

## **URV Profile.**

The *Universitat Rovira i Virgili* (URV) is well positioned both nationally and internationally due to the Excellence of its staff and its research programmes. URV is made up of 12 Faculties and Schools, with 23 Departments, which welcome annually 12.000 undergraduate students, 2.000 master students and 1.300 PhDs.

The wide-ranging and well-defined relationship between the university, business and society is one of the main reasons why the URV and its surroundings have been recognized in the most reputed world university rankings.

In recent years, the URV has been one of the fastest growing universities in Europe and we are strongly committed to the European Areas of Higher Education and Research. Recent rankings indicate that the URV is not only one of the leading universities in Catalonia, but also one of the leading universities in the European area for the quality of its teaching, its commitment to continuous training and the excellence of its research, development and innovation.

In 2021, the University was ranked in the top 501-600 universities in the world according to the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU). The URV was also ranked by Times Higher Education in the top 101-200 in the Impact Rankings, in the top 136 Best Young University less than 50 years' old and it has been included in position 601-800 in World University Rankings. Furthermore, it was ranked in the top 701-750 in QS World University Rankings.

On the other hand, between 2010 and 2021, the number of doctoral theses has been increased by 35% and 36% were produced by foreign students. Knowledge transfer has also increased in the number of patent applications and the creation of companies. The URV has also been granted the HR Excellence in Research certificate by the Directorate General for Research of the European Commission.

The URV is also very aware that it plays a leading role in regional development. The main expression of our commitment to society is the wide variety of undergraduate programmes and the transfer of knowledge and technology to society. This connection between research and the socioeconomic reality has guided their development. These internal dynamics have been accompanied by the dynamics of the Campus of International Excellence Southern Catalonia (CEICS), which has reinforced the links with other knowledge-generating agents, the business network and the public administration of the state and the autonomous community. The impact of the URV today is the result of the knowledge generated by its staff and facilitating progress towards a more just, balanced, inclusive and sustainable society.

**Support given to ICREA researcher, if successful: start-up funds, provided facilities (office and lab conditions), supporting staff in scientific and technical issues as well as in management and administrative issues.**

The support given to ICREA Researcher is part of the URV policy to attract talent from which derive actions mentioned below. Generically, the URV policy for attracting talent and their commitment to this objective is based on the actions taken to the University in the last years, such as:

- The European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Good Practices on R&D
- The European Excellence in Research of the Human Resources (HR) distinctive
- The programme for promoting research 2010-2013, with a budget of 4 million euros for four years, the aim of which was to support recognised research groups and establish programme contracts with externally accredited research groups (those recognised in 2009 by the Government of Catalonia). In accordance with the agreed objectives and finance, the groups were to autonomously establish their policies on their postdoctoral and predoctoral research and technical and administrative staff.
- The programme for promoting research 2014-2016, with a budget of 3 million euros for three years, which has had the same objectives as the above programme.
- The programme for promoting research 2017-2019, with a budget of 3 million euros for three years, which has had the same objectives as the above programme.
- The programme for promoting research 2020-2022, with a budget of 3 million euros for three years, which has had the same objectives as the above programme.
- The Martí Franquès programme of research grants in its two forms of PhD student and postdoctoral researcher, the latter with two profiles: Starting Grant and Advanced Grant. Recently, URV has been awarded European finance from the COFUND programme as part of the Marie Curie Actions of the H2020 Project. This will enable us, in the next few years, to take on predoctoral research staff via the Martí Franquès Programme (see below) for predoctoral research support.

As regards the general support to be given to the candidate if elected, we present a detailed explanation of the resources of the host institution on issues relating to human, material and financial items.

The URV researchers receive the support of the Martí i Franquès research grants programme for predoctoral and postdoctoral research (two types of postdoctoral grant are available: the starting grant and the advanced grant). This is a supporting programme for groups of excellence and their active researchers.

URV Doctoral School and URV Research Unit provides human and technical support for the design, development and documentation of projects as well as technological support for research techniques as part of the supporting programme for research.

The URV has its own Scientific and Technical Resources Service for supporting ICREA researchers and the groups and/or laboratories in which they are involved. It also possesses software for quantitative data treatment through the Big Data Value Association, which negotiates with the EU strategic Big Data lines, of which the URV is a member.

Every URV campus has a CRAI (Learning and Research Resources Centre) with the technological and human resources needed for accessing and managing information and

documentation. The CRAI also has a specialized area (a "Factory") that provides technical and human resources for designing and developing audio visual material and creating digital tools for transforming analogic tools into their digital versions.

The Pre-award Support Unit supports the proposals of Horizon2020. Likewise, the Technology Transfer and Innovation Centre (CTTI) supports all projects awarded in a non-competitive way through contracts with companies and private organizations.

All researchers receive the support from the Assessment Unit for protecting their ideas and from the ComCiencia platform [<http://www.comciencia.urv.cat>] for disseminating their scientific production.

In summary, the researcher will be integrated as a full member of URV. He/she will be provided with an office, computer, access to URV libraries and databases. He/she will be assisted by a person of support in order to guarantee his/her integration into URV research system and the management support units. Also, he/she will be assisted by the International Office in order to be integrated in the country, and in the city of Tarragona.

Central services such a close Research Project Management Office (UGAD), cutting-edge library facilities (CRAI) and specialised technical staff will assist the candidate into her research career within the URV.

Finally, the candidate, if successful, will be offered with:

- 64.000 euros for recruiting a PhD student (fully paid fellow during 3 years, salary and registration fees included).
- 45.000 euros for recruiting a postdoctoral researcher (1 year), according to labour rules in force. Other finalities may be considered between the ICREA researcher and URV.
- 41.000 euros for settling down in the URV and to properly initiate his/her ICREA research lines, as well as facilitate the candidate's welcome and integration into the URV and Catalan research system.