

Ordinary call for applications for UOC predoctoral grants in the doctoral programmes in Society, Technology and Culture; Network and Information Technologies; Education and ICT (E-learning); Humanities and Communication; Health and Psychology, and Law, Politics and Economics – 2024/2025

The Vice Rector for Research, Knowledge Transfer and Entrepreneurship, on exercising his authority in terms of training researchers, hereby invites applications for UOC predoctoral grants for doctoral theses for research staff undertaking predoctoral training, within the framework of Law 14/2011, of 1 June 2011, on Science, Technology and Innovation, Law 17/2022, of 5 September 2022, amending Law 14/2011, of 1 June 2011, on Science, Technology and Innovation, Law 14/2013, of 27 September 2013, on Support for Entrepreneurs and Internationalization, and Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March, approving the Statute on Trainee Predoctoral Researchers.

This programme is funded by the Fundació per a la Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (FUOC).

1. Aim of the call for applications

- I. In order to promote the training of researchers in the different research groups at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), the UOC is awarding **twelve (12)** predoctoral grants for doctoral theses in the framework of the doctoral programmes in Society, Technology and Culture; Network and Information Technologies; Education and ICT (E-learning); Humanities and Communication; Health and Psychology, and Law, Politics and Economics.
- II. This call is made in accordance with the criteria set forth by the UOC Research Grants Selection and Evaluation Committee for doctoral theses, appointed by the UOC's Governing Council.

2. Programme structure

- I. The UOC grant programme for doctoral theses is regulated by Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation; Law 17/2022, of 5 September 2022, amending Law 14/2011, of 1 June 2011, on Science, Technology and Innovation; Law 14/2013, of 27 September, on Support for Entrepreneurs and their Internationalization; and Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March, approving the Statute on Trainee Predoctoral Researchers; or any other current legislation.
- II. The UOC's grant programme will consist of hiring trainee predoctoral researchers, specifically under predoctoral researcher training contracts, as provided for in Article 21 of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation, and in Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March, approving the Statute on Trainee Predoctoral Researchers, or any other current legislation. Predoctoral contracts shall be governed by the aforementioned regulations and, on a supplementary basis, by the Consolidated Text of the Law on the Workers' Statute, all other applicable labour legislation and the FUOC's (Fundació per a la Universitat Oberta de Catalunya) collective agreement.

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- III.** Predoctoral contracts have a duration of three years. However, for people previously hired under predoctoral contracts, the duration of the contract must be adjusted to the maximum allowed by Law 14/2011, of 1 June, in no case exceeding three years.
- IV.** In accordance with the provisions of Article 21 of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation, and Article 6.2 of Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March, approving the Statute on Trainee Predoctoral Researchers, situations of temporary disability and periods of full-time leave for gestation, pregnancy, risk during gestation, pregnancy and breastfeeding, childbirth and childcare, adoption, custody for the purpose of adoption or foster care, or breastfeeding time accumulated into full days, or for similar situations related to the above, as well as periods of full-time leave for reasons of work-life balance or to care for a child, relative or dependant, and time spent on leave to care for a child or family member during the term of the contract, shall stop time running for the purpose of the calculation of the contract.

Periods of part-time leave for childbirth and childcare, adoption, custody for the purpose of adoption or foster care, and the reduction of working hours for breastfeeding, birth of a premature child or a child who is hospitalized after birth, legal guardianship, care of children with cancer or other serious illness, of family members who have suffered an accident or have a serious illness, or of dependants, or due to gender-based violence, or reductions in working hours for similar situations related to the above, as well as for reasons of work-life balance or to care for a child, family member or dependant, during the term of the contract, shall cause the contract to be extended for an equivalent amount of time to the reduction in working hours.

This calculation will also be suspended by the situation envisaged in Article 45.1. n) of the Consolidated Text of the Law on the Workers' Statute as a measure to protect women who are the victims of gender-based violence. Contracts shall also be suspended, for a maximum period of four months, in the event of a claim of failure by the doctoral thesis supervisor to carry out their duties, in accordance with the conditions established in Article 6 of Royal Decree 103/2019.

In all these cases, the term of the contract shall be extended to recover the sum of the suspended periods.

