

Through the Department of Science and Universities, Barcelona City Council promotes public policies to support research and promote scientific dissemination and knowledge transfer.

Barcelona City Council is committed to making the city an international leader in the field of science and innovation. To this end, it seeks to consolidate the city's scientific community and promote a favourable environment that enables research centres, universities and the entrepreneurial and productive community in Barcelona to carry out quality research in the city.

One of the specific actions involved is allocating specific funding for research and knowledge transfer to the city's productive sector. In accordance with this goal, it has decided to make a call to the local research ecosystem, with a particular emphasis on young and emerging researchers.

The call, which aims to help provide equal opportunities in science careers, includes several care and parenting measures to foster the gradual achievement of equity in the field of research and knowledge.

1. **AIM AND PURPOSE OF THE CALL**
   1. The purpose of this call is to award grants for scientific research and knowledge transfer projects through competitive bidding procedures.
   2. The purpose of this call is to support emerging scientific research, as well as to:

* Consolidate the city's emerging scientific and research ecosystem, generating opportunities and facilitating scientific careers in Barcelona.
* Help generate ideas, innovative answers and scientific evidence that can potentially have an impact on the city.
* Encourage open access and dissemination of research results to the public in order to facilitate knowledge transfer at every level, with the aim of achieving public visibility and social return.
  1. In this call, the term ‘science’ refers to all branches of knowledge, from the natural, theoretical and experimental sciences to the arts and humanities, social sciences and engineering.
  2. Projects must be based on research to address challenges that can be included in any of these three subject areas and address one of the twelve specific challenges:

1. Health and welfare in the city
   1. Health and quality of life
   2. Social welfare and improvement of public services
   3. Urban planning, housing and public spaces
   4. Sustainable mobility of people and goods
2. Climate action
   1. Climate emergency and the city
   2. Urban, terrestrial and marine ecosystems
   3. Urban agriculture and food
   4. Sustainable urban energy and water
3. City and society
   1. The green and blue economies in the city
   2. New responsible production and consumption spaces and models
   3. Smart and digital cities
   4. Democracy, community, participation and human rights
4. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**
   1. This call is governed by the terms and conditions governing calls for grants for research, artistic creation and knowledge transfer in the field of science approved by the Government Commission agreement of 22 June 2022 and published in the Official Gazette of the Province of Barcelona (BOPB) on 28 June 2022.
   2. Participation in this call implies full acceptance of the terms established herein, as well as the terms established in the terms and conditions mentioned in the previous point.
5. **PROJECT REQUIREMENTS**
   1. Research projects must take the following matters into account in their design in all subject areas:
      1. Be original, notwithstanding the possibility of registering or continuing projects and / or lines of research already started by the applicants. In this case, the originality in this call must be justified at the time the project is submitted.
      2. Have the goal of providing scientific evidence to address the urban challenges facing Barcelona city and/or drive new technology by means of knowledge transfer and innovation.
      3. Justify, in a plausible and reasoned manner, the results that may arise from the research process, and indicate how the knowledge will be transferred.
      4. Address the challenge from a local, interdisciplinary and metropolitan perspective.
      5. Take into account the gender and environmental dimensions and value the diversity of the city, both in the treatment of scientific matters and in the team composition and the project methodology.
   2. Research projects must comply with the following conditions regardless of their subject matter:
      1. They must have a maximum duration of two years.
      2. The scope of awarded projects must be the city of Barcelona.
   3. Projects or continuations of projects and/or lines of research already in progress that have received grants in the calls listed below may not be submitted in applications under this call:
      1. 2022 call for applications for the award of extraordinary grants for research and innovation projects by Barcelona City Council, in collaboration with the “la Caixa” Foundation.
      2. Call for grants for young and emerging research projects in 2022.
      3. Call for grants for research and innovation projects in 2023 from Barcelona City Council, in collaboration with “La Caixa” Foundation.
   4. Furthermore, people who have been the principal investigator (‘PI’) in any of the awarded projects in the calls referred to above may not apply as PIs.
   5. If a project does not comply with one or more of these requirements, the grant application will not be admitted on technical grounds.
6. **REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY FOR A GRANT**
   1. Only legal entities falling under one of the following categories may apply for grants under this call:

