

## **ICREA CALL RULES 2026**

ICREA opens 20 senior research positions in the following areas:

- **Social & Behavioural Sciences**
- **Humanities**
- **Life & Medical Sciences**

Minimum requirements are a Ph.D. degree obtained preferably before 2022, with relevant multinational exposure at pre-doctoral and/or post-doctoral level.

**Candidates in an expansive phase of their academic career, with an outstanding research record and leadership are encouraged to apply. Applications from women are especially welcome.** ICREA researchers are required to make substantial contributions to their own areas of research and to have a strong impact in the Catalan research system by **becoming fully involved, active members of the Catalan research community.**

Successful applicants will be offered a permanent contract with ICREA to work at universities or research centres in Catalonia. Salaries are in line with those of Full Professors at Public Catalan Universities.

In addition, successful applicants will receive temporary financial support in the form of a start-up package of discretionary funds which will be transferred to the host institution where the applicant is ascribed. The amount of the start-up package of this 2026 call, as well as its duration, will be determined by the ICREA Board of Trustees based on budgetary forecasts.

Additionally, with the implementation of the **Catalonia Talent Bridge** programme, selected candidates coming from the USA are entitled to a substantial start-up package funding for the first 5 years after their arrival. The funds are intended to cover the hiring of pre and post-doctoral researchers, research technicians, equipment acquisitions and most other research costs required to build a fully functional research group in Catalonia. The **Catalonia Talent Bridge** is an initiative of the Catalan government to support talent recruitment coming specifically from the USA.

ICREA Research Professors are subject to an evaluation of their research progress and general performance after the first three-year period and, subsequently, every five years. The evaluations are carried out by external evaluation committees that assess scientific production as well as research activity. Positive evaluations lead to salary increases. ICREA positions are not compatible with permanent positions **outside** the Catalan research system (not even part-time).

The call is open to all scholars worldwide who, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2024 (24 months prior to the deadline of this call), were not yet holding a permanent contract with any of the agents of the Catalan research, development and innovation system -as defined in the article 5 of the science law 9/2022, passed by the Catalan parliament on the 21st of December 2022. Regardless of the type of contract, positions are considered 'not permanent' if their continuity is subject to a scientific assessment, either stated on the contract itself or be implicit in its nature, such as is the case of most public tenure-track programmes.

While candidates of all ages are welcome, ICREA has a retirement age that tracks Spanish official retirement age (currently around 67 years old).

Successful candidates are expected to join the host institution no later than September 2027.

Applications must be submitted electronically via this website **before 2:00 pm (Central European Time) on Tuesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2026**. Please note that no applications can be submitted after the deadline. After submission you will receive a confirmation email. Please bear in mind that your application will not be complete until both referees and institution upload their documents. You can monitor this progress by login into your application until the deadline.

Each ICREA call is independent from previous calls. Applicants are evaluated from scratch, without any history of past attempts. Also, applicants are reminded that they will be compared only to the applicants of each year, and that each cohort of applicants is very different from call to call. The decisions of the panels are final and there is no option to appeal.

The next ICREA call, in 2027, will open positions for the rest of the areas (Experimental Sciences & Mathematics and Engineering Sciences).

**The application requires all the following items:**

**1. An on-line form** for personal and professional data, a statement of your research done in the last five years (2000 characters maximum), a list of the 5 most relevant publications, a statement of purpose explaining your choice of institution(s) and your future research plan (5000 characters maximum).

**2. A single .pdf file** (free format, maximum 15 pages and up to 5 Mb in size) containing the candidate's CV in English.

**3. The contact details of four referees, of which at least two must submit reference letters. The reference letters must be written in English (PDF format)** and uploaded by the referees before 2:00 pm (Central European Time) on **Tuesday, 3 March 2026**. To that effect, the system will generate links to be distributed by the candidate to each referee.