- V.** In accordance with Article 21 of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation, the activities carried out by trainee predoctoral researchers are assessed annually, and a favourable annual report by the programme's Academic Committee and the UOC's Research Grant Selection and Evaluation Committee is required in order for them to remain in the programme. These committees will assess whether the training and research objectives agreed to by the recipient of the grant have been met within the established period.
- VI.** The following are grounds for termination of the predoctoral contract: withdrawal from the doctoral programme and failure to pass the annual assessments, as well as the other grounds established in Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation and in Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March, approving the Statute on Trainee Predoctoral Researchers, and any other reasons provided for by law.
- VII.** In accordance with Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation, obtaining the doctoral degree puts an end to the training stage for research staff and the beginning of their postdoctoral stage, which is aimed at professional improvement and specialization. From

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that moment, for a maximum of twelve (12) months and without exceeding the three (3) years of predoctoral contract established in section 2. II of these rules, the purpose of the contract is this postdoctoral guidance.

If a student has obtained the highest academic mark in the defence of the thesis - excellent cum laude - before the end of the third year of the predoctoral contract concluded by them, and based on budgetary availability, the two (2) theses most highly rated by a panel may be extended to up to four years, but without the postdoctoral guidance period exceeding twelve (12) months under any circumstances.

3. Grant amount and form of payment

- I. The salary to be received by trainee predoctoral researchers during this period shall be €17.737,84 gross per year for the first and second years, and €19.004,83 for the third year. In any case, the salary remuneration for each year shall be established taking account of the provisions of Article 21.d) of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, and Article 7 of Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March. The amounts indicated in these rules may therefore be increased.

These amounts are subject to personal income tax withholding and social security contributions in accordance with the current legislation. The amount shall be paid monthly by bank transfer to the account specified by the trainee predoctoral researcher.

- II. Predoctoral grant holders will have all those employment and other rights relating to social security deriving from the contract signed with the UOC.
- III. The institution will be responsible for the expenses involved in enrolling for the organized research period of the doctoral programme, and also for payment of the qualification certificate only if the thesis has been deposited before the end of the predoctoral contract. The grant includes a final payment of €1,500 gross which is payable if the doctoral thesis has been defended before the end of the predoctoral contract, and so long as the student has obtained the highest academic grade at the thesis defence: Excellent cum laude. This payment will be made to the beneficiary when they obtain their doctoral degree, in their salary for that month.
- IV. All the beneficiaries must take into account that the month of **August will not be counted, on considering it to be outstanding**, and the evaluation process can take two months to carry out.

4. Requirements

- I. The potential beneficiaries of a UOC predoctoral grant for doctoral programmes include individuals who, at the time of submitting an application, fulfil (or could fulfil by 26 July 2024) the access requirements for the organized research period on a doctoral programme at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya.

The specific requirements of each doctoral programme can be consulted on the [website of the UOC Doctoral School](#) (in the information on each doctoral programme: *Call for Applications > General requirements and Admission requirements*).

5. Documentation to be presented

- I. Candidates will need to complete a grant application linked in the admission form from the Virtual Campus, along with the documentation required to access the specific doctoral programmes (academic record; in the case of candidates from non-English-speaking countries, accreditation of English language skills, etc.) which is given in detail on each doctoral programme [website](#) (Apply for admission section). The application will be submitted at the same time as the doctoral programme application. The deadline for applications is **12 February 2024**.

6. Selection and Evaluation Committee

- I. The UOC Predoctoral Grants Selection and Evaluation Committee is responsible for evaluating and selecting candidates who have submitted applications for this Call, based on the proposals and prior appraisal of the doctoral programme Committee.

Each doctoral programme has its own Evaluation Committee, made up of experts from the specific area of the programme.

Moreover, there is a General Evaluation Committee, whose members are the directors of each doctoral programme:

- Dr David Masip Rodó
- Dr Ferran Adelantado Freixer
- Dr Mireia Fernández-Ardèvol
- Dr Iolanda Garcia González
- Dr David Martínez Zorrilla
- Dr Rubén Nieto Luna
- Dr Joan Pujolar Cos

- II. The Committee will decide upon the awarding of grants in a single session, after their proposal has been approved by the Governing Council, in accordance with the selection criteria established in clause seven [7] of this call.
- III. The Committee may, if it deems it necessary, request the necessary information from the candidates to suggest, expand and / or modify the initial project proposal submitted. The Committee reserves the right to declare the scholarships vacant and is competent to resolve any issue not expressly regulated in these rules.