* Public research bodies, as defined in Article 47 of Act 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation.
* Public universities, their university institutes and private universities with proven R&D&I capacity, in accordance with Framework Act 2/2023, of 22 March, on the University System, that are registered in the Register of Universities, Centres and Qualifications created by Royal Decree 1509/2008, of 12 September, regulating the Register of Universities, Centres and Qualifications.
* Non-profit private and public health centres and institutions linked to or coordinated with the National Health System that carry out R&D&I work.
* Health or biomedical research institutes certified by a ministerial order.
* National technology centres and technological innovation support centres registered in the Register of Centres created under Royal Decree 2093/2008, of 19 December, regulating national technology centres and technological innovation support centres and creating a register of such centres.
* Other public R&D&I centres with legal personality whose main corporate purpose is to carry out R&D&I.
* Non-profit private R&D&I centres with legal personality whose main corporate purpose is to carry out R&D&I.
  1. In addition to the requirements set forth in the preceding section, organisations wishing to apply for a grant must fulfil the following requirements and conditions:
     1. Have their registered office or branch in the municipality of Barcelona or its metropolitan area.
     2. The legal entity must indicate its scientific leader for the project, who will assume the role of PI and must comply with the requirements set forth in section 4.3 of this call.
     3. As a general rule, no changes to the project PI will be accepted during the project (at either the assessment or performance stages). In exceptional cases only, interested parties may request a change of PI. This will only take effect if it is authorised by the examining body or the body responsible for awarding the grant.

If the request for a change of PI is made during the performance of the project for which a grant has already been awarded, section 19 will apply. CHANGES TO THE PROJECT AWARDED under this call.

* + 1. In addition to the PI, the legal entity must also indicate an administrative reference person who will take on the role of administrative leader of the project (the ‘AL’) and who must be specified as such in the grant application. Section 4.3 does not apply to the AL.
  1. The project PI must be an emerging scientist; that is, they must have defended and passed their first doctoral thesis on or after 1 January 2017.

This measure aims to promote the scientific careers of emerging staff, that is, those who embarked on their scientific careers in recent years. This seeks to consolidate scientific careers in the city of Barcelona with the explicit aim of consolidating the scientific ecosystem.

* + 1. If the PI has taken maternity/paternity leave or leave to care for relatives up to the first degree from 1 January 2015 onwards, the time taken to provide such care may be taken into account in the application, and the deadline for earning their doctoral thesis may be delayed for a period equal to the entirety of the period of leave taken from 1 January 2015. In order for this point to be taken into account, it must be expressly indicated at the time of application and the necessary supporting documentation must be provided.

This aims to ensure that no one provides care at the expense of their own opportunities, making the requirements more flexible for people who have dedicated part of their working life to the care of first-degree relatives and/or have taken maternity or paternity leave.

* 1. A person who takes on the role of PI in the project may not appear as PI in any other application in this call.
  2. All projects must have one or two supervisors. Supervisors must be scientific staff and are the people who endorse the project and undertake to monitor it throughout the project performance period. These supervisors must conform to the following characteristics:
     1. If there are two of them, they must respect gender parity, or be two women.
     2. They must have a permanent affiliation with a research group, research centre or university throughout the project's execution period.
     3. The requirements of section 4.3 do not apply to supervisors.
     4. Their endorsement will be considered valid through a project support letter that includes a digital signature or certificate.

1. **REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING GRANTS**
   1. Beneficiaries must meet the following requirements:
      1. They must have justified any grants previously awarded by Barcelona City Council within the time provided, where applicable.
      2. They must be up to date with their tax obligations (to Barcelona City Council, the Municipal Tax Office (IMH) and the Tax Agency (AEAT)) and with the Social Security system, in accordance with Articles 18 and 19 of Royal Decree 887/2006, of 21 July, approving the regulations of Act 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants and Subsidies Act (hereinafter, ‘Act 38/2003’), as well as the obligations regarding the repayment of grants awarded by Barcelona City Council, if applicable.
      3. They must not make any misrepresentations when providing the information required in order to take part in the call.
      4. Any of the other requirements envisaged in Article 13.2 of Act 38/2003.
   2. Applicants must include in their applications an affidavit certifying that they fulfil the above requirements. If they are proposed as beneficiaries of a grant, the examining body will ask them to provide documentary evidence of this.
2. **DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS AND CONTENT** 
   1. Applications must be submitted electronically through Barcelona City Council's e-headquarters.

