

Draft regulatory rules	GenT Plan
GRANTS FOR THE TALENTED RESEARCHERS SUPPORT PROGRAMME - GENT PLAN	
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Draft of Order___/2020 by the Conselleria for Innovation, Universities, Science and Digital Society approving the regulatory rules for awarding grants by the Talented Researcher Support Programme - the GenT Plan

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PREAMBLE

In June 2017, the Consell, aware of the strong impact the social and economic recession had had on the Comunitat Valenciana during the period 2008 and 2015, approved by agreement the GenT Plan (*Generació Talent*), which included guaranteeing funds during the period 2017-2018, for measures including launching a plan for the return of research personnel.

As a consequence of this agreement, Order 4/2018, of 7 March, from the Conselleria for Education, Research, Culture and Sport approved the regulatory rules for awarding grants as part of the Talented Researcher Support Programme - the *GenT Plan*.

Under these regulatory rules, three calls for applications have been approved as part of the *GenT Plan* during the 2018, 2019 and 2020 financial years, which will allow, up until 2024, around a hundred projects and research activities to be carried out in the Comunitat Valenciana.

After this experience, the restructuring of the *GenT Plan* was necessary, in order to concentrate budgetary resources on those actions with the greatest impact and ensure that the plan contributes to the attraction, retention and stabilisation of high-quality talent at the international level to the Valencian R&D&I system.

Article 52.2 of the Comunitat Valenciana's Statute of Autonomy approved by Organic Law 5/1982, states that the Generalitat will establish its own science and technology system and encourage coordination and cooperation among its agents in order to promote the technological development and innovation that will support the progress and business competitiveness of the Comunitat Valenciana.

The aim of Generalitat Law 2/2009, of 14 April, on Coordination of the Valencian System for Scientific Research and Technological Development, is to create the right conditions to achieve new and ambitious research objectives that will contribute to scientific, industrial, economic and social progress in the Comunitat Valenciana.

The actions envisaged under this order, in accordance with Additional Provision 13 of the Science Act 4/2011, will promote gender mainstreaming as a cross-cutting category in all aspects of its implementation.

Consell Decree 105/2019, of 5 July, establishes the basic organisational structure of the Presidency and of the Generalitat's conselleries. The decree assigns the functions relating to the



proposal and implementation of science and research policy, the promotion and funding of research, support for research talent and science parks, implementation and improvement of infrastructure and equipment for research and coordination of the actions taken by the Generalitat's other agencies and bodies to the Directorate-General for Science and Research, under the Conselleria for Innovation, Universities, Science and Digital Society.

Consequently, Programme 542.50, Research, Technological Development and Innovation (R&D&I), which is included in the Generalitat's budgets for each year, establishes and endows a system of research grants whose basic objectives encompass the promotion of scientific research, technological development and innovation within the Comunitat Valenciana.

The grants referred to in this order may be co-financed by the European Social Fund (ESF), the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), or by Horizon 2020 or the existing European Union Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

Consell Decree 128/2017, of 29 September, regulates the procedures for notifying and informing the European Union regarding the Generalitat's projects aimed at establishing, awarding or modifying public aid. Under this decree, the aid regulated by this order is not subject to Article 107.1 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, since it concerns the promotion of training activities and the specialisation of human resources in research, development and innovation, as well as promoting the incorporation of R&D&I professionals into public bodies.

This order complies with the principles of good regulation referred to in Article 129.1 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations. The adaptation to the principles of necessity and effectiveness is justified because the order fulfils the mandate established by Law 2/2009, of 14 April, on the coordination of the Valencian system for scientific research and technological development, to create adequate conditions that allow new and ambitious objectives to be achieved in research that contribute to the scientific, industrial, economic and social progress of the Comunitat Valenciana. Following the principle of proportionality, the order is considered to be the appropriate regulatory instrument to provide a common legal framework for the different calls for applications for grants, issued under the Talented Researcher Support Programme - the GenT Plan. The principle of legal certainty is guaranteed by the adequacy and consistency of the order with current regulations on grants and with the rest of the legal system. The principle of efficiency has been applied by optimising the means necessary to process this order. Finally, and in application of the principle of transparency, the order has been submitted to the public consultation procedure provided for in Article 133 of Law 39/2015. Its objectives and justification are also clearly defined.

These regulatory rules include the minimum provisions required by Article 165 of Law 1/2015, of 6 February, on Public Finance, the Instrumental Public Sector and Grants, and by the part of Article 17 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act that constitutes basic state legislation.

Therefore, in accordance with Articles 160 and 164 of Generalitat Law 1/2015, of 6 February, on Public Finance, the Instrumental Public Sector and Grants; in accordance with the proposal from the head of the Directorate-General for Science and Research dated _____ 2020, issued by the Generalitat Attorney General by Delegated Intervention and in accordance with the Comunitat Valenciana Consell Jurídic Consultiu; by virtue of the powers conferred on me by Article 160.2.b of Generalitat Law 1/2015, of 6 February, on Public Finance, the Instrumental Public and Grants and Consell Decree 243/2019, of 25 October, which approves the Organic and Functional Regulation of the Conselleria for Innovation, Universities, Science and Digital Society, I



ORDER

TITLE I

General provisions and rules for the grants

Article 1. Purpose and scope of application

The purpose of this order is to establish the regulatory rules for the grants to be awarded under the Talented Researcher Support Programme - the GenT Plan, which is part of the Talent Generation Plan (GenT Plan) approved by Consell Agreement on 9 June 2017.

Article 2. Aim of the grants

1. These grants are intended to attract and retain high-quality talent at the international level in the Valencian public universities and research centres in the Comunitat Valenciana, through the recruitment of post-doctoral research staff.
2. The specific objectives to be achieved with the grants regulated in this order are as follows:
 - a) Raise the level of excellence in the Valencian R&D&I system
 - b) Increase the international presence of Valencian research activity and promote the attraction of European funds for R&D&I in the Comunitat Valenciana.
 - c) Retain in the Valencian R&D&I system, young researchers with an international profile, supporting the setting up and implementation of their research projects.

Article 3. Funding

1. Calls for applications for the GenT Plan grants will be issued annually and they will be financed from the corresponding budget lines included in each Generalitat Budget Law approved for each year.
2. The existence of adequate and sufficient credit for the corresponding year must be proven prior to the approval of each call for applications.

Article 4. Definitions

The following definitions are established for the purposes of this order:

- a) Research centre: research institute or organisation whose main objective is to conduct pure research, industrial research and experimental development and technology transfer, where all the profits from these activities are reinvested in disseminating their results and in teaching.
- b) Valencian public universities: publicly owned universities integrated into the Valencian University System.
- c) Social challenges for the European Union: these are considered to be the current political priorities in the field of European Union strategy.
- d) ERC Grants: European Research Council (ERC) grants to support research at the frontiers of knowledge, including Starting Grants, Consolidator Grants and Advanced Grants.
MSCA-IF Grants: grants from the European Commission to support the mobility of top level researchers within the H2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Programme, in its five modes: standard (MSCA-IF-EF-ST), global mobility (MSCA-IF-GF), society and enterprise (MSCA-IF-EF-SE), reintegration (MSCA-IF-EF-RI) and research career restart (MSCA-IF-EF-CAR); as well as those that can be substituted, depending on the current European Union Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.
- f) Research at the frontier of knowledge: research that can provide results that represent a significant advance in knowledge and that are likely to generate new paradigms making it possible to adopt new approaches and ways of thinking, new questions and approaches, which are not possible within the current scientific framework. This research should also generate radically new



ideas that promote innovation, entrepreneurial inventiveness and meet the social challenges of the European Union.

g) Experience after presenting the doctoral thesis: time elapsed since obtaining a doctorate.

h) Reference research groups: for the purposes of this order this will include: 1) groups with existing funding from the Prometheus Programme; and 2) groups containing post-doctoral researchers who maintain a government employee, statutory or contractual link with a research centre within the Comunitat Valenciana and where the group's composition is such that it complies, by the deadline for the submission of applications, with the requirements for its constitution, in accordance with the regulatory rules in force at that time, laid out in the Prometheus Programme grants for research groups of excellence.

i) Balanced composition of men and women: in accordance with the requirements of Additional Provision 1 of Organic Law 3/2007, of 22 March, for the effective equality of women and men, a balanced composition of men and women will be understood to exist when, as a whole, the proportion of people in the group does not exceed sixty percent of one sex and is not below forty percent of the other sex.