7. Selection criteria

- I. To assess the applications, the Committee will take into account the following criteria:
 1. The academic excellence of the candidates (bachelor's degree and master's degree academic transcript).
 2. Adaptation of the candidates' education, experience and research interests to fields of knowledge or subject areas associated with the doctoral programme.
 3. The criteria put forward by the respective academic committees according to the strategic priorities of the programmes.

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4. Candidates' prior scientific production will also be valued as an additional merit.
- II. The specific evaluation criteria of each doctoral programme can be consulted on the [UOC's Doctoral School website](#) (section *Call for Applications/ Evaluation criteria*) and within Annex II.
- III. In any event, the selection process also promotes entry to the doctoral programme by candidates who have recently graduated for a master's degree and who have completed a research pathway, who do not generally have extensive previous scientific production.

8. Provisional selection of candidates

- I. The provisional selection of the candidates approved for the grants will be published on the [UOC's e-Noticeboard](#) and the [UOC's Doctoral School website](#) on **6 May 2024**.

9. Appeals

- I. All applicants will then have a period for appeals starting from **7 May 2024 until 13 May 2024**.
Appeals should be sent to the UOC Predoctoral Grants Selection and Evaluation Committee, as a formal letter, through the Procedures within the Virtual Campus.
- II. The UOC Predoctoral Grants Selection and Evaluation Committee undertakes to decide on the appeals received, and the final selection of candidates to be awarded a grant for the doctoral programmes will be published on the [UOC's e-Noticeboard](#) and the [UOC's Doctoral School website](#) before **27 May 2024**.

10. Final selection of candidates

- I. The beneficiaries will receive a notification with instructions on how to formally accept the grant by signing a standardized document and submitting the corresponding documentation. They must do so within a maximum of **five [5]** working days from the day following the sending of the notification.
- II. Any beneficiary who does not formally accept grant within the period stated in the previous paragraph will be considered to have waived the grant.
- III. The selected candidates must be able to present, **before 28 June 2024**, the documents listed in Annex I of this document.
- IV. If the selected candidates do not possess the master's degree on **12 February 2024**, but could fulfil all the requirements to access one of the doctoral programmes **before 26 July 2024**, they must submit all the documents with the legalized master's degree, which can be submitted before 26 July 2024.
- V. In the event of resignation of any of the beneficiaries, the place will be awarded in descending order to the person who has obtained the highest score and who is on the waiting list, until 1

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December 2024. Awards made during this withdrawal period shall be notified and published in accordance with the terms established in the preceding paragraphs.

If a beneficiary rejects a grant after the deadline established in this section, the grant will be void.

- VI. The period for candidates to join may go beyond the dates initially envisaged in the terms of this call. The term of the predoctoral contract to be concluded will be adjusted to fit the remaining time of enjoyment of the grant.
- VII. From 2 December 2024 (inclusive), the UOC may publish an extraordinary call for applications to cover the grants not awarded in the ordinary call. The process of selecting, awarding and benefitting from these grants will be governed by these rules. These grants will be assigned to the research group in which they have been declared void.

11. Terms and Conditions of Grants

- I. The grants awarded are subsidiary to any other equivalent grants from public or private institutions. Therefore, grant-holders will be obliged to apply for equivalent grants from those public or private institutions deemed appropriate by the UOC.

The status of trainee predoctoral researcher with a UOC grant is incompatible with any other remunerated activity that may restrict researchers' abilities to devote themselves fully to research. Nevertheless, the UOC management and the doctoral programme may consider requests to carry out teaching activities (giving courses, presentations, speeches, etc.), collaboration on RDI work or contracted RDI work directly related to the training and research undertaken by the trainee predoctoral researcher, so long as they are occasional and not regular activities.

