

**NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology
Monterotondo Scalo**

Notice of selection Call for Research Grants n° 07-2024-IBBC-MR

PUBLIC SELECTION FOR THE AWARDING OF N. 2 RESEARCH GRANTS FOR GRADUATES FOR RESEARCH WITHIN THE PROJECT InvAt-ACTIVE AND HEALTHY AGING (FOE 2022) entitled: "Neuronal and synaptic mechanisms underlying neuronal alterations in aging and neurodegeneration" CUP PB53C22010140001 TO BE USED AT THE MONTEROTONDO SCALO HEADQUARTERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND CELL BIOLOGY OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

The Director

HAVING REGARD to Legislative Decree no. 213 of 31 December 2009, concerning "Reorganization of research institutions in implementation of art. 1 of Law no. 165 of 27 September 2007;

HAVING REGARD to Legislative Decree no. 218 of 25 November 2016 on "Simplification of the activities of Public Research Bodies pursuant to Article 13 of Law no. 124 of 7 August 2015";

HAVING REGARD to the Statute of the CNR, issued by provision of the President of the CNR no. 93 prot. 0051080/2018 of 19/07/2018, of which the notice of publication was given on the website of the Ministry of Education, University and Research on 25 July 2018, which entered into force on 1 August 2018;

Having regard to Law No. 241 of 7 August 1990 laying down new rules on administrative procedure and the right of access to administrative documents and subsequent amendments;

HAVING REGARD to Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28 December 2000 concerning "Consolidated Law on Legislative and Regulatory Provisions on Administrative Documentation" and subsequent amendments;

Having regard to Law No. 183 of 11 November 2011 and in particular Article 15 thereof (2012 Stability Law);

Having regard to the Directive of the Minister of Public Administration and Simplification no. 14/2011 for the application of the new provisions on certificates and substitute declarations referred to in art. 15 of Law no. 183 of 12 November 2011;

Having regard to Law no. 35 of 4 April 2012 converting Law Decree no. 5 of 9 February 2012, containing urgent provisions on simplification and development and in particular art. 8 paragraph 1 of the aforementioned Decree;

HAVING REGARD to Legislative Decree no. 33 of 14 March 2013 on "Reorganisation of the regulations concerning the obligations of publicity, transparency and dissemination of information by public administrations";

Having regard to Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003 "*Code regarding the protection of personal data*";

HAVING REGARD to Regulation (EU) No. 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC, General Data Protection Regulation published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 4 May 2016;

HAVING REGARD to the Provision of the President no. 78 concerning the assignment of the position of Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology (IBBC) to Dr. Anna MOLES, AMMCNT-CNR protocol no. 0200570 of 28/06/2023, starting from 01 July 2023;

HAVING REGARD to the Regulations for the awarding of Research Grants at the National Research Council approved by Resolution of the Board of Directors of the CNR no. 54 of 21 February 2023 (Prot. 231438/2023 of 25/07/2023);

HAVING REGARD to CNR Circular no. 19/2023, Entry into force of the Regulations for the awarding of Research Scholarships at the National Research Council – Resolution of the CNR Board of Directors no. 54 of 21 February 2023;

HAVING ASCERTAINED the coverage of the costs deriving from the allocation of the scholarship on the funds of the financial resources available on the DSB project. AD006.371 described in the preamble;

HAVING REGARD to the availability of funds on the DSB Project. AD006.371 described in the preamble, the Changes to the allocation pdgp no. 9317/2023 and no. 10237/2023, the commitments 9200000325 and 9200000326 of € 9,114.00 each on the GAE PInvAtED Entry of the Plan 14011, Year 2023 – CUP PB53C22010140001.

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Art. 1 Object of the selection

A public selection based on qualifications and interview is announced for the awarding of n. 2 research grants for the performance of research activities related to the Biomedical Sciences Area to be used at the Monterotondo Scalo Headquarters of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology of the CNR, which carries out research in "Biological, Biochemical and Pharmacological Sciences" within the Project InvAt-ACTIVE AND HEALTHY AGING (FOE 2022) entitled: "*Neuronal and synaptic mechanisms underlying neuronal alterations in aging and neurodegeneration*" CUP PB53C22010140001 under the scientific responsibility and tutorship of Dr. Elvira De Leonibus.

The research fellowships will last six months from 01.12.2024 to 31.05.2025 and will focus on the following topic: "*Sex-specific spatial transcriptomics*".

Each research grant has a total gross recipient amount of €8,400. Payment is monthly and in advance.