Article 5. Beneficiaries

1. The following legal entities may have the status of beneficiaries in the corresponding calls for applications made under this order, and provided that they meet the requirements required in each case, provided that they are validly constituted and have a fiscal address or a permanent work centre in the Comunitat Valenciana:

- 1) Research centres.
- 2) Valencian public universities.

2. Beneficiaries that do not comply with the requirements established in Article 13 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act, will not have the status of beneficiary.

Article 6. Obligations on the beneficiaries

1. The beneficiaries are subject to the general obligations deriving from the current regulations on public aid or grants and, in particular, those referred to in Article 14 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act.

2. The beneficiaries must carry out the subsidised activities within the terms of the award resolution and prove implementation within the established deadlines.

3. In particular, the beneficiaries are obliged to:

a) Undertake the activity the grant was awarded for within the period established in the corresponding call and award resolution. Any change introduced into the conditions for carrying out of the activity must be communicated to the awarding body, for its authorisation or refusal, as applicable.

b) Accredit, before the instructing body, the performance of the activity or the adoption of the behaviour and also the fulfilment of the requirements and conditions established in the award or the benefit of the grant.

c) Facilitate the financial control activities corresponding to the Generalitat's General Intervention Board and those of the other autonomous institutions' control bodies, in relation to the grant awarded.

d) Inform the instructing body should any grants be obtained for the same purposes, awarded by any public or private administration or body of any nationality, as well as the use of its own funds, in accordance with Article 30.4 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act.

e) Refund, where applicable and in accordance with Article 37 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act, and within the legally established term, the amounts corresponding to the grants awarded and send a copy of the document certifying the reimbursement to the instructing body. In the latter case, the reimbursement will necessarily and clearly identify the beneficiary organisation and the name of the infrastructure or project for which the grant was awarded. In accordance with the provisions of Article 13.2.g of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General



Grants Act, organisations that are not up to date with grant repayment obligations may not be considered as beneficiaries of these grants.

f) When the beneficiary organisations have to provide guarantees in accordance with the provisions of Article 171 of Generalitat Law 1/2015, of 6 February, on Public Finance, the Instrumental Public Sector and Grants for the advanced payment of grants, the guarantee will consist of a bank guarantee equal to the amount advanced plus 1% thereof.

g) Refer to the sponsorship by the conselleria that awarded the grant in the documents that are produced and in the work and activities undertaken, in accordance with the provisions laid out in Section h) of Article 14 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act and Article 3 of Generalitat Law 2/2015 of 2 April, on Transparency, Good Governance and Citizen Participation in the Comunitat Valenciana. And, where appropriate, that the activity has been co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund (ESF) or under the existing European Union Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

h) Allocate the assets to the specific purpose for which the grant was awarded for a period of not less than five years in the case of assets registered in a public register, or not less than two years for assets registered in other inventories.

i) The beneficiary organisations must carry out the operations required to distinguish the costs and financing of non-economic activities -financed through each call- from those of an economic nature.

j) Disseminate the results of the research that is the object of the grant. To this end, the research staff whose research activity is mainly financed by public funds, will publish a digital version of the final version of the contents of the project in open-access repositories recognised in the field of knowledge in which the research has been carried out, or in institutional open-access repositories. This will take place without prejudice to any agreements which may have attributed or transferred publication rights to third parties.

This obligation to openly disseminate the results will not apply when the rights to the results of the research, development and innovation activity are susceptible to protection because they contain or are treated as data: 1) of a personal nature; 2) affect public safety; or 3) are subject to an application for protection of industrial or intellectual property rights, whose ownership will be determined in accordance with the specific applicable legislation.

k) Accept inclusion on the public list of operations provided for in Article 115.2 of (EU) Regulation N° 1303/2013 of 17 December 2013 or any equivalent legal precept that may exist in the corresponding European programming period.

l) Any other legislation deriving from state and community regulations that is directly applicable.

Article 7. Principles to be respected by the researchers and research groups

1. The research projects must respect the fundamental principles established in the Helsinki Declaration (World Medical Assembly), in the Council of Europe Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine, in the UNESCO Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, as well as the requirements established in Spanish legislation in the field of biomedical research, data protection and bioethics.

2. Comply with the provisions of Law 14/2007, of July 3, Biomedical Research when there is research on humans or where samples of human origin are used.

3. Comply with the provisions of Royal Decree 1090/2015, of 4 December, which regulates clinical trials with medicines, the ethics committees for research with medicines and the Spanish Clinical Studies Register.

4. Comply with the provisions of current regulations and in particular Royal Decree 53/2013, of 1 February, which establishes the basic rules applicable to protect animals used in experimentation and for other scientific purposes, including teaching, when undertaking research activity that involves experimentation with animals.

5. Comply with the provisions of Law 9/2003, of 25 April, on the confined use, voluntary release and marketing of genetically modified organisms, and Royal Decree 178/2004, of 31 January,



approving the general regulation that develops that law, when research activity involving the use of genetically modified organisms is to be undertaken.

6. Comply with the provisions of Law 31/1995, of 8 November, on Occupational Risk Prevention (and its implementing regulations) regarding the risks related to exposure to biological agents, when research activity is to be undertaken involving the use of these types of agents.

7. In accordance with the Additional Provision 13 of Law 14/2011, of 1 June, on science, technology and innovation, research staff and research groups must promote and advocate gender mainstreaming as a cross-cutting category in research and technology.

Article 8. Data transfer

Participation in any of the calls for applications relating to this order will imply acceptance of the assignment, in favour of the Generalitat, of the data contained both in the application presented, as well as, where applicable, in the resolution to award a grant. The data will be used for statistical purposes, for evaluation and monitoring. This acceptance does not prejudice the provisions of intellectual property and personal data protection legislation.

Article 9. Activities eligible for funding

1. To achieve the purpose of the grants contemplated in this order, the respective calls may finance, in whole or in part, the following activities:

- a) Recruiting high-quality post-doctoral researchers to undertake an R&D&I project in the Comunitat (CIDEAGENT).
- b) Recruiting post-doctoral staff with international experience (CDEAGENT).
- c) Grants for scientific excellence in junior researchers (SEJAGENT)

2. The grants subject to regulation by this order will not establish any link, whether employment or administrative, between the research staff hired under these grants and the Generalitat.

Article 10. Items eligible for grants

1. The characteristics of the grants foreseen in this call for applications will be those of a grant and they will comply with Article 31 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, General Grants Act. The costs excluded by said article will not be eligible for a grant under any circumstances. In this context, taxes are eligible expenses when they are paid by the grant beneficiary. Indirect taxes are not considered eligible expenses when they can be recovered or offset, in addition, personal income taxes are also not considered eligible expenses.

2. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 30% of the total amount of the grant awarded, this may be increased under suitably justified circumstances but without exceeding 50% of the amount, in accordance with the provisions of Article 29.2 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act.

3. The grants will be allocated to cover the costs related to undertaking and implementing the activities for which they have been awarded. The funding may be applied to the following items, among others:

- a) Costs associated with recruiting the staff involved in R&D&I activities, in accordance with current legislation. For this purpose, those relating to salary and employer's social security contributions will be considered eligible.
- b) Other costs associated with staff recruitment or incorporation.
- c) Incentive costs for recruitment and incorporation.
- d) Training costs.
- e) Costs entailed as a result of the relocation of research staff (travel expenses, accommodation and subsistence, insurance, etc.). In this context, the expenses for travel, accommodation and subsistence charged to the activities will correspond to those established in the applicable regulations by the Generalitat relating to reparations arising from service.



f) Costs associated with undertaking and implementing the R&D&I activities for which the grant is awarded and in which the research staff are involved.

g) Indirect costs, understood as general expenses assigned to the activity, but that cannot be attributed directly due to their nature. These indirect costs must relate to real costs associated with performing the activity, assigned to it pro rata in accordance with a fair and equitable method, that is duly justified.

Indirect costs may be calculated, without having to provide proof of spending, by applying a fixed percentage to be specified in the call for applications, provided they do not exceed 25% of the validly justified total costs of the activity.

In the case of grants co-financed with European funds or under Horizon 2020 or the current Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, the applicable provisions are the regulations adopting the rules on eligible expenditure for the operational programmes by the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Social Fund, as well as the provisions established under the applicable European Union Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

h) Costs arising from advice, conducting studies, broadcasting, advertising, preparing teaching or training material, organising conferences, congresses, seminars, or other activities aimed at undertaking or implementing the activities for which the grant was awarded.

i) Costs arising from the report by an external auditor, when this is required in the call for applications, provided that this cost has been included in the budget submitted in the grant application. In those cases in which the beneficiary is obliged to audit their annual accounts by an auditor under Law 19/1988, of 12 July, Accounts Auditing Act, the review of the justificatory account will be carried out by the same auditor, unless the call authorises the appointment of another auditor.

4. The costs covered in Article 31.7 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, General Grants Act may be subject to funding charged to the awarded grant, whenever the call for applications includes for this.

5. The calls for applications may specify which of the eligible grant-related items listed in this article will be applicable and, where appropriate, develop them and limit the amount of the grant for each item.

6. In relation to the specific characteristics of the grant, the call for applications may require the beneficiary to provide their own financing to cover the subsidised activity as a mechanism to guarantee their economic and financial capacity.

The justification for the grant must accredit the amount, provenance and its application.

Article 11. Award amount and determination criteria

1. The amount of the grant will be established following one or more of the following criteria:

a) A fixed amount, determined on a fixed-rate basis in the calls, depending on the type of activity and beneficiary.

b) Available budget.

c) The calls may establish a maximum grant for each type of activity.

d) The budget presented by the applicant for the activity being funded.

e) A percentage of the cost cited in the previous point, which will be established in the calls.

f) The result of an evaluation process.

2. Under no circumstances will the grant be of such an amount that, in isolation or in conjunction with other grants, aid, income or resources, it exceeds the actual cost of the subsidised activity, in accordance with Article 19.3 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act.

3. Under no circumstances will the amount of the grant exceed the amount requested to implement the activity.

4. In the case of grants co-financed with European funds and in the event that the assumption established in Article 14 of Regulation (EU) 1304/2013, where grants receiving public aid do not individually exceed 50,000 euros, the grant amount will be calculated based on standard scales of



unit costs or flat-rate amounts, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 67.1 and 5 of Regulation (EU) 1303/2013 or with the requirements established by European regulations in this respect.

Article 12. Award procedure

1. The procedure for awarding the grants regulated by this order will be competitive bidding, as provided for in Section 1 of Chapter II of Generalitat Law 1/2015, of 6 February, on Public Finance, the Instrumental Public Sector and Grants and in the Generalitat's corresponding budget law. The procedure will comply with the principles of publicity, transparency, objectivity, equality and non-discrimination, effectiveness in meeting goals and efficiency in the allocation and use of public resources as established in Article 8.3 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, General Grants Act.
2. The procedure will be initiated ex officio by the Generalitat conselleria that is responsible for science and research policy, through one or more public call procedures.

Article 13. Competent bodies

1. The head of the conselleria responsible for science and research policy, who is responsible for approving these regulatory rules, is the competent body to approve the expenditure, the call for applications for the grants and grant award resolutions.
2. The instructing body responsible for managing the procedure will be the senior administrative unit reporting to the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy, as well as to the directorate-general's dependent service responsible for performing the functions for this purpose.

Article 14. Submission of applications

1. The applications will be submitted in the form and within the deadline set out in each call.
2. Applications will be submitted through the corresponding electronic form, available on the Generalitat's website, together with the documentation specified in the call as an integral part of the application. Anyone not using the electronic signature, in addition to sending their application and all required documentation electronically, will submit their printed and signed application through one of the registries provided for in Article 16.4 of Law 39/2015, of 1 October, the Common Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations (LPAC), all within the term established in the call.
3. Applications signed and registered within the deadline, which include both the form and all the other information and documents determined in the calls as an integral part of the application, will be considered effectively submitted.
4. Submission of the application will involve, unless otherwise stated, authorisation for the managing body to verify the data relating to identify, address, residence and qualifications in accordance with Consell Decree 165/2010, of 8 October, which establishes measures to simplify and reduce administrative load in procedures managed by the Generalitat's administration and its public sector. It also authorises the managing body to obtain certificates from the State Tax Administration, the Social Security's General Treasury and the conselleria responsible for finance and taxation. These will prove the applicant's compliance with their tax and social security obligations in the terms established in Article 22.4 of regulations implementing the General Grants Act approved by Royal Decree 887/2006, of 21 July. However, grant applicants can also directly prove compliance with these obligations by providing the corresponding certifications. Grants under this order are exempted from this obligation when they are awarded to public universities in accordance with the provisions of Additional Provision 5 2.a of Generalitat Law 4/2007, of 9 February, on the Coordination of the Valencian University System.
5. The application will be accompanied by the documentation required in each call. Under all circumstances, a sworn declaration will be attached stating that the applicant is not subject to the prohibitions provided for in Article 13 of Law 38/2003, the General Grants Act.



On the other hand, these organisations must also demonstrate compliance with the regulations on the integration of people with disabilities into the workplace and, where appropriate, exemption from this obligation, as provided for in Article 7 of Law 11/2003, of 10 April, on the Status of People with Disabilities. In addition, the organisations must prove, where appropriate, compliance with the measures provided for in Articles 45 et seq. of Organic Law 3/2007, of 22 March, for the Effective Equality of Women and Men.

6. For all the calls, except those providing otherwise, the applications must be signed by the person holding the legal representation of the organisation in matters pertaining to research and by the applicant. The signature of the person holding the legal representation of the organisation may be accredited by means of a signed list of all the applications submitted for each call. The content of the application is authorised and authenticated by both signatures along with all the documentation submitted to compete in the corresponding call, without prejudice to the verification actions the instructing body may require of them.

7. Only one application per researcher will be accepted in the same call for each of the grants listed in Title II of this order, unless otherwise specified in the specific provisions.

8. The documentation for the applications that are rejected or refused may be collected by the interested party within three months of publication of the resolution awarding the grant on the website of the conselleria responsible for science and research policy. After that time, those applications that have not been collected may be destroyed in accordance with the regulations governing the conservation and disposal of said documentation.