- II. If the trainee researcher receives remuneration from any of the activities mentioned above, this may not exceed 30% of the gross annual sum of the grant.
- III. In accordance with Article 4.2 of Royal Decree 103/2019, of 1 March, approving the Statute on Trainee Predoctoral Researchers, research staff may collaborate in teaching tasks for up to a maximum of 60 hours per year and 180 hours for the full term of the predoctoral contract. The UOC's management and the doctoral programme must authorize these collaborations. If the teaching activity takes place at the UOC, they will not receive any remuneration additional to the amount paid by means of the grant.
- IV. Trainee research staff will develop their research activities at the UOC's Interdisciplinary R&I Hub in Barcelona. The predoctoral contract for the doctoral programmes –that is, the grant–, will begin on 1 October 2024 and in accordance with the provisions of clause three [3] of this call the trainee researcher should join the university centre by **1 October 2024**. Trainee researchers from countries outside the European Union may start the employment relationship once they have a residence and work permit and are in Spain. Therefore, their start date will depend on when they receive the necessary authorizations and documents to sign the contract.
- V. The UOC predoctoral research grant holders for doctoral programmes have to provide the UOC's Personnel department with the administrative and legal documents required for their

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employment contract **before 20 September 2024**: Census Registration in Spain, valid DNI/NIE (Spanish Identity Document/Foreigner Identity Number), Spanish Social Security Number, Spanish bank account number and certificate of employment. They also have to provide their employment history report or an affidavit stating they are not and have not been employed under a research personnel in training contract. If the predoctoral researcher does not provide the documents before 20 September 2024, they will lose their right to the grant.

- VI.** The trainee researchers expressly authorize the UOC to make whatever use it deems appropriate of the findings and reports submitted for the grant application or to justify the work carried out (except their publication) and to undertake whatever proceedings may be necessary with the individuals or institutions that may be partially or fully funding the grant awarded.
- VII.** However, in accordance with Law 14/2013, of 27 September 2013, on Support for Entrepreneurs and their Internationalization, they may exercise the intellectual property rights deriving from their own research training activities, depending on their contribution, as established in the revised text of the Intellectual Property Act, approved by Royal Decree 1/1996, of 12 April 1996.

12. Rights of trainee research staff

Without being exhaustive in nature anyone receiving a UOC predoctoral grant has the right to:

- Obtain the necessary support from the UOC to carry out their research activities.
- Use the services of the UOC and take part in their activities as a whole in accordance with internal regulations.
- Participate in UOC calls for applications for grants.
- Exercise the intellectual property rights deriving from their own research training activities, depending on their contribution, as established by the revised text of the Intellectual Property Act approved by Royal Decree 1/1996 of 12 April 1996, and the UOC's internal Intellectual Property regulations.
- Receive the funding described in clause three [3] "Grant amount and form of payment" of this call.
- If budgetary provisions allow, recover the grant in the event of interruptions caused by force majeure.
- Carry out teaching activities, collaborate on RDI work or undertake contracted RDI work subject to the prior authorization of the management of the doctoral programme and in accordance with the requirements set out in this document, and in the current internal intellectual property regulations.

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- Make research visits to other centres. In each case, the management of the Doctoral School and the doctoral programme will decide on whether these visits are appropriate and whether this will involve temporarily suspending the grant and hence stopping payments.
- Beneficiaries of grants who are non-resident in Spain when the grant is awarded will be entitled to a return journey to and from their country of origin. This journey should be taken in one of the holiday periods during the grant. It must be pre-validated on the Personal Affairs site (Endalia) and the Personnel department must be informed. The grant is subject to prior authorization by the directors of the Doctoral School and the doctoral programme.
The journey request may only be sent via *JIRA Suport UOC / R&I Expenses / Travel and registration to conferences*, identifying the type of trip in the Reason for expense section.
- Beneficiaries of grants who are not resident in Barcelona province when it is awarded will be granted a one-off payment of €600 gross to defray the costs of moving to Barcelona.
The applications may only be sent through the GIR Researchers' site. Log in to the link "Presentació de sol·licitud" in the call's file.
Once the application has been completed on the GIR tool, the applicant must send a message to the address internal_grants_ri@uoc.edu notifying their request.
The grant cannot be requested until the contract with the UOC has been signed. At the time of application, the beneficiary must provide documentary evidence proving the change of address.
The amount of the grant shall be received in the form of a single payment on the FUOC payroll and shall be subject to the withholdings established in applicable regulations.

