



Moving Researchers for Pediatrics



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

1 | Introduction

Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Padova e Rovigo, hereinafter the “Foundation”, has drawn up this Call for proposals in agreement with the **Pediatric Research Institute Città della Speranza**, hereinafter the “Institute”, with a view to promoting **pediatric research** and attracting **young researchers** from abroad.

2 | Objective

The objective of the call for proposals is to **contribute to developing and qualifying the Institute’s research** by **organising first-rate scientific initiatives** conducted by research teams working in the pediatric sector, **attracting researchers** working in this field, and **encouraging the return of young researchers** from abroad.

3 | Eligible projects

To be eligible, projects must be related to the **pediatric field** (clinical research, treatment, prevention).

Submitted projects shall have a **maximum duration of 36 months** and will be **executed on the Institute’s premises**. The equipment available on site is listed in **Annex A**.

Projects not executed at the Institute will not be supported by the Foundation.

4 | Eligible researchers

Projects may only be submitted by **Under-40 researchers working¹ at a foreign research institute**, either public or private, **for at least 12 months** and willing to transfer their research activity to the Pediatric Research Institute Città della Speranza for the entire duration of the project.

The Principal Investigator, or PI, may include in the project **budget** a sum of money relating to his own **remuneration for the entire period of execution of the project** c/o the Institute, up to a **maximum** amount of **150,000 Euro**.

The PI shall possess all the necessary prerequisites **as of 21 February 2020** and shall **send his or her project to the Institute**. **The Institute will then forward the project to the Foundation**, enclosing a **letter** from its Scientific Directorate confirming its willingness to approve and execute the project c/o the Institute due to its relevance to the pediatric field and to the requirements concerning instruments, spaces and services (see article 7 below).

¹ By the term “working” we mean any **professional employed**, for research purposes, by the research institute of origin.



Researchers may **only submit one project** each as PI.

However, they may take part in projects submitted by other researchers, devoting at most 10% of their research time.

Should the PI become unable, during the course of the project, to continue with its scientific supervision c/o the Institute, he or she shall put forward a suitable **replacement**, who will have to be validated by the Institute and by the Foundation. In this case, the Foundation reserves the right to consider interrupting the **payment** of grants for the project.

5 | Grants available

The Foundation will grant up to a **total amount** of **1,000,000 Euro** for this Call for proposals relating to the **2020-2022 three-year period**. However, a lower amount may actually be assigned in the event of the projects submitted not meeting the requirements of excellence underlying the Call for proposals.

The Foundation will grant a maximum amount of **500,000 Euro** to each project.

Projects may only be co-financed by **non-profit** organisations having legal personality.

6 | Eligible costs

Eligible costs:

- *Consumables* (up to 40% of the total budget);
- *Equipment or components* (up to 20% of the total budget);
- *PCs and computer equipment*, excluding software programs which may be included in “other expenses” (up to 5,000 Euro);
- *Personnel expenses* - remuneration of unemployed staff recruited especially for the project and/or the PI’s remuneration for the duration of the project: additional notes should be provided, specifying the role and remuneration envisaged;
- *External services* (up to 15% of the total budget, unless authorised by the evaluating Committee in special and justifiable cases);
- *Travel expenses related to the project* (meetings, board and lodging, travel, conference registration fees, submission of abstracts and posters, etc., as long as they are consistent with the project);
- *Italian and international patents*;
- *Conferences and seminars* (organised by the research team for the dissemination of project results);
- *Other expenses* (publications, e.g. for Open Access, reprints, magazine subscriptions, books and software required to carry out the project);
- *Overheads* (up to 10% of the total budget).

Participants are specifically requested to **report any co-financing** at the time of submitting the project.

Amounts relating to the **salary** of staff already employed by the institutions involved in the project and committed to its execution **are not considered co-financing**, and neither are amounts relating to the conversion into monetary value of **assets owned** by the Institute or other entities involved in the project, or in general to the conversion into monetary value of **contributions in kind**.