Art. 2 Incompatibility

The research fellowship is not compatible with:

- a) other scholarships awarded for any reason, with the exception of those granted by national and foreign institutions useful for integrating, with stays abroad, the research activity of the scholarship holder;



- b) the attendance of post-graduate specialization courses, in Italy and abroad, even in cases where such courses do not provide for the provision of grants or scholarships;
- c) research grants and/or research contracts;
- d) employment relationships, including fixed-term contracts, without prejudice to the possibility that the scholarship holder may be placed on leave without allowances;
- e) self-employment activities, including para-subordinate work, except in the case referred to in the following paragraph.

Scholarship holders may carry out self-employment activities not habitually exercised, subject to written communication to the Scientific Director and provided that it does not involve a conflict of interest with the specific activity carried out by the scholarship holder and does not prejudice the CNR in relation to the activities carried out.

Those who have a degree of kinship or affinity, up to the fourth degree, with the Scientific Director of the research scholarship, with the Director/Head or with an employee belonging to the structure where the research scholarship is carried out may not participate in the procedures for awarding research grants.

Art. 3 Admission requirements for the selection

Participation in the selection is free without limitations on citizenship.

To be admitted to the selection, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- a) A Master's Degree in Biology or Biotechnology obtained in accordance with the regulations in force prior to Ministerial Decree 509/99, or a Master's Degree (Ministerial Decree of 5 May 2004), and a professional curriculum suitable for carrying out research activities.

Candidates who have obtained a degree from a foreign university declared "equivalent" according to current legislation are also admitted.

Candidates who are not yet in possession of the provision for recognition of the foreign qualification must attach to the application a copy of the application submitted by the deadline for submitting the application;

- b) not have reached the age of thirty-five on the date of expiry of the deadline for the submission of applications;

Skills:

- c) Authorization to work with laboratory animals, theoretical and practical training in line with the functions of Article 7, paragraph 3, of the Legislative Decree Ministerial Decree of 5 August 2021, on the protection of animals used for scientific purposes.
- d) Management of mutant colonies.
- e) Use of the 6-DOT/6-IOT test for mice, of the fear conditioning test and the anymaze video tracking system.
- f) Behavioral data analysis.
- g) Advanced histology techniques and knowledge of imaging data quantification methods.
- h) Previous documented experience with sex differences studies and animal models of Alzheimer's disease.
- i) Master's thesis in Neurobiology will be considered a plus
- j) knowledge of both spoken and written English (level: Good)
- k) knowledge of the Italian language (only for foreign candidates);

Having carried out a master's thesis in Neurobiology will be considered as an advantage.

Art. 4 Procedures for submitting the application for admission

The application for admission to the public selection for the awarding of research grants must be submitted electronically through the CNR online selections platform (<https://selezionionline.cnr.it>).

The candidate will be able to access the CNR online selections application through the credentials obtained through registration on the same platform, through SPID (the Public Digital Identity System) or through CIE credentials (Electronic Identity Card). Those who have already participated in a previous selection on the same site will not have to re-register.

For more information, consult the Manuals available on the Home Page of the portal (which can also be viewed without authentication).

The deadline for submitting the application is 15 days from the date of publication of the relevant notice in the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic and on the CNR website (www.urp.cnr.it).

If the deadline for submitting applications falls on a public holiday, this deadline shall be extended to the first non-holiday day immediately following.

The date of submission of the application to participate in the procedure is certified by the computer system which, at the end of the deadline for submission, will no longer allow access to the procedure.

The candidate must:

- a. Fill in the **application form** on the platform indicated above;
- b. Attach the Pdf of the **curriculum vitae et studiorum**, including all the information, both substantive and formal, relating to the qualifications that you intend to submit to the evaluation of the examining committee;
- c. Attach the pdf of an **identity document** with a valid legible signature;
- d. print the form (automatically filled in by the procedure with the personal data entered by the candidate when entering the application), concerning the **declarations in lieu of certification and affidavit**, pursuant to articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree no. 445 of 28 December 2000, sign it with a legible handwritten signature and attach it in Pdf format or insert the same digitally signed form;
- e. print the form (automatically filled in like the previous one), concerning the information on the **processing of personal data** pursuant to Regulation (EU) no. 2016/679, sign it with a legible handwritten signature and attach it in Pdf format or insert the same digitally signed form;
- f. Candidates who have obtained a degree from a foreign university must attach to the application the provision of recognition of the qualification issued in accordance with current legislation. Alternatively, they may attach to the application a copy of the request for recognition submitted by the deadline for submitting the application;
- g. Candidates who are third-country nationals must also attach a copy of the EC residence permit for long-term residents to the application or certify that they hold refugee status or subsidiary protection status.
- h. Definitively confirm the application for the production of the receipt.