13. Obligations of trainee research staff

Without being exhaustive in nature, and in all cases in line with the provisions of Law 14, of 27 September 2013, approving the Support for Entrepreneurs and their Internationalization, UOC predoctoral grant beneficiaries have the obligation to:

- Carry out the research work in accordance with the criteria established by the management of the Doctoral School and the doctoral programme and the Research Group Coordinator from the UOC assigned to the programme.
- Study and pass the training activities included in the personal Training Plan.
- The UOC predoctoral grant holders' residence must be in Spain. It is highly recommended that their habitual residence be in Catalonia, as the research centre is located in Barcelona, in order to ensure they can follow the on-site regime required by their research activity.
- Carry out regular research at the UOC's Interdisciplinary R&I Hub facilities, located in Barcelona, without prejudice to any temporary stints that may be necessary during the course of this activity in other higher educational centres or research centres and any travel undertaken for fieldwork and to disseminate the research work.
- Apply for the [FI Joan Oró grant to hire research staff in training](#) and for the [FI-SDUR Grants for university departments and research units aimed at the recruitment of pre-doctoral researchers](#)

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[in Catalonia](#). The beneficiaries of these grants will receive the salary stipulated herein, and will need to renounce the UOC grant.

- In any written documents deriving from the research work undertaken, state their affiliation to the university with the expression "With the support of a predoctoral grant from the UOC".
- In addition to the training activities that are a required part of the doctoral programme: attend and participate in the doctoral and group research seminars, and attend and take advantage of the research seminars, workshops and other activities organized by the UOC for research personnel, as well as any initiatives organized or facilitated by the UOC to enhance their training or to promote their integration in the university community and the host country.
- Integrate in the scientific community of the Doctoral School in particular and the UOC community in general in the spirit of scientific collaboration.
- In the year prior to joining the doctoral programme they should have taken the necessary steps to apply for and obtain from the State or any other public or private institution any grants or subsidies to which they may be entitled (due to their personal circumstances or activity) to pursue these doctoral studies, or otherwise undertake these procedures during the first year of the grant.
- Notify the UOC in writing if any other grant or similar subsidy is awarded or there is any interruption to the grant period due to force majeure.
- Accept the grants that the UOC may obtain from other individuals or organizations to partially or fully offset the grant, so long as this substitution does not involve the beneficiary of the grant having to accept lower remuneration.
- Request permission through the means established for this from the management of the Doctoral School and the doctoral programme to undertake research stints at other centres.
- Notify the management of maternity or paternity leave to adopt or foster children or any disability leave.
- Accept any obligations incumbent upon them as a result of being covered by the Social Security system.
- Abide by the internal regulations of the UOC, especially employment conditions and health and safety regulations.
- Respect the ethical implications of the research activity.
- Comply with the objectives and requirements for remaining on the doctoral programme, established in accordance with the applicable academic regulations.

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- Comply with the UOC's Coexistence Regulations and the rights and obligations in the Doctoral candidate agreement, all of which have been established in accordance with the applicable academic laws.
- Non-EU foreigners who want to travel or carry out a research stay in which they must remain outside the country for more than 6 months, must previously contact Personnel at persones@uoc.edu to receive information and support on the procedure and the necessary documentation.
- Provide to the UOC, before 28 June 2024, the necessary documents (Listed in Annex I) to undertake the process for residence permits, and in accordance with the provisions of clause ten [10] of this call.
- The admission documents must be provided before 12 February 2024 (with the exception of the master's degree in those cases in which it will be awarded in the spring term), and in accordance with the provisions of clause five [5] of this call. If the PhD student does not provide the documents requested on time, the university cannot guarantee the starting date of the contract of 1 October 2024.
- Enjoy their holidays during the natural year, like the UOC staff. If the PhD student does not apply for their holidays, these days will be lost and irrecoverable. They will not then be paid in the final payslip. The holidays must be accepted by the Doctoral School management before enjoying them and must be applied for through the Personal Management Space (Endalia).
- Adhere to the conditions and obligations set forth in this document, and all applicable internal regulations.

Should any of these obligations not be fulfilled, the grant awarded may be subject to revocation by the UOC Predoctoral Grants Selection and Evaluation Committee, as well as the initiation of the relevant disciplinary proceeding provided for in the FUOC's (Fundació per a la Universitat Oberta de Catalunya) collective agreement.