The deadline for submitting the application form and corresponding documents is 35 calendar days from the day immediately following that of publication of this call in the BOPB.

Any application submitted outside the established deadline will not be accepted for processing.

In the event of an unplanned interruption in the operation of the

electronic systems required to carry out the relevant procedure, the deadline will be extended for the same amount of time as the duration of the relevant application submission systems' downtime, and information on both the technical issue and the resulting deadline extension will be published.

* 1. The following documentation must be submitted to apply under the 2024 call:
     1. Basic document 1: application form **(Annex 1)**.
     2. Basic document 2: scientific and technical report of the project **(Annex 2).**

This document should be a maximum of 15 pages long (a page shall be understood as each side of an A4 sheet of paper). Times New Roman font, size 11 and single spacing must be used. Basic document 2 should only include the following sections:

* + - 1. Project title.
      2. Name of the PI and of the members of the research team, if applicable.
      3. Project supervisors.
      4. A summary of the project (abstract), 300 words maximum, written in Catalan or Spanish.
      5. Project objectives (general and specific) and research questions.
      6. The proposed methodology.
      7. People in the research group.
      8. Expected results of the research and tasks to be carried out.
      9. Work plan and project schedule.
      10. Integration of the project into the social reality of the city, and social impact of the research.
      11. Open science, citizen science and dissemination actions.
      12. Knowledge transfer to the city's public or economic sector and/or technological application of the project.

The environmental and social implications and the gender perspective must be taken into account when writing this report, and inclusive language must be used.

* + 1. Basic document 3: financial feasibility plan for the project **(Annex 3).**

The plan must indicate the general budget for carrying out the project and include all the expected income and expenses and how the requested resources fit the needs of the project.

* + 1. Basic document 4: CV of the project PI **(Annex 4)**, with a maximum length of four pages.
    2. Basic document 5: Letter of endorsement from the project supervisor(s) **(Annex 5).** This document must include the supervisors' CV (with a maximum length of four pages per CV).

If it has not already submitted it to Barcelona City Council or it needs to be updated, the applicant must attach the following documents to the application:

* + 1. Applicant's Tax Identification Number (NIF).
    2. Documentary proof of the legal entity's legal personality and of registration in the appropriate register.
    3. Document certifying that the person signing the application is a valid representative of the applicant, and their tax identification number (NIF).
  1. Failure to submit any one or more of basic documents 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 within the deadline for the submission of applications will be considered grounds for not admitting the application.
  2. Each application submitted must relate to a single project and must contain a single type code, which must include the letter corresponding to the subject area (A, B or C) and the letter for the specific challenge (a, b, c or d) addressed by the project, as specified in section 1.4 of this call. The possible codes are therefore: Aa, Ab, Ac, Ad, Ba, Bb, Bc, Bd, Ca, Cb, Cc and Cd.
  3. Applicants who are awarded a grant must submit the following documentation within ten working days from the date immediately following that of publication of the provisional decision proposal:
     + 1. The PI’s doctoral degree, showing the date it was awarded.
       2. Document providing consent to the use of personal data (**Annex 6**).
       3. A document showing that a bank account has been designated on the procedures portal of the Barcelona City Council website. The link to make the designation is as follows: <https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/compte-bancari-creditors>
       4. Declaration of transparency **(Annex 7).**
  4. The respective annexes will be made available to applicants on the City Council's e-headquarters once the call has been opened:

([https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/ca/informacio-administrativa/subvencions](https://ajuntament.barcelona.cat/en/administrative-information/grants-and-subsidies)).

