

ICIQ International Mobility Program

ICIQ Severo Ochoa International Mobility Fellowships 2024

The Institute of Chemical Research of Catalonia (ICIQ), in the framework of the ICIQ Severo Ochoa Excellence Program 2020-2024 and the ICIQ International Mobility Program, establishes the **ICIQ Severo Ochoa International Mobility Program with the aim to support excellent early stage researchers to develop a research stay from three to four months in an international institution abroad**. These fellowships aim to allow young ICIQ researchers to experience a different research environment and complement their research training.

ICIQ offers up to 15 ICIQ Severo Ochoa International Mobility (SOIM) Fellowships for PhD students in their 2nd, 3rd or 4th year of doctoral studies. Candidates may freely propose a research project to be carried out at a host institution of their choice. Only R&D institutions other than those in which candidates completed their graduate studies are eligible. The application must clearly state why the applicant has chosen the specific research institution and how the stay creates research synergies between the ICIQ and the host institution. In any case, it will be essential to have written approval from the ICIQ supervisor(s) to proceed with the planned stay.

I. Eligibility criteria

The program is open to ICIQ researchers that fulfill the following eligibility criteria at the time of the deadline (30 November 2023):

1. PhD students in their second, third or four year of pre-doctoral contract. Only students who have a pre-doctoral labor contract solely with ICIQ are eligible for these fellowships.
2. The host Institution must be different from the University/R&D Center where the candidates completed their graduate studies.
3. The successful candidates should have a convincing and well-planned research proposal for the short stay that has been agreed with an academic supervisor at the prospective host institution. A declaration of interest letter from the supervisor at the host institution will be asked to the fellows before the start date of the fellowship. The research stay must not exceed December 2024.



This project has received funding from the Spanish State Research Agency/Ministry of Science and Innovation through the “Severo Ochoa” Centres of Excellence Program 2019 (CEX2019-000925-S, MCIN/AEI / 10.13039/ 501100011033, 2020-2024).

4. Applicants should state whether applications have been submitted to other funding bodies for the same purpose and whether any other fellowships have been received towards the same visit.

II. Incompatibilities

1. At the time of submitting the application, candidates cannot have benefited from any other grant for short-term stays during their pre-doctoral training.
2. SOIM Fellowships may not be used to complement, or as an extension to, another short-term fellowship.
3. Candidates cannot benefit at the same time from a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action, FPI Grant (Grants for doctoral training contracts funded by the MCIN/AEI), or INPhINIT Fellowship (“la Caixa” Foundation).

In case of doubts about the eligibility criteria or possible incompatibilities, the Severo Ochoa Project Manager should be contacted at ssayalero@iciq.es prior to submission.

III. Benefits of the Fellowship

1. From three to four months of secondment support. The length of the fellowship will depend on the proposed research project and the candidate's work plan.
2. Monthly allowance that will be calculated based on the destination according to the regulations of the 2022 call “Proyectos de Generación de Conocimiento y a actuaciones para la formación de personal investigador predoctoral asociado a dichos proyectos, en el marco del Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica, Técnica y de Innovación 2021-2023” of the State Research Agency/Ministry of Science and Innovation (MCIN/AEI): [Convocatoria PID 2022 firmada.pdf \(aei.gob.es\)](#)
3. A round-trip air ticket from ICIQ to the host Institution (based on ICIQ's and MCIN/AEI regulations).
4. Visa fees and accident insurance and health insurance, when the stay is in countries where the European Health Card is not valid nor the Provisional Substitute Certificate for the European Health Card.

IV. Application process

Candidates should send to the Severo Ochoa Project Manager (ssayalero@iciq.es) the following documents in English:

1. A **motivation letter** that must clearly state why the applicant has chosen the host research institution and how the stay will impact the candidate's professional career and create research synergies between the ICIQ and the host institution.
2. **Curriculum Vitae** (4 pages maximum). The CV must include education and career information, list of publications and patents, information on previous research stays and mention of the most relevant achievements sorted by the typology that best suits the candidate's scientific profile (fellowships and awards, participation in R&D projects, training activities, outreach activities, etc.).
3. **Description of the planned research work** which has been agreed upon with the supervisor at the host institution. The research proposal must follow the template.

Applications must be received **by 30 November 2023**. Only one application per applicant may be submitted. Candidates must ensure that all information is included before the deadline. There will not be the possibility to modify the application or to add missing documentation after the call deadline.

V. Evaluation and Selection Process

Admission to the program is on a competitive basis. All applications will be evaluated on the basis of candidate's excellence, the stage of development of PhD Thesis and the quality of the research proposal.

1. All the applications will be checked for eligibility and those not fulfilling all the criteria will be rejected. Incomplete and/or ineligible applications will be also discarded at this stage.
2. The evaluation and selection of the candidates will be performed by the Severo Ochoa Committee.
3. The name of the awardees will be published on the ICIQ's website.
4. In the event that an awardee obtains a short-term grant funded by the Ministry of Universities ("Ayudas a la movilidad para estancias breves y traslados temporales de beneficiarios FPU"), or any other related short-term grant, the SOIM Fellowship will be allocated to the candidate who occupies the first place on the reserve list.

VI. Indicative Calendar

Call opening.....	23 October 2023	Call deadline.....	30 November 2023
Publication of results.....	18 December 2023	Start of Fellowships...	January-September 2024