Article 15. Applicant requirements and merits

1. All the conditions required when applying for each grant must be met before the deadline for submitting applications and maintained for the period required to complete the activity, unless another deadline is specified in Title II.

2. Only the merits presented by applicants within the deadline for submitting applications will be accepted and evaluated.

3. The merits and requirements of the applicants may be accredited as follows:

1. By authorising the instructing body to verify the data relating to identify, address and residence, in accordance with Decree 165/2010, which establishes measures to simplify and reduce administrative loads in the procedures managed by the Generalitat's administration and its public sector.

2. By providing the instructing body with the duly authenticated certificates issued by the corresponding body (National Research Activity Evaluation Commission, University, Social Security, etc.).

4. For those grants requiring that the applicant has a specific qualification within a maximum period of years prior to the call, said period will be extended by one year for each period of maternity or paternity leave taken -in accordance with protected situations covered by the general social security system- or for the care of dependents -in accordance with the provisions of Law 39/2006, of 14 December, on the Promotion of Personal Autonomy and Care for Dependent Persons; or due to a situation of temporary disability arising from a serious illness or a physical or psychological situation arising from gender-based violence, during that period.

Article 16. Oversight of the procedure

1. The instructing body will, ex officio, promote all the actions necessary for the determination, knowledge and verification of the data by virtue of which the resolution must be made, as well as for making the proposals for each accounting phase resulting from the implementation of said resolution.

2. If the documentation provided is incomplete, the bodies or applicants will be required to rectify the lack or provide the required documents by means of the computer servers of the conselleria responsible for science and research policy or by any means that makes it possible to obtain proof of receipt by the interested party. The organisations or applicants will have ten days to do this, on



the proviso that if they fail to do so they will be deemed to have withdrawn their application in accordance with the provisions of Article 68 of the LPAC and with the effects provided for in Article 21.1 of said law. Communication regarding this issue may also be undertaken by email.

3. The subject and condition of the application submitted may not be altered during this correction period.

4. The notifications will be made by publication on the website of the conselleria responsible for science and research policy in accordance with Article 45.1 of the LPAC.

Article 17. Evaluation and selection

1. In accordance with Article 22 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act, an evaluation committee will submit the relevant proposal for a resolution, indicating the outcome of the evaluation and the amount of the grant to the head of the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy. The evaluation committee will have the following composition:

1 Chair: the head of the Generalitat subdirectorate-general responsible for science and research policy.

2. Vice-chair: the head of the Generalitat service responsible for science and research policy.

3. Members: between one and three officials in the A1 group of the directorate-general responsible for matters relating to science and research policy, one of whom will act as secretary, with voice and vote.

2. The committees established under this order will conform to the principles of composition and presence balanced between men and women, established by Organic Law 3/2007 of 22 March 2007, on effective equality between women and men.

3. The functioning of the evaluation committee will be assisted by the human and budgetary resources of the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy, therefore, it will not imply an increase in expenditure for the present or future financial years.

4. In matters not provided for in the present order, the provisions of Chapter II, Section 3 "Collegiate Bodies of the Different Public Administrations" of the Preliminary Title of Law 40/2015, of 1 October, on the Public Sector Legal System will be observed.

5. The evaluation committee may seek advice from experts appointed by the head of the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy or from evaluation agencies.

Article 18. Applicant evaluation criteria

1. The evaluation criteria and their weighting for each grant awarded under this order are detailed in the following title.

2. In the case of an equal score during the evaluation process, for the aid regulated in Chapters I, II and III of Title II, the tie will be resolved by taking into account the highest score obtained in the criterion with the highest weighting in the scale. If there is still a tie, it will be resolved by applying criteria relating to gender balance. If there is still a tie, it will be resolved by the reasoned decision of the evaluation committee, taking into account, inter alia, the date of submission of the applications or by drawing lots before the awarding body.

3. Should it be necessary to apply gender criteria to settle the tie between applications, priority will be given to applicants or principal researchers whose sex is under-represented in their area of knowledge. This will involve taking into account the list of the areas that present greatest gender imbalance, according to information from the Integrated University Information System.

Article 19. Resolution proposal

1. The evaluation committee, in accordance with the criteria established for the evaluation, will submit a definitive resolution proposal to the head of the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy. This resolution proposal will indicate the results of the evaluation carried out by means of a list of applicants prioritised by the score obtained and the grant amount and, where appropriate, a reserve list to cover any renunciations that may occur. This proposal may be made by areas or branches of knowledge, provided that the calls provide for such a possibility.



This ranking will not be required when the amount set aside is sufficient to satisfy all the eligible applications.

2. Whenever the call for grants so provides, a resolution by the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy will be published with the provisional list of candidates selected for the award of the aid. In this case, the provisional resolution will be published in accordance with the provisions established in Article 16.4 of this order, so that, within ten days from its publication, the proposed parties can declare their acceptance. They may also be required to submit additional documents together with the acceptance document should the call so provide. Failure to present this documentation within the established deadline will be understood as withdrawal of the application.

3. Any withdrawals and renunciations within this period will be covered by applications on the reserve list, in the order established in the provisional resolution, which must provide the documents established in the previous paragraph within the period of ten days from notification.

4. In view of the possible withdrawals and new additions to the reserve list, the evaluation committee will issue a report with the definitive resolution proposal that will be submitted to the head of the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy.

Article 20. Resolution

1. Once the proposal for definitive resolution has been submitted, the competent body will issue the corresponding definitive resolution relating to the procedure, which will terminate the administrative procedure and the interested parties will be notified of the resolution.

2. The award resolution will be reasoned and will contain the following:

a) The list of applicants the grant is awarded to, which may be listed by areas or branches of knowledge provided that the calls provide for such possibility, with an indication of the score obtained in the evaluation process; as well as, where appropriate, a reserve list with the score obtained, to cover any renunciations that may occur; and lastly the list of applications with explicit refusal. Where the award resolution provides for the inclusion of applications from the reserve list to replace possible renunciations, the grant period will be the remaining time until the termination of the period initially granted.

b) The activities to be funded by the grants.

c) The amount of the grant in accordance with the provisions of this order and in the respective call, as well as on the basis of the available credit and the result of the evaluation. In the case of multi-year grants, the amount will be determined for each year in which the grant is awarded, subject to the existence of adequate and sufficient credit in the Generalitat's budget.

d) The payment method.

e) The general and specific conditions established for each grant.

f) The appeals procedure.

g) Where appropriate, reference will be made to funding from European Structural and Investment Funds or the European Union Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

h) Deadline for submission of supporting documents for the grant.

3. The resolution arising from the procedure will be notified to the interested parties within ten working days from the date of the resolution, by publishing it on the website of the Conselleria responsible for matters relating to science and research, in accordance with Article 45.1 of the LPAC. For the purposes of Article 18 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act, the resolution will also be referred to the National Grants Database.

4. The maximum time limit to resolve applications submitted and to award the grants established in this order may be up to six months from the date of expiry of the deadline for submission of applications. The calculation of this period will not include the time required to rectify the documents by the interested party. If no resolution is issued within this period, the grant application will be deemed to have lapsed, under the terms set forth in Article 25 of the LPAC.

5. Where appropriate, the beneficiaries will be included on a list of beneficiaries receiving European Union Structural Funds in compliance with European standards, indicating the operation and the



public funds allocated.