* 1. As a general rule, the documentation must be provided in Catalan or Spanish. The following documents will also be accepted if they are written in English: scientific and technical reports (basic document 2), feasibility reports (basic document 3) and CVs (basic document 4) (with the exception of the abstract described in basic document 2, which must be in Catalan or Spanish). In any case, once a language has been chosen, the three documents mentioned above (basic documents 2, 3 and 4) must be written in the same language.
  2. During the project assessment process, Barcelona City Council may request any additional information it may deem necessary in relation to the project.
  3. By submitting an application, beneficiaries agree to receive the communications envisaged in this call at the email addresses provided in the ‘Application form’ (basic document 1).

1. **AMOUNT, BUDGETARY PROVISION AND APPLICATION ITEMS**
   1. Barcelona City Council, through the Department of Science and Universities, opens this call for grants for €1,900,000 to be paid out of its budget for 2024 and 2025. This will be distributed as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| year | Budget application | Amount |
| 2024 | 0706-48901-32626 | €900,000.00 |
| 2025 | 0706-48901-32626 | €1,000,000.00 |

* 1. The amount for 2025 is subject to having an adequate and sufficient provision in the budget.
  2. Of the €1,000,000 corresponding to 2025, €100,000 is set aside as estimates to cover any potential appeals for reconsideration that may be filed.
  3. Barcelona City Council will subsidise up to 80% of the cost of the project, up to a maximum of €80,000. Other funding sources, which may under no circumstances be Barcelona City Council, must be found for the remainder of the project's cost (up to 100%).
  4. Selected projects will be funded in full for the amount applied for within the aforementioned limits, subject to having an adequate and sufficient budgetary provision.
  5. If the circumstances set forth in Article 58 of Royal Decree 887/2006, of 21 July, approving the Regulations of the General Grants and Subsidies Act, apply, the budgetary item may be increased during the grant award process. This increase in the provision of funds may be carried out as a result of the generation, increase or addition of a provision leading to a higher available budgetary provision.
  6. The budgetary provision in this call may be increased by up to a total of €2,000,000.00.
  7. This additional amount will only take effect if the budgetary provision is available as a result of the circumstances mentioned in the preceding section, and subject to prior approval of the relevant budget amendment before the decision to award the grant, if applicable.

1. **CONTRACT PERFORMANCE PERIOD**
   1. Projects must be carried out within a maximum of 24 months. The Department of Science and Universities must be informed of each project’s performance start date, which must be between the day after the publication in the BOPB of the final grant award decision and 90 calendar days after that. If no start date is provided, the performance of the project will be deemed to start the day after the publication in the BOPB of the final grant award decision.
   2. In any case, the project must start by 31 December 2024 and be completed by 31 December 2026.
2. **ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE ITEMS FOR GRANTS**
   1. The grants are awarded to cover the cost of carrying out the project for which they are awarded.
   2. Eligible expenses are those that clearly correspond to the nature of the activity for which the grant has been awarded, are strictly necessary and are incurred during the project performance period.
   3. It is necessary to differentiate between direct and indirect costs.
   4. Eligible direct expenditure items are those specified in the terms and conditions, and specifically:
      1. Staff expenditure.

This includes the employment costs of the staff expressly involved in the performance of the project (it includes salaries and Social Security contributions).

* + 1. Expenditures linked to the project, such as supplies, or arising from its dissemination, advertising, preparing teaching and training materials, organising meetings of experts, conferences, seminars and talks, workshops and other dissemination activities associated with the better performance of the project. They shall specifically cover:
       1. Travel, accommodation and living expenses of the experts who travel to Barcelona to take part in the activities. The limit on the amount per person is established by the specific regulations in force applicable to the beneficiary organisation in charge of the project for which the grant is awarded.
       2. Expenses for disseminating the results include the proofreading of the texts and, if necessary, their translation; as well as publication expenses in science magazines and those arising from open-access publications.
    2. The cost of buying the necessary technical equipment or consumables for the project (office supplies, non-inventoriable laboratory supplies, etc.).
    3. The insurance costs associated with the performance of the project and the outsourced work.
    4. Audit costs up to a maximum of €3,000 are eligible project expenses and can be allocated after the project has been completed.
  1. Indirect costs may not exceed 18% of the total budgeted expenditure. The following can be considered indirect costs:
     1. The overhead associated with the performance of the project, which include:

1. Administrative, support and/or management staff costs: These are the cost to the business of employing administrative, support and/or management staff, including both the organisation's own staff and/or expressly contracted personnel who carry out administrative, monitoring and/or management work in relation to the project. Funding can be provided for salaries, including Social Security contributions.
2. Office supplies: The supplies used by technical and administrative staff in the performance of the project.
3. Continuous utilities: These are current operating expenses, such as electricity, water, gas and others. They must be prorated when they are allocated to the project.
   1. This call allows beneficiaries to subcontract the activities for which a grant has been awarded for up to a maximum of 50% of the amount of the grant, as established in Rule 14 of the terms and conditions, and in accordance with Article 29 of Act 38/2003.
   2. The following items are ineligible for grants or subsidies:
      1. The cost of purchasing inventoriable movable property: scientific and technical equipment and inventoriable computer software.
      2. Working meal and living expenses, except where these are unequivocally linked to a conference, day event, talk or workshop.
      3. Formal responsibilities.
      4. Membership fees for national or international scientific societies.

Under no circumstances may income tax or indirect taxes that are eligible for recovery or offsetting be considered eligible expenses.

* 1. The amounts approved under the concept of direct execution costs can be allocated to any of the eligible expenses, according to the needs of the project. Under no circumstances may variations alter the total amount of the grant, and the need must be duly justified in the monitoring or justification documentation.
  2. If the eligible expenditure exceeds the sum of €15,000 (excluding VAT) in the case of services or supplies, the beneficiary must request at least three bids from different suppliers before contractually committing to the provision of the service or delivery of the good. This will not apply if, due to their special characteristics, there are not enough organisations that provide or supply them in the market or the expense was incurred before the grant. The choice between the bids received, which must be set out in the justification or, if applicable, in the grant application, must be made in accordance with criteria of efficiency and economy and must be expressly justified in a report if the bid that was chosen was not the most financially advantageous one.

1. **CRITERIA FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS**
   1. The assessment criteria established for this call are indicated in the table below. The scoring system for each criterion is from 0 to 10, and the percentage represents the weighting with respect to the final score.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Scientific and technical quality** | | Average 0-10 | 40% |
| CV of the principal investigator (PI). | 0-10 |
| Connection between the project supervisor's (or supervisors') research career and the subject matter of the research. | 0-10 |
| Clarity and relevance of the research goals and questions. | 0-10 |
| Degree to which the project and its methodology adds to the existing knowledge in this subject area. | 0-10 |
|  | |  |  |
| **Ability to implement** | | Average 0-10 | 40% |
| Clarity in the definition of a work plan. | 0-10 |
| Feasibility of the projects, and extent to which the activities detailed are appropriate for achieving the goals and expected results. | 0-10 |
| Adequacy of the requested resources and time required for the execution of the project. | 0-10 |
| Quality of the methodological proposal for knowledge transfer through innovation. | 0-10 |
|  | |  |  |
| **Social impact** | | Average 0-10 | 20% |
| The results' potential to address an urban challenge or promote new technology. | 0-10 |
| Applicability of proposals to the local ecosystem; inclusion of partnerships with players of relevance to the city. | 0-10 |
| Consideration of the environmental, social and gender implications of the project. Adaptation of the project to the social, environmental and/or geographical reality of Barcelona city. | 0-10 |
| Incorporation of open science and citizen science elements and criteria, and promotion of scientific education and culture through the various stages of research and the dissemination of its results. | 0-10 |

* 1. To be eligible for funding, projects must earn a minimum of 7 out of 10 points in total.
  2. If there is a tie in the final score, the following tie-breaking criteria will be applied in the following order:
     1. If the project's PI is a woman.
     2. If the project includes master's or postgraduate students or pre-doctoral staff (pursuing a doctorate) in the project team.