14. Renewal

The Academic Committee of the doctoral programme will make public the criteria for renewing the UOC predoctoral grants. In the event that it feels it is necessary to set any additional requirements or criteria for renewing grants, this information will be duly notified by email to the beneficiaries of grants affected.

In any case, the programme's Academic Committee and the UOC Research Grants Selection and Evaluation Committee will base their decision on renewal of the contract on the doctoral student meeting the objectives set for the period in question.

Should they not meet the criteria for renewal set or fulfil their duties as described herein, the UOC Grants Selection and Evaluation Committee may decide not to renew the grant.

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The UOC Grants Selection and Evaluation Committee for the doctoral programmes will issue its decision on the renewal of grants before 31 August 2025. All applicants will be duly notified of this decision by email.

15. Data protection

In fulfilment of Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, on protection of personal data and guarantee of digital rights and of Article 13 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 27 April, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (hereinafter "GDPR"), we hereby inform the participating persons of the following aspects.

Data controller:

Fundació per a Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
Avinguda del Tibidabo, 39-43, Barcelona
National tax ID number (NIF) G60667813

In the event of having questions about the handling of personal information, you can contact the Data Protection Officer at email address dpd@uoc.edu.

Purpose of the processing:

Your personal data will be processed with the aim of organizing, managing and resolving the present Call for grant applications for doctoral theses in doctoral programme Society, Technology and Culture, Network and Information Technologies, Education and ICT (E-learning), Humanities and Communication, Health and Psychology, and Law, Politics and Economics – 2024/2025, (hereinafter "the Activity").

Carrying out an assessment and a follow-up of the activity through satisfaction surveys related to this activity.

Publishing the first names and surnames of the people benefiting from the Activity on [UOC's e-Noticeboard](#) and the [UOC's Doctoral School website](#).

Legitimacy:

The organization, management and resolution of the Activity, and the publication of the beneficiary persons (names and surnames) on the UOC's e-Noticeboard website and on UOC's Doctoral School website are based on the execution of the contract (the bases of the call for the Activity).

Legitimate interest in the evaluation and the follow-up of the activity through statistics and satisfaction surveys related to this activity.

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Conservation period:

The personal data will be kept during the necessary period of time to carry out the indicated purposes. At the end of the indicated period, the UOC will keep the personal data blocked during the period necessary to comply with the legal obligations that could generate legal responsibilities regarding the indicated purposes. When the responsibilities expire, the personal data will be permanently eliminated.

Security measures in place to protect personal data:

The UOC will treat personal data in the strictest confidence. It has also implemented appropriate technical and organizational measures to ensure the security of the data and prevent their destruction, loss, unlawful access or unlawful alteration. When determining these measures, criteria such as the scope, context and purposes of the processing, the state of the art and the existing risks have been taken into account.

Recipients:

If necessary, the UOC will disclose the personal data you send us through this form to other third parties in order to comply with any corresponding legal obligations.

The UOC has several providers that assist it in carrying out different tasks related to the processing of personal data.

Rights of interested parties:

You have the following data protection rights:

RIGHT	Definition
Right of access	Check what personal data is held.
Right to rectification	Modify personal data held when inaccurate.
Right to object	Request that personal data not be processed for some specific purposes.
Right not to be subject to an automated individual decision-making	Right not to be subject to a decision based solely on automated processing, including profiling, which produces legal effects concerning you or similarly significantly affects you.
Right to erasure	Request that personal data be deleted.
Right to restriction of processing	Request that the processing of personal data be limited.
Right to data portability	Request that the information available be delivered to them in a computer format.

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<p>Right to lodge a complaint with the competent authority</p>	<p>File a claim. Without prejudice to the exercising of your rights before the controller, at any time you may lodge a complaint with the competent authority to defend your rights through the website www.apdcat.cat.</p>
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To exercise such rights, send an email to fuoc_pd@uoc.edu, with the reference "Data Protection" attaching, if necessary, a copy of your identification document, as well as minimum content provided for in the applicable regulations. If the application does not meet the specified requirements, you may be required to amend it. The exercising of these rights is free, although a fee may be charged when applications are unfounded, excessive or repetitive.

