

Call for research proposals:
“Commitment to research and development”
Campus of International Excellence (CIE) BioTic Granada

Objectives

This call for research proposals falls within the strategic area ‘Improvement of R&D&I’.

Its key objectives are to:

- improve the R&D&I results of the CIE BioTic Granada project.
- foster collaboration amongst the project’s partners, both national and international
- drive forward new initiatives and joint projects
- promote specialized job creation.

Applicants

Project teams must be formed principally by members of the University of Granada (UGR) community and strategic partners of CIE BioTic Granada. The teams must be interdisciplinary in nature and demonstrate the participation of different partners.

The project leader/researcher heading the proposal must hold the status of Doctor and have either a direct employment or statutory relationship with the UGR.

The project leader/researcher may not participate as principal investigator in more than one project submitted in response to the present call.

Special consideration will be given to projects that include CIE BioTic partners as co-directors.

Applicants must declare any funding already received in support of their proposal.

Proposals must be clearly related to the objectives of the CIE BioTic Granada project and comply with the formal specifications laid out in this document.

Proposals will be submitted electronically.

Proposal formalities

Deadline: Project proposals must be submitted no later than 20th February 2012.

Applications must be sent online at http://biotoc.uqr.es/pages/proyectos_idi by completing the application form.

Applications must include:

1. Project title
2. Details of the project leader:
 - Full name
 - Academic or professional status
 - University Centre/Department, or partner organisation and department.

3. The CIE BioTic strategic area to which the project proposal is related (BioHealth – ICT – Earth System – Culture-heritage – or Various). Should a proposal be related, or have the potential to be related, to more than one area, the 'Various' category may be chosen.

In addition to completing the online form, applicants must attach a PDF file (of up to 5MB) containing the following information.

1. Curriculum Vitae of the Director(s) and Co-directors of the research team.
2. Curriculum Vitae of all members of the research team, and signatures confirming their acceptance of the project.
3. A description of the proposed research project (maximum 3,000 words), with the following sections: background context; objectives; methodology; anticipated outcomes; budget; timeframes. Descriptions should make special reference to the aspects outlined in the evaluation criteria (points 2 to 6).
4. Formal written confirmation of the involvement of partners. This should cover the scope of their involvement, the type of tasks to be engaged in, the milestones they are to be responsible for, and their willingness to take part. The written confirmation must also expressly affirm the partners' active engagement with: the transfer of results from the project; its dissemination and possible exploitation; their rights and financial obligations; and the technical, scientific and financial conditions of the project.

Once the online application has been completed, applicants must then sign and print the Word document available in the same application, together with the acknowledgement of receipt that will be sent to the email address provided by the applicant. These two printed documents must then be presented at one of the UGR's Centres, at the UGR's General Registry or at any location specified in Article 38 of the ruling *Ley de Procedimiento Administrativo Común*.

Commitments

Applicants are expected to commit to the following activities:

- present projects in national and international calls
- publish results in specialist journals and in so doing make explicit reference to the CIE BioTic Granada project
- drive forward the development of doctoral theses in collaboration with private enterprise and institutions
- participate in a symposium organised by CIE BioTic Granada on the theme of 'Commitment to Research and Development', at which they will be asked to present, defend and discuss their proposals.

Evaluation

Applications will be evaluated by CIE BioTic Granada's Scientific Committee, together with external assessors if appropriate, against the following criteria:

1. Suitability of Curriculum Vitae to the proposed project (20%):

- a. of the Director(s) of the research team
 - b. of the research team members.
2. Scientific quality of the proposal (15%)
 - a. fitness of purpose to CIE BioTic Granada's objectives
 - b. methodology, objectives and visibility of desired outcomes.
3. Viability of the proposal, technological synergies and development potential (10%):
 - a. scale of the technological synergies offered by the proposal for the BioTic Campus
 - b. potential for the development of new products and services.
4. Anticipated outputs (15%):
 - a. in terms of scientific output – publications, doctoral theses within companies and institutions, and other results
 - b. patents
 - c. potential for new joint projects to be developed and presented in response to competitive calls at national and international level.
5. Involvement of partners (15%): extent of support and collaboration from CIE BioTic partners or from other companies or institutions beyond the strategic partnership, with particular emphasis on possible co-financing.
6. Job creation (25%): hiring of staff by companies, particularly post-graduates and Doctors; creation of specialist posts.

Funding

This is the first of two anticipated calls for this programme. In this first call, funding up to a maximum total of €500,000 is being made available.

At least two projects per strategic area will be chosen. However, if the assessment committee concludes that the expected level of quality has not been met by projects relating to a given area, it reserves the right to award the corresponding funds to other areas, or to transfer the funding to the second call.

The ceiling for funding per project will be €50,000.

All budgeted expenses will be administered by the University of Granada.

The second call is scheduled for June 2012, assuming there are no unforeseen delays in the funding stream.

Terms of the funding:

1. Timescale: projects awarded funding in the first call must be fully delivered by 31/12/2012. No expenses or invoices pertaining to a later date will be accepted.
2. Eligible expenses are those relating to fungible materials, small-scale inventoriable items, sub-contracts, travel and subsistence, and other expenses outlined in the proposal. Staff costs are not admissible, under the ruling of the 30/12/2011 Spanish legislation regarding reduction of the public deficit.
3. Ineligible expenses: The following expenses will not be admitted:

- a. Salaries.
- b. Protocol-related activities such as entertainment or gifts.
- c. Office supplies.

Obligations of successful applicants

- Applicants must submit a report outlining the activity delivered to date, no later than 30th October 2012, paying particular attention to points 3, 4 and 5 of the selection criteria.
- Applicants must submit a final report outlining the overall development of the project, no later than 31st January 2013.
- Should the results of the project require protection as industrial and/or intellectual property, and should their publication threaten such protection, applicants must confirm that the necessary formalities established by the UGR have been set in motion.
- For the purposes of protection of results the process stipulated by the UGR will be followed.
- In all publications and resulting outcomes applicants must publicly acknowledge the financial support of CIE BioTic Granada and make reference to the national Department of Education and the regional Ministry of Economy, Innovation and Science. They must also refer to their affiliation to the University of Granada in all publications and activities they participate in.
- Applicants will participate in a symposium organised by CIE BioTic Granada entitled 'Commitment to research and development', at which they will be asked to present, defend and discuss their proposals.

Justification of expenses:

The researcher making the application must prepare a brief report summarising the work delivered from the outset of the project and submit it no later than one month following completion. The format must be suitable for uploading to the CIE BioTic Granada website. The report should outline precisely the publications in which reference to the project is made, and the potential or scientific impact the work has had. The report must be accompanied by an income and expenditure statement for the cost centre relating to management of the project.