1. **COMPETENT BODY FOR THE PROCEDURE’S INSTRUCTION AND DECISION** 
   1. In accordance with Rule 9 of the terms and conditions of this call:
      1. The examining body of the grant award procedure for young and emerging research projects in 2024 is the Manager's Office for Economic Promotion.
      2. The body responsible for deciding to award grants for young and emerging research projects in 2024 is the Councillor's Office for Economic Promotion and Employment, in accordance with Mayoral Decree 2023-21670, of 29 June 2023.
2. **AWARD PROCEDURE**
   1. Grants are awarded in a competitive procedure carried out in accordance with Rule 12 of the terms and conditions.
   2. Admission of applications
      1. The basic documents set forth in section 6 of this call comprise the application.
      2. Barcelona City Council will check that the application contains all the basic documents set forth in section 6.2 of this call.
      3. Applications submitted out of the stipulated timeframe will not be accepted.
      4. Other reasons for not accepting applications include failure to meet one or more of the following requirements:
         1. Not falling under the type of organisations established in section 4.1 of this call.
         2. Not having a registered office or branch in the municipality of Barcelona or its metropolitan area.
         3. Failure to fulfil the specific requirements set out in section 3 of this call.
   3. Amendments to accepted applications
      1. If the documentation submitted is incomplete or defective, the applicant will be asked to amend it or provide any clarification that may be deemed necessary, and applicants must make the amendment or provide the clarification within a maximum of ten working days from the day immediately following the day of the request. After this period, no document will be accepted, and applications that have not been amended or clarified within this time will be deemed to have been withdrawn, in accordance with Article 7.5 of the General Regulations governing municipal grants, of 17 December 2010.
      2. Requests for amendment or clarification will either be published in the BOPB (if they affect all projects) or sent through the e-NOTUM system to the email addresses for notifications indicated in the application. Under no circumstances will the substitution of projects submitted be allowed.
      3. If duplicate applications are received for the same project, only the one with the more recent registration date within the submission period will be accepted.
   4. Project assessment
3. The examining body will review the technical documentation submitted as an application and check that it fulfils the technical requirements for participation, which are specified in section 3 of this call. Applications that are found not to meet the aforementioned technical requirements will not be accepted.
4. The scientific and technical assessment may be carried out fully or partly through national and international external experts in the subject areas established in this call, who will assess the projects in accordance with the assessment criteria and the scoring protocol outlined in section 9 of this call.
5. Once this assessment has been made, it will be submitted to the Assessment Committee, which will assess the accepted applications and issue a mandatory report for the provisional decision proposal.
   1. Provisional decision proposal
      1. Once the Assessment Committee has scored all the applications that have been accepted, the examining body will use that score to prepare the provisional decision proposal on the grants, which will be published in the BOPB and on the Barcelona City Council website.
      2. Provisional decision proposals do not give the applicant any rights before the Administration. The right to the grant is acquired when the decision to award it is made.
   2. Submitting appeals in relation to the provisional award decision and provisional rejection:
      1. The publication in the BOPB of the provisional proposal to award a grant or reject a project marks the start of a period of ten working days from the day after its publication to submit appeals through Barcelona City Council's e-headquarters (ajuntament.barcelona.cat/tràmits). This must be done in accordance with the instructions provided on the website.
      2. Within the same period of ten working days, applicants must submit documentary proof of eligibility to receive grants through Barcelona City Council’s e-headquarters (ajuntament.barcelona.cat/tràmits).
   3. Reformulating applications
      1. If the proposed amount to be awarded to applicants is lower than the amount requested and this affects the performance of the project, they must submit a reformulated application based on the lower amount. In any case, reformulated applications must still respect the subject, conditions and purpose of the grant and fulfil the assessment criteria established in relation to those applications. If a reformulated application is not submitted, the amount specified in the original application form will be taken into account when assessing the justification of the project.