The computer system issues the receipt of the correct submission of the application. Applications that are not definitively confirmed in the procedure remain in provisional status and will be considered null and void.

Candidates with disabilities, in relation to their disability, must explicitly request any necessary aids (*in the case of an interview*) in the application for participation in the selection.

For any information regarding the call for applications, please send an email to: **segreteria.ibbc@ibbc.cnr.it**.

The self-certifications required for Italian citizens apply to citizens of the European Union. Non-EU citizens residing in Italy may use the self-declarations limited to cases in which it is a matter of proving states, facts and personal qualities that can be certified or attested by Italian public or private entities.

Citizens of non-European Union countries, legally residing in Italy, can use the substitute declarations referred to in art. 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, limited to states, personal qualities and facts that can be certified or attested by Italian public bodies, or in cases where the production of the declarations themselves takes place in application of international conventions between Italy and the country of origin of the declarant.

Certificates or attestations issued by the competent authorities of the State of which the foreigner is a citizen, attesting to status, personal qualities and facts, must be accompanied by a translation into Italian authenticated by the Italian consular authority certifying their conformity to the original.

The Administration carries out appropriate checks on the veracity of the content of the substitute declarations pursuant to art. 71 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000.

The substitute declarations have the same temporal validity as the acts they replace (Article 48 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000).

The candidate must sign that he or she is aware that false declarations are punishable by law (Article 76 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000).

All communications relating to this selection will be sent to the certified email address of the candidates included in the application, for Italian candidates. For foreign candidates, communications will be sent to the ordinary e-mail address indicated in the application.

Art. 5 Exclusion from the selection

The following are grounds for ex officio exclusion:

- the submission of the application after the deadlines and in ways other than those indicated in art. 4;
- failure to possess the required qualification(s) referred to in art. 3 letter a);
- the lack of the requirement required by art. 3 letter b) relating to the maximum age limit;
- the lack of any other requirement provided for in art. 3;
- the verification of any cause of incompatibility referred to in art. 2.

Candidates are admitted to the selection with reservations. The Director of the Institute may at any time order exclusion from the selection for lack of the prescribed requirements. If the reasons for exclusion are ascertained after the selection has been completed, the Director shall forfeit all rights resulting from participation in the selection process. Candidates who are found to be untrue in one of the declarations provided for in the application for participation in the selection or of the declarations made pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 will also be forfeited.

Art. 6 Examining Committee, selection procedures and ranking

Candidates are judged by a Commission appointed by Determination of the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology.

The Commission's appointment will be published on the CNR website: www.urp.cnr.it and on the seleziononline.it portal

The Commission will be composed of three members, one of whom will act as President, one external to the CNR and the *Tutor* in charge of the research, all identified among experts in the subjects under study indicated in the call.

The selection of the winner will take place by qualifications and interview.

The Commission has a total of 30 points, of which: 10 points for qualifications and 20 points for the interview exam.

The categories of qualifications subject to evaluation are as follows: Master's degree in Biology and Biotechnology, knowledge of the English language, experience in the subject referred to in art.3.

To access the interview, the candidate must obtain a score of at least 7 points in the evaluation of qualifications.

The interview will be considered passed with a minimum score of 12 points.

The evaluation of qualifications precedes the completion of the interview.

The interview will focus on the subjects covered by the research scholarship and will allow foreign citizens to ascertain their knowledge of the Italian language.

The interview can also take place remotely. In the case of a videoconference interview, the adoption of technical solutions will be guaranteed to ensure its publicity, the identification of participants, the security of communications and their traceability, in compliance with the legislation on the protection of personal data.

In the invitation to the interview, which will be sent at least eight days in advance, the score accrued in the evaluation of qualifications, the date and place of the interview, if in person, or the platform that will be used for the remote interview will also be indicated. Candidates excluded for not achieving the minimum score will be notified of exclusion for lack of possession of the requirements.

Once all the interviews have been completed, the Commission formulates the merit ranking on the basis of the overall score obtained by each candidate, given by the sum of the scores attributed to the qualifications and the interview. In the event of a tie, preference will fall on the youngest candidate.

The Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology will verify the regularity of the procedure, approve the documents transmitted by the Commission, and publish the ranking list by posting it on the notice board of the examination center and on the CNR website: www.urp.cnr.it and will name the winner(s).