Article 21. Modification of the resolution

1. The actions must be executed in the time and manner determined in the award resolutions. However, where specific circumstances arise which alter the essential technical or economic conditions considered in awarding the grant, the beneficiary may request modification of the award resolution. Any change to the content of the decision will require, simultaneously:

- a) That the change is requested before the end of the project implementation period and is expressly authorised by the awarding body.
- b) That the change does not affect the objectives pursued with the grant, its fundamental aspects, or harm the rights of third parties.
- c) That the changes are due to reasons that could not have been foreseen at the time of application.

2. The change request will be accompanied by a report setting out the reasons for the changes and justifying why it will not be possible to comply with the conditions imposed in the award resolution or the requirements established in the corresponding award.

3. Interruption of the contracts covered by the grant due to unforeseen circumstances may result in the modification of the award resolution. In this regard, the beneficiary organisations may request the interruption and extension of the time limit for the execution of the aid corresponding to the period the financed contracts are suspended, where such suspensions occur for the following reasons:

- a) Maternity or paternity leave.
- b) Adoption.
- c) Guardianship due to adoption or foster care.
- d) Risk during pregnancy.
- e) Risk during breastfeeding of children under nine months of age.
- f) Temporary incapacity during pregnancy due to pregnancy-related causes.
- g) Temporary incapacity for reasons other than those mentioned above for a period of at least 2 consecutive months.

Interruptions relating to the aid for reasons other than those mentioned above will not give rise to an extension of the time limit for implementation.

The interruptions and extensions must be authorised by the granting body, which may collect the reports it deems appropriate and result in the modification of the terms of the concession by means of a new resolution.

When the interruption and extension is authorised, the costs the beneficiary organisation may incur arising from the contracting (remuneration and employer's social security fee) during the period of interruption will not be considered eligible.

The authorisation to interrupt and extend the aid will not, under any circumstances, lead to an increase in the amount of aid initially granted. Any increase in the payment of the employer's social security fee or remuneration, as a result of the extended period will be assumed by the contracting R&D centre.

4. No authorisation will be required for changes between the different expenditure items with respect to the initial budget envisaged for the implementation of the project or activity covered by the aid, provided that the total amount of the grant is not altered and this should be reflected in the monitoring and final reports to be submitted.

5. Any alteration to the conditions taken into account for the award or, where appropriate, should other public or private grants be obtained after submitting the application that together exceed the cost of the activity, this may result in the modification of the award resolution or a reduction in the grant awarded.

Article 22. Justification of the grants

1. The beneficiaries of these grants must, in accordance with Article 14.b of Law 38/2003, of 17



November, the General Grants Act, certify that the research activity has been carried out and that the purpose that determined the awarding and benefit of the grant has been fulfilled.

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of the calls, or any instructions issued by the head of the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy, the beneficiary organisations will be required to submit the following documentation as proof of the payment relating to the grants received:

a) An itemised list of the activity's costs and investments, identifying the creditor and the document, amount, date of issue and, where appropriate, the date of payment.

b) A breakdown of any other income or grants that have financed the subsidised activity, indicating the amount and its source.

c) Certification that the grant awarded has been duly registered in the body's accounts and that the original documentation certifying the expenditure is located in the organisation's offices and is at the disposal of the instructing body, the Generalitat's General Intervention Board and the Audit Office.

3. All the organisations must provide a sworn declaration certifying compliance with the obligations established by Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act. In addition, if the case provided for in Article 31(3) of Law 38/2003, of November 17, the General Grants Act, applies, they must submit the three quotations that must be requested.

4. Those bodies that are VAT exempt must submit a certificate substantiating this fact.

5. All the organisations must present the supporting documentation for the payment of the grant in the month of November of the year the grant is implemented. However, in cases of advance payment, the maximum period for submitting supporting documentation for payment of the grant will be in February of the year following the year the grant was implemented.

6. In accordance with the provisions of Article 73 of the Grants Regulations, approved by Royal Decree 887/2006, of 21 July, the original supporting documents presented must be stamped indicating the grant for which they have been submitted and whether the amount of the supporting document is wholly or partially attributable to the grant.

7. Where grants are co-financed by the European Union and given the assumption contained in Article 14 of Regulation (EU) 1304/2013, the activities eligible under this order will be justified through the simplified cost modalities provided for in Articles 67.1.b) and d) of Regulation (EU) 1303/2013 or as provided for in the substituting regulations.

Article 23. Payment of grants

1. The grants will be paid to the beneficiaries under the terms established in the award resolution and, where applicable, by the provisions laid down in Title II of this order.

2. For each year, the advance payment of one hundred percent of the amount of the grants that are the subject of the call will be made if the Generalitat Budget Law, or other rule, permits this. Otherwise, the advance payment will be made with the limit provided for in Generalitat Law 1/2015, of February 6, Public Finance, the Instrumental Public Sector and Grants. Amounts not anticipated will be paid after justification by the beneficiaries of the activity covered by the grant.

3. For advanced payment of the subsidies, the beneficiary organisations must provide as a guarantee a bank guarantee for an amount equal to the advance amount plus 1%. An exemption from providing this guarantee extends to the organisations indicated in Article 171.5 of Generalitat Law 1/2015, of February 6, Public Finance, the Instrumental Public Sector and Grants, and in Article 42.2 of Royal Decree 887/2006, of July 21, which approves the regulations to Law 38/2003, of November 17, General Grants Act.

Article 24. Monitoring and control of actions

1. The instructing body will check the proper justification of the grant, whether the activity has been carried out and whether the purpose that determined the awarding of the grant has been achieved. The administrative checking of the justification documents will be carried out by reviewing the documentation submitted, in accordance with the provisions of this order, as well as those in the



respective call.

2. The head of the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy will approve a control plan to guarantee the material implementation of the subsidised activity, which will be implemented by the service responsible for science and research policy. This control plan will involve, on a random sample of files, an ex-post and high-quality analysis, consisting of an evaluation of the complete file (annual progress and monitoring reports, final reports, final review) after the end of the grant period and the submission of the obligatory documentation by the beneficiaries. The minimum sum of the aid to be checked will be at least 20% of the initial credit provided by the grant line.

Additionally, the awarding body may designate, where appropriate, the bodies, commissions or experts it deems necessary to carry out the appropriate monitoring and verification that the grant is being properly applied.

3. The beneficiary will be subject to the verification actions to be carried out by the awarding body, as well as control actions by the Generalitat's General Intervention Board and by the Audit Office.

4. Total or partial non-compliance with the requirements and obligations established in this order and other applicable rules, as well as with any conditions established in the corresponding award resolution, will entail the following, after hearing from the interested party:

a) Cancellation of the grant or its reduction, in the case of partial non-compliance with the action or justification for lower amounts.

b) In the event that the advance payment has been made, total or partial reimbursement of the grant awarded, together with the corresponding default interest, in accordance with the provisions of Article 37 of Law 38/2003, of 17 November, the General Grants Act.

In particular, the following will be considered causes of non-compliance:

-Failure to justify the grant in the established terms or presenting insufficient justification for it.

-Allocating the grant to a different purpose for which it was awarded.

-Failure to adjust the expenditure actually incurred to the amount proposed and awarded.

-Failure to disseminate the results of the research that is the object of the grant.

-Failure to state that the activity receives funding from the Generalitat and, where appropriate, European funds.

-Failure to submit the final reports and scientific monitoring within the deadline established by the call.

TITLE II

Specific provisions relating to the type of awards Talented Researcher Support Programme - the GenT Plan

CHAPTER 1.