   4. Unless otherwise stated, the applicants proposed as beneficiaries will be deemed to accept the grant in accordance with the terms of the provisional decision proposal.
   5. During the grant award procedure, the examining body may propose a change to the conditions or the performance of the activity proposed by the applicants. In such case, it must ask the beneficiary to accept it. Such acceptance shall be deemed to have been given if the proposed change clearly sets out the variations and the beneficiaries do not raise any objections within 15 calendar days from the date of the notification of the proposal, and always provided that no harm is caused to other interested parties in the procedure.
   6. Decision to award the grant
      1. Once the deadline for submitting the required supporting documentation has passed and the interested parties' appeals have been considered, the award decision will be issued.
      2. The award decision puts an end to the administrative remedies. Interested parties may file an appeal for reconsideration, at their own discretion, within one month, or an appeal for judicial review or any other appeal they may deem appropriate to defend their interests.
      3. The maximum period for issuing the award decision is six months from the deadline for submitting applications. Failure to issue a decision within this time will entitle the interested parties to assume that their grant applications have been rejected due to administrative silence.
   7. Once the provisional decision proposal has been published, applicants may, at the PI's request, access their assessment results in the form of an assessment report.
   8. The decision awarding or denying grants, which shall also address any appeals made, will be communicated in accordance with Article 45 of Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations by publishing it in the BOPB and posting it on Barcelona City Council's website and in any other ways that may be deemed appropriate.
6. **THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE**
   1. The Assessment Committee is made up of the following members:
      1. The Deputy Mayor for the Economy, Treasury, Economic Promotion and Tourism of Barcelona City Council, or the person to whom they may delegate their duties, who will chair the committee.
      2. The Manager for Economic Promotion of Barcelona City Council, or the person to whom they may delegate their duties.
      3. The head of the Department of Science and Universities at Barcelona City Council, or a representative delegated by them.
      4. Two members of the Scientific Advisory Board of Barcelona City Council, appointed by the Deputy Mayor for Economy, Treasury, Economic Promotion and Tourism.
   2. For the correct running of the meeting, the following shall also be part of the Committee, as non-voting members:
      1. A technical specialist from the Department of Science and Universities, who will act as technical secretary of the Assessment Committee.
7. **JUSTIFICATION, MONITORING AND CONTROL**
   1. In view of the duration of the projects, an interim scientific and technical monitoring report must be submitted. This will consist of sections 1 and 2 of Rule 16 of the terms and conditions, with a list of income and expenditures attached.
   2. This monitoring report must be submitted halfway through the project, counting from its start date. It will be reviewed by the Department of Science and Universities.
   3. The final scientific and technical report, which must be prepared as stated in Rule 16 of the terms and conditions, must be submitted within a maximum of three months from the project’s date of completion.
   4. The financial justification of the final report must comply with Rule 16 of the terms and conditions:
      1. If the total amount of the grant is greater than €30,000, an audit report must be attached to the supporting account as described in that rule.
      2. If the total amount of the grant is €30,000 or less, the supporting financial report described in that rule must be provided.
   5. The beneficiary is responsible for submitting the monitoring report, the final scientific and technical report and the financial justification established in Rule 16 of the terms and conditions in accordance with the templates published on the procedures portal of Barcelona City Council's e-headquarters.
   6. Non-performance of the subsidised activity or non-compliance with the terms and conditions that are considered for the award of the subsidy, as well as any lack of justification or incomplete justification of the subsidised activity, may require the total or partial repayment of the subsidy by its beneficiary.
   7. If it deems it appropriate, Barcelona City Council may request information on the activities and results of the project at any time during its performance.
   8. All the documentation related to monitoring and justification must be drafted in Catalan or Spanish.
8. **PAYMENT**
   1. Grant payments will be made by bank transfer to the beneficiary's bank account indicated in the application.