16. Request solving

The UOC makes available to participants in this call an e-mail box for inquiries regarding the conditions of participation, the deadlines, and, in general, all the aspects regulated in these rules phd_school@uoc.edu.

17. Jurisdiction

These bases are governed by the laws of the Spanish State.

Any dispute or litigation arising from these rules and the grants awarded will be submitted to the courts and tribunals of the city of Barcelona. Applicants and beneficiaries waive any other jurisdiction that may apply to them.

Barcelona, 1 December 2023

Signed: Xavier Vilajosana Guillen
Vice Rector for Research, Knowledge Transfer and Entrepreneurship

ANNEX I

In order to process residency permits, the UOC must provide the Spanish Ministry with scanned copies of the following documents by **28 June 2024**:

- **Criminal record information** from all the countries in which the candidate has resided in the last two years, and a sworn statement confirming that they have not engaged in any criminal behaviour in the last five years. This certificate must have the Hague Apostille and be translated into Spanish by a sworn translator or at the Spanish Embassy.
- **Medical certificate** certifying that the candidate does not suffer any illness that could have a serious impact on public health, in accordance with the International Health Regulations of 2005. This certificate must be translated into Spanish by a sworn translator or at the Spanish Embassy.
- **Spanish insurance history** drawn up by *Ministerio de Empleo y Seguridad Social* (only applies for those who have been contracted under Spanish legislation).
- **Full passport** (including blank pages) with a minimum validity of one year.

In order to be admitted to the programme, the **bachelor's and master's degree certificates in digital format** must be provided by **12 February 2024**.

If the selected candidates still do not possess the master's degree on 12 February 2024, but could fulfil all the requirements to access one of the doctoral programmes before 26 July 2024, they must submit all the documents with the **legalized master's degree**, which can be submitted **before 26 July 2024**.

The type of legalization depends on the country issuing the document; this information can be consulted on the Virtual Campus at [*Procedures > Doctoral Programme admissions documentation > How to submit documents once admission has been confirmed*](#).

- **Bachelor's and master's degree certificates.** They must have the Hague Apostille and be translated into Spanish by a sworn translator or at the Spanish Embassy.

At the time of definitive registration, candidates must be able to prove they meet the legal access requirements.

Candidates must bear in mind that if they wish to bring family members with them they need to present these same documents for each of them (excluding the bachelor's and master's degree certificates).

In addition, the following must be provided: marriage certificate and birth certificate for each child to be reunited. They must have the Hague Apostille or be legalized through diplomatic channels, as appropriate and be translated into Spanish by a sworn translator or at the Spanish Embassy.

We recommend that all those thinking about applying find out about the procedures required to obtain these documents in the corresponding countries well before the closing date.

Take into account that if the UOC does not have all the documents required before the stipulated date, the university cannot be held responsible if the candidate encounters delays in obtaining their visa to enter the country. With this in mind, the UOC cannot guarantee that the grant will remain available.

ANNEX II

Doctoral programme in Education and ICT (e-Learning) candidates will be assessed based on the criteria and merits set forth in the following table:

https://www.uoc.edu/en/studies/doctorates/doctorate-education-ict#evaluation_criteria

Doctoral programme in Society, Technology and Culture candidates will be assessed based on the criteria and merits set forth in the following table:

https://www.uoc.edu/en/studies/doctorates/doctorate-society-technology-culture#evaluation_criteria

Doctoral programme in Network and Information Technologies candidates will be assessed based on the criteria and merits set forth in the following table:

https://www.uoc.edu/en/studies/doctorates/doctorate-technologies-information-networks#evaluation_criteria

Doctoral programme in Humanities and Communication candidates will be assessed based on the criteria and merits set forth in the following table:

https://www.uoc.edu/en/studies/doctorates/doctorate-humanities-communication#evaluation_criteria

Doctoral programme in Health and Psychology candidates will be assessed based on the criteria and merits set forth in the following table:

<https://www.uoc.edu/content/dam/studies/estudis/pdf/pdf-eng/doctoral-programmes/R%C3%BAbrica%20avaluci%C3%B3%20SiP.pdf>

Doctoral programme in Law, Politics and Economics candidates will be assessed based on the criteria and merits set forth in the following table:

https://www.uoc.edu/en/studies/doctorates/doctorate-law-politics-economics#evaluation_criteria