Grants for recruiting high-quality post-doctoral researchers to undertake an R&D&I project in the Comunitat Valenciana (CIDEGENT)

Article 25. Purpose and characteristics of the grant

1. The purpose of these grants is to identify and support high-quality post-doctoral researchers with proven experience in centres of international prestige, encourage their recruitment into research centres in the Comunitat Valenciana and Valencian public universities to carry out a cutting-edge research project.

2. The duration of the grants will be determined in the respective calls, they may not exceed four years (48 months) duration. They may be extended for another two years upon reasoned request. In the event that the contracted researcher accredits their entitlement to maternity or paternity leave in accordance with the protected situations included in the general social security system or in the case of care for dependents, in accordance within the provisions of Law 39/2006, of 14 December, the duration of the aid may be extended up to a maximum of one year. This



circumstance must be requested from the granting body for its authorisation, which will not imply an increase in the aid awarded.

3. The annual support for each of the contracts - which must be full-time - will be a minimum of €70,000. The calls will establish the annual amount along with the annual amount the Generalitat Valenciana will contribute and the percentage of co-financing that the beneficiary organisation must assume. This aid will necessarily be used to finance the salary and the employer's social security contributions of the research staff hired during each of the yearly payments, considered independently. The minimum remuneration that the researchers must receive, which must be indicated in each contract, will be determined in each of the calls and will be not less than €53,000 gross per year.

4. In addition, the researcher will have a grant for implementing the project, which will be fixed in the corresponding call, with a maximum annual limit of €50,000. The amount to be granted for each project will be determined based on the project's budget and the result of the evaluation process.

The following are items that may be eligible for the grant:

a) Salary and the employer's social security contributions for the staff associated with the project: technical support staff and pre-doctoral research staff.

b) Implementation and operational costs:

- Consumables.

- Travel, subsistence and accommodation for people who are part of the research project.

- Travel, subsistence and accommodation for post-doctoral researchers invited to participate in the project, provided the participation is justified.

- Dissemination of project activities.

- Holding scientific conferences directly related to the project.

- Scientific-technical equipment acquisition costs, including specialised software, exclusively for research purposes and which enables the appropriate use of the acquired equipment.

- Other expenses strictly necessary for carrying out the project.

c) Operating expenses of the beneficiary organisations necessary for undertaking the project. This amount will be equivalent to the figure determined by applying a maximum percentage of 15% to the expenditure undertaken and justified for hiring staff for the project, excluding social security costs, so that its final specification will be made from the justification of expenses for each yearly payment.

Article 26. Beneficiaries and applicants

1. The beneficiaries of these grants will be research centres in the Comunitat Valenciana and the Valencian public universities.

2. Researchers who, at the time of submitting their applications, do not have a link with a Valencian public university or research centre may apply for these grants if they meet one of the following requirements:

a) They are the beneficiary of an ERC Starting or Consolidator grant and they are using this aid while undertaking a project in a university or research centre outside the Comunitat Valenciana

b) They have passed Phase 1 of the ERC (Starting/Consolidator) grant evaluation process or have been a beneficiary of a Ramón y Cajal or MSCA-IF grant.

c) They have, during the application period determined by the call, at least 6 year's experience following the award of their doctorate and have completed one or more post-doctoral stays in internationally renowned research centres outside the Comunitat Valenciana that add up to a period of at least three years.

If the doctorate has been issued by a university within the Comunitat Valenciana, the candidate will need to have been contractually separated from that institution for at least two years since attaining their doctorate.

3. Research staff can also apply for these grants who have been the beneficiary of the grants available to recruit post-doctoral research staff with international experience, the grants for



scientific excellence in junior researchers, Ramón y Cajal support for contracts, or the programmes for attracting and retaining talent, competitive tendering, offered by the Valencian public universities and that may be considered in the corresponding calls. Or, if they are beneficiaries of these grants or programmes, they have a maximum of twelve months left in the period for submitting applications to finish their contract under these grants or programmes.

Article 27. Incompatibilities

The contracted research staff may not form part of other research groups with current funding from this conselleria aimed at promoting emerging, consolidating or consolidated research groups or those from the Prometheus Programme.

Article 28. Objective criteria for evaluating applications

1. The applications will be evaluated out of a total of 100 points in accordance with the following criteria and scales:

a) Scientific excellence of the candidate (50%).

Up to 25 points: scientific publications and participation in dissemination activities.

Up to 15 points: participation in national or international research projects or groups, contracts and patents or those with equivalent merits in their respective areas of knowledge.

Up to 10 points: stays abroad, prizes and other relevant actions.

b) Quality and impact of the proposed research project and work plan (35%).

Up to 15 points: quality of the research project (objectives, expected impacts, project methodology and work plan).

Up to 10 points: that the project is at the frontier of knowledge and has a high international profile.

Up to 10 points: work plan to apply for future calls for ERC grants or a higher level ERC of which the applicant is a beneficiary.

c) Candidate's capacity to lead projects and supervise doctoral theses (15%).

2. The corresponding calls may provide for the possibility that the grants to be awarded are distributed by areas or branches of knowledge, provided that the applications have exceeded the threshold score determined by the corresponding call, after evaluation in accordance with the criteria and scale that appear in the previous section. The criteria for distribution between areas or branches of knowledge will also be determined in each of the calls.

Article 29. Scientific monitoring of the grants

1. The use of the grant awarded will be justified through compliance with scientific-technical monitoring standards. This will require a progress and monitoring report to be presented together with the annual economic justification. A final report will also be required in the final year.

These should include the following aspects: activities undertaken; compliance with the objectives proposed for the action, as well as the impact of the results obtained demonstrated through, among others, the dissemination of results in publications, scientific journals, books, presentations at congresses, transfer actions, patents, in the internationalisation of the activities, in collaborations with national and international groups, in the training of research staff and in dissemination activities.

2. The report corresponding to the second and third annual payments may be subject to a monitoring evaluation, which may, should the rating be insufficient, lead to the early termination and total or partial reimbursement of the awarded grant where advance payment has occurred.

3. Additionally, one year after the end of the project, a report must be presented describing the actions carried out and their results during the entire project implementation period. The report will be used to carry out the "ex post" evaluation of the project.



4. The beneficiary centres will present a copy of the payroll and the contracts of the personnel hired under this grant, in which the link with the project must be expressly stated.

Article 30. Justification, monitoring and payment of the grants

1. The total approved budget for the grant and its yearly payments will coincide with the payment plan laid down in the award resolution. The investments and costs for each project may be made over the implementation period without necessarily coinciding with said payment plan, in the event that advance payment is made to the beneficiary organisation.

2. The corresponding calls may establish the obligation to carry out or execute for each yearly payment, a minimum percentage of the expenditure with respect to the total amount granted for said yearly payment.

3. The payment of the grant corresponding to the first yearly payment of the funding will be processed after the presentation of the contracts signed with the post-doctoral research staff.

4. Under all circumstances, annual financial justification of the expenses incurred must be presented, on the corresponding dates, with the payment relating to the second and subsequent annual payments being conditioned on the fact that the economic justification for the previous annual payment has been previously presented.

CHAPTER 2.

Grants for recruiting post-doctoral research staff with international experience (CDEIGENT)

Article 31. Purpose and characteristics of the grant

1. The aim of these grants is to promote the research career of young, high-quality post-doctoral researchers in centres with international prestige, encouraging their recruitment and integration into research centres and public universities in the Comunitat.

2. The duration of the grants will be determined in the respective calls, they may not exceed four years (48 months) duration. They may be extended for another two years upon reasoned request. In the event that the contracted researcher accredits their entitlement to maternity or paternity leave in accordance with the protected situations included in the general social security system or in the case of care for dependents, in accordance within the provisions of Law 39/2006, of 14 December, the duration of the aid may be extended up to a maximum of one year. This circumstance must be requested from the granting body for its authorisation, which will not imply an increase in the aid awarded.