7 | Participation and deadlines

Projects shall be drawn up using the **standard template** available from the Foundation's website on the page dedicated to the call for proposals (<https://www.fondazionecariparo.it/iniziativa/moving-researchers-for-pediatrics>) and shall be **at most 15 pages long** (text in Times New Roman, font size 12, single-line spacing, graphs and figures included).

The fields to be filled in and the list of **mandatory attachments** are specified in the *Guidelines to drawing up the Project*, published on the same page.

The template includes a questionnaire on the **ethical implications** of the project. It should be noted that, in the event of having to meet specific legal requirements in this regard (e.g. obtaining the opinion of the relevant Ethics Committee), the Foundation will still take the project into account, but will **not** make any grants available until said requirements have been fully met.

Projects must be submitted **to the Institute by 21 February 2020**.

The Institute will then forward the project **to the Foundation by 28 February 2020**, following the specific **procedure for Online Requests** and enclosing a **letter** from its Scientific Directorate confirming its willingness to approve and execute the project c/o the Institute due to its relevance to the pediatric field and to the requirements concerning instruments, spaces and services.

Excessively long and/or incomplete projects submitted not in compliance with this Call for Proposals, received beyond the deadline or regarding other topics than those above specified, shall not be taken into account.

8 | Assessment and selection

The **assessment** and **selection** of projects will be entrusted to an **independent Scientific Committee** appointed by the Foundation.

In order to best assess the specialist element of individual projects, the Committee may also consult **international referees** in the project's specific scientific field.

The assessment process will focus on the excellence and intrinsic quality of the proposals.

The **assessment criteria** are:

- Innovation and potential impact in the pediatric field (30%);
- Work programming, scientific approach and methodology (25%);
- Project sustainability and budgeting (20%);
- Curriculum and track record of the PI and of the project team (25%).

Requests will be assessed and selected, and the relevant grant determined at the sole discretion of the Foundation.

In any case, upon request, the PI may receive feedback on the project assessment.

All Committee members are required to comply with the provisions of the Foundation's **Code of Ethics**, available on the website, which includes specific confidentiality clauses.





9 | Results of the selection

The **results of the selection** will be published on the Foundation's website, on the page dedicated to the Call for proposals, **by 10 April 2020**.

The Foundation reserves the right to change the deadlines should the need arise, providing adequate notice via its website. Participants, therefore, are invited to check for any notices on the Foundation's website and in particular on the page dedicated to the Call for proposals in question.

10 | Payment of grants

The payment of grants will be ruled by an **agreement between the Foundation and the Institute**. The latter will report on the projects granted and will guarantee the overall supervision of the projects within the framework of its scientific activities.

Grants will be paid by the Foundation to the Institute in the following manner:

- **Within 60 days of signing the agreement, 30% of the grant** will be paid as a **down payment** to cover start-up expenses, which must later be accounted for. The down payment will be accounted for when the balance is paid;
- **At the end of each year** a **sum** will be paid corresponding to the project expenses incurred during that year, which must **be accounted** for in the manner prescribed by the Foundation.

Please note that the Foundation's only administrative counterpart will be the Institute. Therefore, any **expenses by partner institutions** may only be reimbursed by the Institute under specific side agreements.

11 | Monitoring of approved projects

The PIs of granted projects must submit an annual **scientific report** on the progress of the project and, at the end, a **final report** on the research activities carried out and the results obtained. These reports, which must be written in accordance with the requirements of the Foundation, will be considered an **integral part of the project's reporting process** and may be submitted to the Scientific Committee and/or to **international referees** for their assessment.

If the project is not carried out in line with the provisions of the Call for proposals, the Foundation reserves the right to revoke the assigned grant and/or to demand reimbursement of the grant amount already paid.

During the project, in order to assess its actual implementation, the Foundation will be entitled to monitor the progress of the research, also through **site visits**.

12 | Information

For more **information on the Call for proposals**, please email the Foundation at ricerca@fondazioneCARIPARO.it.

For more **information and contact details relating to the laboratories** of the Pediatric Research Institute Città della Speranza, please email grantoffice@irpcds.org.

