



INTERNATIONAL PhD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

Application deadline: March 13th, 2020



CRG – GDL International PhD Programme Fellowships 2020

The [Fundació Centre de Regulació Genòmica](#) (CRG) - [Guangzhou Regenerative Medicine and Health Guangdong Laboratory](#) (GDL) are recruiting within the CRG-GDL International PhD Fellowship Programme, highly talented and motivated students, with backgrounds in **biological or biomedical sciences, physics, chemistry, mathematics computer science and/or related disciplines** who have decided that they want to do a PhD.

Fellows will benefit from an exciting international scientific environment and an integrated training programme, including access to state of the art infrastructure , lectures and seminars, specialised scientific and technological courses, complementary skills training and career development activities, postdoctoral symposia and retreats, as well as social activities.

All students starting on the PhD programme, irrespective of nationality, will be awarded a stipend. University tuition fees will also be covered.

Eligibility criteria

Candidates should fulfil the following eligibility criteria at the time of the call deadline. If it becomes clear before, during or after the evaluation phase that one or more of the eligibility criteria have not been fulfilled, the proposal is declared ineligible and is withdrawn from any further examination.

- The call is open to candidates of any nationality.
- Candidates must have obtained a University Degree and a Master Degree in biomedical sciences within the European Higher Education System (**minimum 300 ECTS**) or an **equivalent University Degree that allows to start a PhD thesis in the candidate's home country by October 2020**. Candidates who expect to be awarded with such degree by October 2020 are eligible to apply.
- Candidates must have an **excellent academic record**, previous research experience and a strong commitment for scientific research.
- Candidates must have a **high working knowledge of English**

In case of doubts about the eligibility criteria, applicants should contact the CRG Academic Office (academicoffice@crg.eu) prior to submitting an application.



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Application process

Applications for the CRG International PhD Fellowship Programme 2020 are accepted exclusively online through our online application system. **The deadline for the receipt of complete applications is March 13th, at 2pm (local time).** Proposals must be written in English.

Applicants will be asked to complete the following information on the application form:

- CV specifying education and experience (including transcripts, honours, scholarships, prizes and awards, research experience and scientific interests)
- If the certified academic transcripts are not in Catalan, Spanish or English applicants should also attach a translation in one of the above mentioned languages.
- Details on the referees that will provide two letters of reference
- Research groups to carry out the PhD project. The list of the research groups that have agreed to participate in the Programme is available on the website. Applicants should select a maximum of 2 associated labs in which they would like to work. More information on the research activities of each group can be found on the CRG-GDL PhD Call web page.

Candidates should ensure that all information is submitted before the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be eligible.

Applicants are advised to read the FAQs when preparing their applications. For any additional information or questions, please contact the CRG Academic Office at academicoffice@crg.eu

All personal data requested by CRG from applicants will be treated in accordance with the principles of the Data Protection Act (15/13 December 1999).

Selection process

After the deadline, submitted proposals will be checked for eligibility by the GDL Academic Office and those proposals that do not meet the criteria will not undergo evaluation and will be rejected. All eligible applications will be reviewed by a Selection Committee formed by GDL and CRG faculty members on the basis of the candidate's academic record, scientific potential and interests and reference letters.

The evaluation is organised in three steps:



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1. **Pre-selection:** The pre-selection will be based on the candidate's CV, reference letters and research interests for the oral interviews. The potential candidates will be preselected by a GDL selection committee.

Eligible applicants will be informed on the outcome of the pre-selection via email approximately 2 weeks after the application deadline. No individual feedback will be provided at this stage.

2. **Oral Interview:** All candidates will be interviewed via Skype first by the prospective Supervisors, then they will have to go through an admission interview by the CRG PhD Committee.

3. **Notification to candidates:** Applicants pre-selected for the interviews will be notified of the final selection decision by email. Successful candidates will be asked to accept or decline the offer within two weeks after the notification. Fellowships should start no later than October 1, 2020. Exceptions for later start dates might be considered if duly justified.

Applicants who have received a positive evaluation but could not be funded will be included on a reserve list to cover future positions and might be contacted at a later stage. Individual feedback will be provided for short-listed candidates.

Appointment conditions

Selected PhD students will receive an annual work contract with a competitive salary that will be renewed annually for a maximum of 4 years following the applicable national regulations. All PhD students will receive health and accident insurance coverage.

All PhD students will receive additional funding to cover for expenses related to PhD tuition fees, participation in conferences, training sessions or any other activity related to the scientific or academic activity of the PhD students.

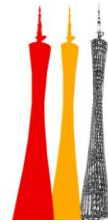
Upon acceptance of the fellowship, fellows sign a *Work Contract* with the GDL (Guangzhou), which contains the appointment conditions following the GDL- CRG regulations, in particular:

- The PhD thesis has to be completed within a maximum of 3 + 1 years.
- PhD students will work 1 year at the CRG Barcelona, extendable to 2 upon agreement of the supervisor and co-supervisor and the rest of the time in GDL Guangzhou.



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- Students will have to enroll in a university of their choice in Barcelona, normally the University Pompeu Fabra. Other Universities can also be considered such as University of Barcelona, the Autonomous University of Barcelona, the Polytechnic University of Catalonia. The university, not the CRG, is the degree-granting body.
- Support by this Programme will be duly acknowledged in any scientific or communication authored by the PhD students.
- Students will submit an annual report to the Academic Office detailing the scientific progress, and productivity and any other activities related to the PhD thesis carried out during the year.
- PhD Students will need to adhere to the CRG-GDL Fellowship regulations and CRG-GDL Technology Transfer Policy when joining the International PhD Programme.

PhD Training Programme

The PhD Programme **curriculum** consists of the research project/thesis work and a structured training programme combined with scientific and community activities:

Research project/thesis work: Each PhD student is expected to work full time for their PhD thesis in the research group of the PhD Supervisor and co-Supervisor. Short visits/secondments are encouraged during the PhD. Participation in international conferences is part of the PhD Programme (students should have participated at least in one international meeting). The student's progress is closely monitored by a thesis advisory committee (TAC) with the aim to improve the quality of research and research training, reporting annually to the Graduate Committee. It is mandatory to organize and pass one thesis committee/year until the defence of the thesis.

Structured Training Programme

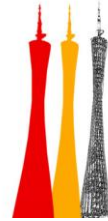
- **Subject-related course work:** First year students participate in an introductory course that aims to introduce PhD students to new techniques and high-end technologies. Courses include both theoretical and practical sessions. A good knowledge of research integrity issues as well as logical reasoning in life science research form the basis of the curriculum. In addition, each student is expected to acquire a strong basic knowledge in a wide range of research topics represented by the PIs.

Depending on the topic of the thesis work the students can choose additional relevant courses from a wide range of external (courses@CRG) and internal courses covering from practical scientific to technological courses, as well as seminar series offered regularly at PRBB and CRG.



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- **Transferable skills and career development:** In addition to subject-related course work, students can participate in transferable skills and career development courses offered by the PRBB Programme INTERVALS (Barcelona) that includes courses that are necessary to carry out experimental work in academic research, as well training in transferable skills and career development in a range of skills to enhance future career progress and improve employability. Fellows will also acquire transferable skills by participating in the scientific/community activities, including organisation of the annual PhD Symposia, involvement in outreach activities and managing the research project. Language courses (English, Spanish) are also offered by the CRG.

Helpdesk

A document containing the Frequently Asked Questions about the Programme can be consulted on the website.

CRG has received the “HR Excellence in Research” award from the European Commission in 2013 and is committed with the principles of the European Charter and Code, in particular with non-discriminatory, transparent and merit-based recruitment and selection procedures.