3. The annual support for each of the contracts - which must be full-time - will be a minimum of €55,000. The calls will establish the annual amount along with the annual amount the Generalitat will contribute and the percentage of co-financing that the beneficiary organisation must assume. This aid will necessarily be used to finance the salary and the employer's social security contributions of the research staff hired during each of the yearly payments, considered independently. The minimum remuneration that the researchers must receive, which must be indicated in each contract, will be determined in each of the calls and will not be less than €42,000 gross per year.

4. In addition, the researcher will receive a grant to finance different expenditure items relating to the reference research group in which they are integrated, which will be set in the corresponding call and will have a minimum annual limit of €25,000. The amount to be granted for each project will be determined in accordance with the requested budget and the result of the evaluation process.

The following are items that may be eligible for the grant:

a) Salary and employer's social security contributions for the staff associated with the reference research group: technical support staff

b) Implementation and operational costs:

- Consumables.

- Travel, subsistence and accommodation for people who are part of the research project.



- Travel, subsistence and accommodation for post-doctoral researchers invited to participate in the project, provided the participation is justified.
 - Dissemination of project activities.
 - Holding scientific conferences directly related to the project.
 - Scientific-technical equipment acquisition costs, including specialised software, exclusively for research purposes and which enables the appropriate use of the acquired equipment.
 - Other expenses strictly necessary for carrying out the project.
- c) Operating expenses of the beneficiary organisations necessary for undertaking the project. This amount will be equivalent to the figure determined by applying a maximum percentage of 15% to the expenditure undertaken and justified for hiring staff for the project, excluding social security costs, so that its final specification will be made from the justification of expenses for each yearly payment.

Article 32. Beneficiaries and applicants

1. The beneficiaries of these grants will be research centres in the Comunitat Valenciana and the Valencian public universities.
2. Post-doctoral researchers who, at the time of submitting their applications, do not have a link with a Valencian public university or research centre may apply for these grants if they meet the following requirements:
 - a) They have, during the application period determined by the call, experience following the award of their doctorate of less than 6 years.
 - b) Have completed one or more stays in internationally renowned research centres outside the Comunitat Valenciana that add up to a period of at least two years.
If the doctorate has been issued by a university within the Comunitat Valenciana, the candidate will need to have been contractually separated from that institution for at least two years since attaining their doctorate.
 - c) Have the endorsement of the lead researcher from the reference research group they will be joining. No member of the reference research groups may belong to another group and only one applicant may be endorsed by each of the reference research groups.

Article 33. Incompatibilities

The contracted research staff may not form part of other research groups with current funding from this conselleria aimed at promoting emerging, consolidating or consolidated research groups.

Article 34. Objective criteria for evaluating applications

1. Applications will be evaluated out of a total of 100 points according to the following criteria and scales:
 - a) Scientific excellence of the candidate (50%).
 - Up to 25 points: scientific publications and participation in dissemination activities.
 - Up to 15 points: participation in national research projects or groups, contracts and patents or those with equivalent merits in their respective areas of knowledge.
 - Up to 10 points: stays abroad, prizes and other relevant actions.
 - b) International track record of the candidate (25%).
It will be an advantage if the applicant has passed Phase 1 of the evaluation process for ERC (Starting/Consolidator) grants or if they have received a seal of excellence in the MSCA-IF grants or if they have been selected or been on the reserve list for other high-quality national or international calls that may be included in the respective call (programmes such as Juan de la Cierva, Ramón y Cajal, etc.).
 - c) Quality and interest of the scientific background of the research group the candidate will join (25%)
2. The corresponding calls may provide for the possibility that the grants to be awarded are distributed by areas or branches of knowledge, provided that the applications have exceeded the



threshold score determined by the corresponding call, after evaluation in accordance with the criteria and scale that appear in the previous section. The criteria for distribution between areas or branches of knowledge will also be determined in each of the calls.

Article 35. Scientific monitoring of the grants

1. The use of the grant awarded will be justified through compliance with scientific-technical monitoring standards. This will require a progress and monitoring report to be presented together with the annual economic justification. A final report will also be required in the final year.

These should include the following aspects: activities undertaken; compliance with the objectives proposed for the action, as well as the impact of the results obtained demonstrated through, among others, the dissemination of results in publications, scientific journals, books, presentations at congresses, transfer actions, patents, in the internationalisation of the activities, in collaborations with national and international groups, in the training of research staff and in dissemination activities.

2. The report corresponding to the second and third annual payments may be subject to a monitoring evaluation, which may, should the rating be insufficient, lead to the early termination and total or partial reimbursement of the awarded grant where advance payment has occurred.

3. Additionally, one year after the end of the project, a report must be presented describing the actions carried out and their results during the entire project implementation period. The report will be used to carry out the "ex post" evaluation of the project.

4. The beneficiary centres will present a copy of the payroll and the contracts of the personnel hired under this grant, in which the link with the project must be expressly stated.

Article 36. Justification, monitoring and payment of the grants

1. The total approved budget for the grant and its yearly payments will coincide with the payment plan laid down in the award resolution. The investments and costs for each project may be made over the implementation period without necessarily coinciding with said payment plan, in the event that advance payment is made to the beneficiary organisation.

2. The corresponding calls may establish the obligation to carry out or execute for each yearly payment, a minimum percentage of the expenditure with respect to the total amount granted for said yearly payment.

3. The payment of the grant corresponding to the first yearly payment of the funding will be processed after the presentation of the contracts signed with the post-doctoral research staff.

4. Under all circumstances, annual financial justification of the expenses incurred must be presented, on the corresponding dates, with the payment relating to the second and subsequent annual payments being conditioned on the fact that the economic justification for the previous annual payment has been previously presented.

CHAPTER 3.

Grants for scientific excellence in junior researchers (SEJIGENT)

Article 37. Purpose and characteristics of the grant

1. The purpose of these grants is to promote the initiation of research projects at the frontier of knowledge undertaken by young researchers with contractual links to research centres in the Comunitat Valenciana.

2. The grants will have a maximum duration of four years (48 months). In the event that the contracted researcher responsible for undertaking the project accredits their entitlement to maternity or paternity leave in accordance with the protected situations included in the general social security system or in the case of care for dependents, in accordance within the provisions of Law 39/2006, of 14 December, the duration of the aid may be extended up to a maximum of one year. This circumstance must be requested from the granting body for its authorisation, which will



not imply an increase in the aid awarded.

3. The maximum annual amount will be reflected in the call, which will not be less than 70,000 euros, and will be determined for each project based on the requested budget and the outcome of the evaluation process.

The following are items that may be eligible for the grant:

a) Salary and the employer's social security contributions for the staff associated with the project: the party applying for the aid, technical support staff and pre-doctoral research staff.

b) Implementation and operational costs:

1. Consumables.

2. Travel, subsistence and accommodation for the people who are part of the research project.

3. Travel, subsistence and accommodation for post-doctoral researchers invited to participate in the project, provided the participation is justified.

4. Dissemination of project activities.

5. Holding scientific conferences directly related to the project.

6. Scientific-technical equipment acquisition costs, including specialised software, to be used exclusively for research purposes and which enables the appropriate use of the acquired equipment.

7. Other expenses strictly necessary for carrying out the project.

c) Indirect costs: operating costs of the beneficiary organisations necessary for the development of the project

Article 38. Beneficiaries and applicants

1. The beneficiary organisations of these grants will be research centres in the Comunitat Valenciana and the Valencian public universities.