Art. 7 Nomination of the winner, acceptance, forfeiture, interruptions and renunciation of the scholarship

The Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology transmits to the winner(s) the act of awarding the Research Fellowship, together with the scholarship holder's work plan, containing the activities to be carried out during the scholarship. The deed of contribution will also indicate the effective date of the scholarship and the deadline for the formal acceptance of the contribution.

The candidate nominated as the winner must send, within ten days of the communication of appointment sent by the structure that issued the call, a declaration of acceptance of the scholarship, under penalty of forfeiture of the right. The information necessary for its tax classification must also be attached to this declaration.

Before proceeding with the awarding of the scholarship, the candidate in possession of a qualification obtained abroad (regardless of citizenship) must produce the certificate of

equivalence issued by a competent authority. In the absence of the ascertainment of equivalence, the contribution of the scholarship will be deferred.

Holders of research grants must settle for the entire period of assignment of the scholarship in the place where it is used.

In the event of non-acceptance of the awarding of the research scholarship by the winning candidate, the scholarship will be awarded to the candidate placed in the next position in the ranking list. In the absence of suitable candidates, the Director issues a measure concluding the procedure with a negative outcome.

In the event of interruption of the scholarship for any reason during its development, the Director has the right to award, for the remaining period, provided that it is not less than 6 months, the scholarship to the candidate placed in the ranking list after the winner.

The disbursement of the research grant is suspended in the event of maternity or paternity, within the limits provided for by the current legislation on the protection and support of maternity and paternity (Articles 16, 16-bis, 17 and 28 of Legislative Decree 151/2001) or in cases of unavailability due to serious health reasons for a period of more than one month per year.

These cases do not entail the loss of the right to complete the study-research activity and, in such cases, the duration of the scholarship lasts for a period equal to that of the suspension. If the new deadline expires beyond the duration of the Project on which the scholarship has been announced, the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology has the right to consider the date of conclusion of the project as the deadline of the scholarship.

A scholarship holder who, after starting the planned activity, does not continue it regularly and uninterruptedly for the entire duration, without justified reason, who is responsible for serious deficiencies or who proves that he does not possess sufficient aptitude, may be declared forfeited by order of the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology

If the scholarship holder decides not to complete the planned activity, he/she must promptly notify the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology and the *scientific director/Research Tutor*.

Art. 8 Carrying out and evaluation of activities and possible renewal

The activities covered by the research scholarship are defined in the work plan communicated to the winner of the selection together with the act of awarding the scholarship. The scholarship holder will carry out his or her activities without a predetermined time.

The scholarship holder must submit to the scientific director of the research (*Tutor*), a report on the activities carried out for each year of use of the scholarship, which will be evaluated by the Tutor.

The *Tutor* must ensure the training of the scholarship holder and draw up a report on the activity carried out by the same for each year of the relationship, to be sent to the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology of the CNR to which the scholarship holder refers.

The positive evaluation of the Tutor and the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology of the activities carried out by the holder of the research grant are necessary for the possible renewal of the scholarship.

In the event of a negative evaluation of the activity carried out, the *Tutor* sends a detailed report to the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology of the CNR of reference who will issue a measure, adequately motivated, of forfeiture of the scholarship.

Art. 9 Processing of personal data

The personal data transmitted by candidates with the applications for participation in the selection are processed, pursuant to and for the purposes of the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation no. 679/2016 – GDPR, exclusively for the purposes of the selection and any procedures for the attribution of the training tool. The provision of such data is mandatory for the purposes of assessing the requirements for participation, under penalty of exclusion from the selection itself.

Art. 10 Access to documents

The right of access to the documents of the selection procedure, pursuant to Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990, and subsequent additions and amendments, is exercised in accordance with the procedures set out in Article 10 of the Organisational Provision No. 22 of 18 May 2007, as supplemented and amended by Provision No. 62 of 8 November 2007 (available on the CNR [website www.urp.cnr.it](http://www.urp.cnr.it)) and with the limitations referred to in Article 12 of the same.

The Person in charge of the Procedure is the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Dr. Anna Moles, email: segreteria.ibbc@ibbc.cnr.it

Art. 11 Publicity

The *notice* of this call for applications is published in the Official Gazette of the Italian Republic IV Special Series – Competitions and Examinations no. 84 of 18.10.2024 and the full text on the CNR www.urp.cnr.it website, on the <http://www.ibbc.cnr.it/> website and on the selezionionline.it portal.

For any information, please contact the IBBC secretariat, e-mail segreteria.rm@ibbc.cnr.it

The Director
Dr. Anna Moles