

Call for UPC International Mention grants 2025-2026 for doctoral students at the UPC

Introduction

The [UPC International Plan 2023-2026](#), among the different objectives, seeks:

- Increase the diversity of mobility actions, with a special emphasis on doctorates and external academic internships.
- Promote the internationalization of the Doctorate.

The international mobility of doctoral students is a very relevant factor in their training and research activities. In accordance with the Academic Regulations for Doctoral Studies at the UPC, the doctoral degree may include the **International Mention**. One of the requirements for obtaining the international mention is that the doctoral student has completed one or more stays of at least three months' duration outside Spain in one or more prestigious higher education institutions or research centres with the aim of complementing and reinforcing their research training. In the event of several stays, one of them must last a minimum of one month.¹

The objective of this call is to promote internationalization, favouring research stays within the doctorate leading to obtaining the International Mention.

Each academic year, with funds from the European Union's Erasmus+ program, the UPC publishes a call for Erasmus+ Doctorate grants, for short-term stays (between 5 and 30 days) or long-term stays (between 2 and 12 months), aimed at UPC doctoral students.

This call for UPC International Mention grants is **complementary to the call for grants "Erasmus+ Doctorate KA131"** and aims to encourage UPC doctoral students to undertake international stays lasting 3 months or more, which allow them to obtain the International Mention.

Doctoral students at the UPC can therefore **carry out a long-term "Erasmus+ Doctorate KA131" stay (type of Erasmus+ internship) and complement it with this "UPC Menció Internacional Grant" to extend the duration of the stay.**

¹For more information about the International Mention, consult the UPC Doctoral School website:
<https://doctorat.upc.edu/ca/tesi-doctoral/mencio-internacional>

1. Object

Grants are being called for to supplement the funding and/or **extend the duration of long-term stays “Erasmus+ Doctorate KA131”** abroad, with **duration minimum from 60 days and a maximum of 180 days** in Higher Education Institutions. Applicants who have previously requested a grant for a 60-day stay must use this grant to extend it by at least 30 more days, thus achieving a minimum duration of **90 days (3 months), in compliance with the requirements to obtain the international mention**. Those applicants with Erasmus+ Doctorate stays equal to or greater than 3 months can use this grant both to extend the duration of their stay and to supplement its funding.

The destination may be in any of the countries participating in the Erasmus program: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, North Macedonia, Malta, Norway, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Czech Republic, Romania, Serbia, Sweden, Turkey and Cyprus or in the countries outside the program: United Kingdom and Switzerland.

The stay will aim to develop research tasks or expand knowledge for your PhD thesis, in a university, institution of education higher, institute from research or business from the Erasmus+ program countries referenced in the previous point and within the eligibility framework of the Erasmus+ program detailed in the Erasmus+ Doctorate KA131 call for grants.

It is up to the student to search for and select the centre where they will spend their stay, always with the authorization of their supervisors (tutor and head of the Doctorate program).

The contracting of transport and accommodation, as well as the specification of the details of the stay, will be the responsibility of the beneficiary.

If you are a non-European Union citizen, you must ensure that you have the appropriate legal documentation to travel, stay and return to the UPC. If in doubt, you should contact the UPC International Mobility Office (int.calls-management@upc.edu).

2. Characteristics of the grants

The maximum budget of the call for grants for **stays carried out between 01/10/2025 and 01/07/2026** is 50,000 euros.

This call will be financed with funds from the UPC.

The call will remain open **until May 10, 2026** or until the budget runs out.

Amount of aid:

These grants will complement the Erasmus+ Doctorate grants. The amount of the UPC Menció Internacional grant awarded in this call will be €1,100/month, financing a minimum of 90 days (grant of €3,300) and a maximum of 180 days (grant of €6,600).

The stays for to the which if request the help no they may have started before from the 1 October 2025 nor end after May 31, 2026.