**4. An Expression of Interest (EOI) from at least one host institution.** Candidates must directly contact each institution that they are interested in joining (university or research centre in Catalonia), and obtain an EOI. The EOI form must be downloaded directly by the institution(s), using the link(s) provided by the candidate. To that effect, the system will generate links to be distributed by each candidate to the host(s) institution(s). At the link, the institution will find instructions to download, fill and submit the form. EOI(s) must be electronically signed by a legal representative of the institution, and must be uploaded to the ICREA system before **2:00pm (local time) on Tuesday, 3 March 2026**. (For health professional candidates, the Expression of Interest form can also include formal offers for part time positions as health professionals in healthcare institutions).

**Additional information:**

1. Applications can be edited, saved and submitted as many times as necessary. A confirmation email will be sent after submission. Applicants are advised to check their spam folders if the confirmation message fails to appear in their Inbox.
2. Applicants can submit their applications regardless of whether the referees and the host(s) institutions have uploaded their letters and EOIs. The system allows applicants to monitor file uploading by both referees and host institution(s). Please bear in mind that **incomplete applications will not be considered for evaluation.**
3. Applicants can confidentially provide names that they wish to be excluded from their evaluation process. In order to do so, please send an email to Sònia Salvadó at [ssalvado@icrea.cat](mailto:ssalvado@icrea.cat). This information is exclusively for ICREA and will not be shared.

***Protection of personal data:***

*In accordance with the current regulations on the protection of personal data, we inform you in relation to the processing we will do of the personal data provided to us during the selection process for the candidate. This information will apply to the personal data included in this form, to the data in the curriculum vitae that you provide us and to any other additional information that we may request from you including the information collected in personal interviews, provided that the data is collected in the context of determining suitability for employment.*

**1. Responsible for the treatment:**

- CATALAN INSTITUTION FOR RESEARCH AND ADVANCED STUDIES (henceforth ICREA)
- CIF: G62515838
- Postal address: Passeig Lluís Companys, 23 - 08010 Barcelona
- Email: [DPD@icrea.cat](mailto:DPD@icrea.cat)

**2. Purpose:**

*The information provided will be used for the purpose of managing the selection of personnel, analysing their suitability as a candidate for the researcher selection process for which they have registered.*

**ICREA** guarantees confidentiality in the treatment of your personal data.

*The data will be treated solely for the purposes expressed, and may not be treated subsequently for purposes incompatible with those described here. In the event that they are used for purposes other than those mentioned above, all relevant information will be provided to the interested parties prior to the new treatment.*

*Your personal data linked to selection processes (curriculum vitae) will be kept as long as you do not tell us otherwise in order to facilitate management in future selection processes. Remember that if your data or curriculum vitae have undergone any modification compared to the last time you provided it to us, you will have to make the appropriate modifications in the corresponding call.*

**3. Legitimation:**

*The legal basis for the processing of your data is the pre-contractual relationship and subsequent contractual relationship if applicable.*

*When it is planned that the treatment will have an impact beyond the framework of the specific call, the owner's consent will be requested.*

**4. Recipients:**

*Your personal data will be processed by **ICREA**, without the same being communicated to third parties.*

**5. Rights:**

*You have the right to access your personal data subject to treatment, as well as to request the rectification of inaccurate data or, where applicable, to request its deletion when the data is no longer necessary for the purposes for which be collected, in addition to exercising the right to oppose and limit the treatment, data portability and not to be the subject of automated decisions. You can exercise these rights by writing to the Data Controller: **INSTITUCIÓ CATALANA DE RECERCA I ESTUDIS AVANÇATS (ICREA)**, Passeig Lluís Companys, 23 - 08010 Barcelona and electronically through the email [DPD@icrea.cat](mailto:DPD@icrea.cat).*

*In the event that you have not obtained satisfaction in the exercise of your rights, you can submit a claim to the Spanish Data Protection Agency through its website <https://www.aepd.es/>.*