Payment will be made as follows:

* + 1. Fifty percent of the total cost of the grant awarded will be paid in 2024.
    2. The remaining 50% will be paid in 2025 if the monitoring report referred to in section 14.1 of this call receives a positive assessment from the body responsible for deciding to award the grant.

1. **DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS, KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER AND DATA POLICY**
   1. The results of the project must be disseminated by means of a popular-science article or through another format designed for open-access publication on the City Council's website.
   2. To ensure that the knowledge is transferred to society, the beneficiaries must also submit summaries of the results of their research and their implications to Barcelona City Council in the form of knowledge transfer files.
   3. Both documents described in sections 16.1 and 16.2 must be submitted, in addition to the final scientific and technical report, within three months after the end of the project.
   4. Awarded projects must be publicised through standard scientific channels. Barcelona City Council may also offer beneficiaries the chance to take part in conferences, meetings or activities for public dissemination and knowledge transfer to society organised jointly or at Barcelona City Council's initiative as part of events held by it, such as the City and Science Biennial. These events must be attended by at least one member of the project, as part of the social return for being awarded a City Council grant.
   5. The following sentence must be included in any dissemination and publicity materials produced in connection with the project, as well as when participating in any kind of dissemination activity in which the project is mentioned: *This project was funded by Barcelona City Council.* The graphic materials from the project must comply with Barcelona City Council's corporate image regulations.
   6. Where possible, the data from the research must be published through open-science channels.
2. **INTELLECTUAL, INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY AND DATA PROTECTION**
   1. Applicants accept responsibility for the authorship and originality of the projects submitted by them for the purpose of this call.
   2. Barcelona City Council shall not be liable for any improper use of industrial and intellectual property rights by the persons in charge of the projects.
   3. Applicants shall guarantee, holding Barcelona City Council fully harmless, that the project presented is original worldwide and that they are the sole owner, without encumbrances or restrictions, of all the exploitation rights over the project.
   4. If the winners of the grant are found not to be the authors of the original projects, they will be required to return the amount of the grant received to Barcelona City Council, notwithstanding the right to claim any liabilities that may apply. The applicable default interest will be added to the amount to be reimbursed.
   5. By submitting a given project in response to the call, participants, who are the owners of the project’s intellectual or industrial property rights, authorise Barcelona City Council to copy, distribute and publish all or part of this project, in various formats and on various platforms, provided that it is not done for commercial purposes and the aim is to publicise the call and the awarded projects.
   6. The rights referred to in the previous section are assigned free of charge, worldwide, for ten years.
   7. Beneficiaries shall expressly consent to the use of their image and voice, including their full names, by Barcelona City Council for the sole purpose of publicising the projects that have been awarded grants. To do so, they must sign Annex 6 of this call.
   8. Applicants hereby release Barcelona City Council from any liability arising from the contents and from the use of the projects that may be made by any third parties.
   9. Barcelona City Council will only use interested parties' personal data as necessary to process this call for grants, under the category of ‘management of grants and subsidies’, with number 0334. Data subjects may exercise their rights of access, rectification, cancellation, erasure and restriction and objection to processing at any time by contacting the City Council's General Register (Registre General de l’Ajuntament, Plaça de Sant Jaume, 1, 08002 Barcelona), clearly indicating ‘Exercici de drets LOPD tercers’ [‘Exercise of third-party data protection rights’] as the subject matter.

Information on this matter can also be found at the following link:

<https://seuelectronica.ajuntament.barcelona.cat/ca/proteccio-de-dades/consulta-el-registre-de-tractaments>

1. **AMENDMENTS TO THE CALL**
   1. Barcelona City Council reserves the right to cancel or change some of the aspects governed by this call as a result of an event of force majeure.
   2. In that case, it shall always ensure that participants' rights are respected.
   3. If necessary, the changes will be published in the BOPB and on the Barcelona City Council website.
2. **CHANGES TO THE AWARDED PROJECT**
   1. Changes to a project after it has been awarded a grant may be requested by the beneficiary.
   2. The change may only be made if the beneficiary requests it before the deadline for carrying out the project, and it may under no circumstances detrimentally affect any of the other interested parties in the procedure.
   3. In any case, the subject, conditions and purpose of the grant, as well as the assessment criteria established in relation to the project, must be complied with, and the change may not entail a substantial modification of the project that could affect the assessment made.
   4. In order for the change to take effect, it must be requested by the grant recipient through the e-register service and approved by the body responsible for deciding on the award of grants.
3. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND FINAL PROVISIONS**
   1. Any issues or queries about the interpretation of this call, as well as any aspects that have not been addressed in this document, must be resolved by the body responsible for deciding on the award of grants.
   2. Applications for grants do not place Barcelona City Council under an obligation to award them or entitle the applicant(s) to receive them.
   3. Barcelona City Council may carry out any checks it may require both before and after awarding a grant, assessing in particular the accuracy of the documents submitted by the applicant.
4. **APPEALS FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW** 
   1. This call, which puts an end to the administrative remedies in accordance with Article 172.2.a) of the Municipal and Local Act of Catalonia approved by Legislative Decree 2/2003, of 28 April, may be appealed by means of an appeal for reconsideration under Articles 123 and 124 of Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations. Appeals of the call itself may also be brought before the administrative law courts pursuant to Article 46 of Act 29/1998, of 13 July, on Judicial Review.