It is they will be able request aids with character retroactive for to stays already started or already completed, as long as they are within the eligible period, the candidates meet all the requirements of the call, the required documentation is presented and there is budgetary provision.

3. Candidate requirements

- 3.1. Be a citizen of a member state of the European Union or have a residence permit in Spain valid for the period of stay. Therefore, candidates must have a NIF or Foreigner Identification Number (NIE).
- 3.2. Be registered for tutoring and up to date with tuition payments during the 2025/2026 academic year in a UPC doctoral program. Not have submitted the doctoral thesis at the start of the stay.
- 3.3. Students who receive a UPC Menció Internacional grant must maintain their status as a student affiliated with the UPC throughout **the** period of their stay. Consequently, the UPC will not provide grants to students who plan to carry out their stays once they have graduated.
- 3.4. The stay must be authorized by the doctoral thesis director and the coordinator of the corresponding program, as well as accepted by the destination institution and the applicant.
- 3.5. The stay subject to the UPC International Mention grant is a long-term Erasmus+ Doctorate KA131 stay. For this reason, the applicant student must also apply, **before or in parallel**, for the “Erasmus+ Doctorate KA131” grant for the stay, and will process the Erasmus+ Traineeship Agreement (long stays). This document must be signed by the 4 required people (see point 3.4).
- 3.6. The student cannot exceed 12 months of Erasmus+ mobility at the doctoral level. In this calculation, any mobility stays from previous Erasmus programmes or from the Erasmus+ programme itself must be added, regardless of whether or not grants have been received for them.
- 3.7. The following will not be eligible as a destination center:
 - a) European Union institutions and other European Union bodies, including specialized agencies (you will find the exhaustive list on the site:

- b) ec.europa.eu/institutions/index_en.html).
- c) Organizations that manage community programs (to avoid possible conflicts of interest and/or double funding).
- d) National diplomatic representations (embassies and consulates) of the student's country of origin (i.e. the country where the student's home institution is located and the student's country of origin or nationality).
- e) Institutions that do not have the corresponding "OID" identification code, duly validated by their Erasmus+ National Agency.

For any questions or queries, interested parties can contact the UPC International Relations Office at: int.calls-management@upc.edu

4. Formalization of requests

The deadline for to the presentation from requests will end **the May 10 from 2026** at 11:59 p.m.

The request has been from formalize to the **Your Electronics UPC**, to across from the link: https://seuelectronica.upc.edu/ca/tots-els-tramits/Doctorat_Mencio_Internacional

It is necessary attach the next documentation: Long-term "Erasmus+ Doctorate KA131" application receipt

• And also:

- For stays of 3 months or more: the admission letter from the destination institution.
- For stays initially planned as stays of between 2 and 3 months and that are extended to a minimum of 3 months: "Erasmus+ Traineeship Agreement" document with the **"during the stay" section** duly completed and signed by the 4 parties (the student, the thesis director, the director of the doctoral program at the UPC and the supervisor at the host institution; document where the length of time the stay will be extended, the reason and replanning of the planned tasks will be briefly justified, as appropriate.

Once the application has been processed, the electronic office will return a supporting document that must be submitted through the e-Secretaria (in the section: Mobility > mobility stay > documentation).

(Note: In order for the student to upload their receipt to their e-Secretaria, the UTG that manages the Doctorate program must have previously entered the stay in Prisma and the student must be able to view the stay in their e-Secretaria, in the section: "Mobility > mobility stay".)

The call will be resolved as applications arrive (see section 6), as long as there is budget available.

Submitting the application implies acceptance of the rules of this call, especially those set out in points 5 (beneficiary selection process) and 8 (beneficiary obligations) of this call.

The International Relations Office will inform you, by email, of the receipt of the application as well as of any incorrect or missing documentation or information, if applicable.

5. Beneficiary selection process

In the event that the amount of aid corresponding to the applications submitted and that meet all the requirements exceeds the available budget, these applications will be prioritized according to a score calculated as follows:

- a) 1 point for applicants whose research plan has been positively evaluated.
- b) 2 points for applicants who have not previously benefited from this aid.
- c) up to 3 points depending on the applicant's scientific production.