2. Applications for these grants may be made by post-doctoral researchers who have between five and twelve years' experience since obtaining their doctorate, during the period for submitting applications laid down in the call for applications.

3. Have a working relationship with a research centre in the Comunitat Valenciana. In the event this link does not cover the full execution of the project, a commitment letter must be submitted with the application signed by the head of the Comunitat Valenciana research centre which undertakes to formalise an employment contract with the person that covers the full execution of the project and authorises the project implementation in that centre in the event that the grant is awarded. The costs related to the salary and employer's social security contributions for the *junior researcher* may be funded as an expenditure item for the awarded grant.

Article 39. Incompatibilities

The contracted research staff may not form part of other research groups with current funding from this conselleria aimed at promoting emerging, consolidating or consolidated research groups or those from the Prometheus Programme. Nor may they be in receipt of a grant for the recruitment of post-doctoral research staff under the Programme to Promote Scientific Research, Technological Development and Innovation in the Comunitat Valenciana.

2. The staff hired under the grants for the recruitment of high-quality post-doctoral research staff to undertake an R&D&I project in the Comunitat Valenciana and for the recruitment of post-doctoral research staff with international experience, may not apply for these grants unless, as a beneficiary of these grants, they have a maximum of twelve months remaining in the period for submission of applications to complete their contract under these grants.

Article 40. Objective criteria for evaluating applications

1. The applications will be evaluated in accordance with the following criteria and scale:

a) Scientific excellence of the candidate (50%).

Up to 25 points: scientific publications and participation in dissemination activities.

Up to 15 points: participation in national or international research projects or groups,



contracts and patents or those with equivalent merits in their respective areas of knowledge.

Up to 10 points: stays abroad, prizes and other relevant actions.

b) Quality and impact of the proposed research project and work plan (35%).

Up to 15 points: quality of the research project (objectives, impacts, expected project methodology and work plan).

Up to 10 points: that the project is at the frontier of knowledge and has a high international profile.

Up to 10 points: work plan to apply for future calls for ERC grants or a higher level ERC of which the applicant is a beneficiary.

c) International track record of the candidate (15%)

It will be an advantage if the applicant has passed Phase 1 of the evaluation process for ERC (Starting/Consolidator) grants or if they have received a seal of excellence in the MSCA-IF grants or if they have been selected or been on the reserve list for other high-quality national or international calls that may be included in the respective call (programmes such as Juan de la Cierva, Ramón y Cajal, etc.).

2. The corresponding calls may provide for the possibility that the grants to be awarded are distributed by areas or branches of knowledge, provided that the applications have exceeded the threshold score determined by the corresponding call, after evaluation in accordance with the criteria and scale that appear in the previous section. The criteria for distribution between areas or branches of knowledge will also be determined in each of the calls.

Article 41. Scientific monitoring of the grants

1. The use of the grant awarded will be justified through compliance with scientific-technical monitoring standards. This will require a progress and monitoring report to be presented together with the annual economic justification. A final report will also be required in the final year.

These should include the following aspects: activities undertaken; compliance with the objectives proposed for the action, as well as the impact of the results obtained demonstrated through, among others, the dissemination of results in publications, scientific journals, books, presentations at congresses, transfer actions, patents, in the internationalisation of the activities, in collaborations with national and international groups, in the training of research staff and in dissemination activities.

2. The report corresponding to the second and third annual payments may be subject to a monitoring evaluation, which may, should the rating be insufficient, lead to the early termination and total or partial reimbursement of the awarded grant where advance payment has occurred.

3. Additionally, one year after the end of the project, a report must be presented describing the actions carried out and their results during the entire project implementation period. The report will be used to carry out the "ex post" evaluation of the project.

4. The beneficiary centres will present a copy of the payroll and the contracts of the personnel hired under this grant, in which the link with the project must be expressly stated.

Article 42. Justification, monitoring and payment of the grants.

1. The total approved budget for the grant and its yearly payments will coincide with the payment plan laid down in the award resolution. The investments and costs for each project may be made over the implementation period without necessarily coinciding with said payment plan, in the event that advance payment is made to the beneficiary organisation.

2. The corresponding calls may establish the obligation to carry out or execute for each yearly payment, a minimum percentage of the expenditure with respect to the total amount granted for said yearly payment.

3. Under all circumstances, annual financial justification of the expenses incurred must be presented, on the corresponding dates, with the payment relating to the second and subsequent annual payments being conditioned on the fact that the economic justification for the previous



annual payment has been previously presented.

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

One. Management regime for grants co-financed with European funds

Where some of the grants covered in this order are co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund (ESF) or by Horizon 2020 or the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, the grant management regime must be adapted to the procedures and eligibility criteria laid down in relation to these issues by the regulations and other rules developed by the ERDF, the ESF and the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

Two. Multiannual scope of the grants

In accordance with the provisions established in Article 16 of Generalitat Law 2/2009, of April 14, on the coordination of the Valencian scientific research and technological development system, all the grants regulated in this order will have a multi-year scope. The award resolution for these grants will establish the amount for each of the annual payments made under the respective grant, and this will be subject to the appropriations made available for this purpose in each of these years in the Generalitat's budget.

Three. Economic nature of the research activities

1. In accordance with the Framework on State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (2014/C 198/01), the knowledge transfer activities carried out by the research centres will not have an economic nature when all the profits generated by them are re-invested in the primary activities of that centre.
2. Where a research centre carries out activities, both of an economic and non-economic nature, in order to avoid the indirect subsidisation of the economic activity, a clear distinction must be made between the two types of activity and between their respective costs and funding. To this end, the annual financial statements of the universities and research centres must reflect the correct allocation of costs to each of the activities.

TRANSITIONAL PROVISION

Sole. Effects on procedures already initiated

1. The procedures for awarding grants from the Talented Researchers Support Programme – the GenT Plan, in any of its modes, which have already been initiated on the entry into force of this order, will continue to apply Order 4/2018, of 7 March, by the Conselleria for Education, Research, Culture and Sport, which approves the regulatory rules for awarding grants from the Talented Researchers Support Programme – GenT Plan.
2. In terms of the procedures for awarding grants for scientific excellence in junior researchers that have already been initiated on the entry into force of this Order, the applicable legislation will be Order 86/2016 of 21 December, by the Conselleria for Education, Research, Culture and Sports, which approves the regulatory rules for awarding grants as part of the Programme to Promote Scientific Research, Technological Development and Innovation in the Comunitat Valenciana.

DEROGATION PROVISION

Sole. Regulatory repeal

All regulations of equal or lower rank are repealed insofar as they contradict or oppose the provisions of this Order, and in particular Order 4/2018, of 7 March, by the Conselleria of Education,



Research, Culture and Sport, which approves the regulatory rules for awarding grants by the Talented Researchers Support Programme – the GenT Plan, is expressly repealed, without prejudice to the provisions in the transitional provision to this order.

FINAL PROVISIONS

One. Powers of the head of the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy

The head of the directorate-general responsible for science and research policy is empowered to issue the resolutions and instructions necessary for the application and interpretation of this order. And they are delegated the power to resolve the award or refusal regarding the grants referred to in this order, as well as to authorise, draw credit and order payment, and other accounting management measures necessary to implement the resolution.

Two. Entry into force

This order will enter into force on the day following its publication in the *Diari Oficial de la Generalitat Valenciana* (Official Journal of the Generalitat Valenciana).

The Consellera for Innovation, Universities, Science and Digital Society

**THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL
FOR SCIENCE AND RESEARCH**