The score for point c) will be awarded by the Permanent Committee of the Doctoral School.

6. Resolution

The applications submitted will be studied and resolved, at the latest, on the dates indicated in the following table:

Window	Requests presented	Date maximum resolution
1st	From the day after publication to December 21 st , 2025	January 31, 2026
2nd	From December 22 nd , 2025 to January 11 th , 2026	February 11, 2026
3rd	from January 12 nd to January 3 st , 2026	February 28, 2026
4th	from February 1 st to March 1 st , 2026	31 from March 2026
5th	from the 2 nd as of March 31 st from 2026 (short stays only)	30 April of 2026
6th	from the 1 st to April 30 th , 2026 (short stays only)	May 31, 2026
7th	from the 1 st May to June 1 st , 2026 (short stays only)	June 30, 2026

The partial resolution will include all requests submitted during the period indicated in the previous table, it is will publish in a relationship from NIF/NIE and the result to the website from the Relations Office International www.upc.edu/sri and the interested person will be notified electronically.

In the event that there is a large volume of requests and it is not possible to resolve them within this period, the International Relations Office will inform you, via email, of this circumstance and the estimated date of resolution that is expected.

All communications are they will do via the email address provided in the student's e-Secretariat. For this reason, applicants will be responsible for keeping this information updated.

Against this provisional partial resolution, applicants may submit allegations in the deadline maximum from 10 days natural counted from the publication of the resolution. The allegations must be presented through the UPC Electronic Office by clicking on the link that it will be published on the provisional resolution. Subsequently, a definitive resolution will be published which will exhaust the administrative channels and against which a contentious administrative appeal may be filed.

The list of grants awarded will be published with indication of first and last names and the 4 digits located in the position from fourth to seventh when the document identifier be one NIF or, in the case of a NIE, those that occupy the fourth to seventh positions, ignoring the alphabetical character.

The list of denied aid will be published with the complete NIF or NIE and the reason for denial.

Those interested in a grant will receive a notification and must expressly accept the grant by responding to an email that will be sent to them.

7. Incompatibilities

Receiving the grants established in this call is incompatible with receiving any other grant or scholarship financed with European funds (Erasmus Mundus, Marie Curie, MINIMUM, Erasmus+ Staff Teaching Assignment (STA), KA203, etc.) to finance the same period of stay.

It is the applicant's responsibility to find out about the possible incompatibility between grants, in case they are receiving another grant or scholarship not included in the previous section.

Failure to comply with the established incompatibilities regime may imply the repayment of the aid, without prejudice to any applicable responsibilities.

The granting of the aid provided for in this call does not exempt UPC staff from the obligation to request leave of absence. of work, if applicable, in accordance with current regulations.

8. Obligations of beneficiaries

Them beneficiaries of the aid is they compromise to:

8.1 Before starting your stay:

8.1.a. Acceptance by email of the UPC International Mention grant (in addition to also processing the Erasmus+ financial agreement for the Erasmus+ Doctorate grant).

8.1.b. Have submitted the SEPA order, electronically signed by the bank account holder, to your e-secretariat. This document is available in the "bank accounts" section of the e-secretariat. This document must be validated, in the e-secretariat, by the academic secretariat corresponding to the student's doctoral program.

8.1.c. Have informed the e-secretariat of the Spanish bank account number into which the student wants the aid to be deposited.

8.1.d. Have submitted to the e-secretariat the Erasmus+ Training Agreement document for their stay, duly completed and signed by all parties. This document must be validated, in the e-secretariat, by the academic secretariat corresponding to the student's doctoral program.

8.1.e. To dispose from Insurance Medical mandatory that cover to the student for to the his/her stay to the country from destination. See:

The beneficiary shall take out the insurance and upload the certificate to their e-secretariat, where the academic office corresponding to the student's doctoral program will validate it. **Important: If the document has not been uploaded and validated by the time the mobility period begins, the grant payment will not be effective.**

Under no circumstances will be valid one certificate to be included to the Security Social Only grants for retroactive stays that can prove that insurance has been arranged for the stay will be accepted.

The private insurance taken out for students has from to have the following mandatory services:

- Healthcare, including diagnostic tests and surgical interventions
- Accident coverage in the destination country
- Repatriation in case of death
- Civil liability

The UPC recommends [Oncampus Estudia insurance](https://oncampus.es/seguros/oncampus-estudia/), which students can take out directly through its website: <https://oncampus.es/seguros/oncampus-estudia/>

8.2 During mobility:

8.2.a. At the start of your stay, hand in to across from the e-secretariat and validated by your UTG, an Erasmus+ incorporation certificate, issued by the receiving institution, stating the start date of the stay. One model of this one certificate is available in the student's e-secretariat.

8.2.b. Respect the regulations of the destination institution, as well as the general legislation of the country of stay and the ethical principles and values indicated in section 11 of this call.

8.3 On the return of mobility:

8.3.a. Submit to the e-secretariat, and validated by your UTG, an Erasmus+ stay certificate issued by the receiving institution, which states the start and end dates of the stay. The certificate model is available in the student e-secretariat. Likewise, the student will record their stay in their DAD.

8.3.b. The student will complete the mandatory Erasmus+ survey, which will be received by email after the stay.

8.3.c. Deliver the definitive Training Agreement (with the "after mobility" part completed). When the provision of documentation generates doubts, the student or the destination institution may be asked for any other document to prove their stay.

The beneficiaries, in any case, also undertake to:

Return the full or proportional amount of the aid granted in the event of total or partial resignation or shortening the period of stay without any force majeure. Amounts unduly collected must also be returned in cases where a calculation error has occurred.

Failure to return these amounts will result in the temporary suspension of academic services.

If the student has not submitted the required documentation within 30 days, once the stay has ended, the grant will be revoked and they will be removed as a participant in the Erasmus+ program.

9. Payments

The payment of the aids to the beneficiary students will be carried out of the next one way:

- one 70% from the amount planned, after submitting the corresponding documentation according to point 8, and has been validated.
- one 30% from the amount to the return from the stay, later from deliver the remainder of documentation, according to point 8, and has been validated.

In case the final duration of the stay accredited in the corresponding certificate is less from the initially indicated in the credential from mobility international, but longer than 90 days, it will discount of the second payment of the grant the part corresponding to the time not worked.

If the final duration of the stay accredited in the corresponding certificate of stay is less than 90 days, the student must return the total amount of the UPC Menció Internacional grant.

These aids it is they find subjects to the legislation fiscal in force.

10. Modifications to mobility dates and destinations

If there is a change in the dates and/or destination where the stay will take place, a motivated letter and a new Erasmus+Learning Agreement/Training Agreement document (as appropriate, according to the duration of the stay) will be required, as well as the rest of the documentation updated and signed by the corresponding persons responsible, in accordance with section 4 of this call. Likewise, the amount of the grant payment will be recalculated ex officio, according to the new dates, and an addendum document to the financial agreement will be processed.

11. Ethics and values

Mobility will be carried out in accordance with the highest ethical values and in compliance with applicable national, international and EU law on ethical principles.

The participant must commit to ensuring respect for the fundamental values of the EU (such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and human rights, including the rights of minorities).

In the event of non-compliance with any of these obligations, under this clause, the amount of the subsidy may be reduced.

12. Information about data protection

Candidates are informed that the International Relations Office of the Polytechnic University of Catalonia will process their personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679.

All the information relative to the protection from data it is can consult to the website from the UPC at the following link:

<https://rat.upc.edu/ca/registre-de-tractaments-de-dades-personals/F01.6>

This information is also available in the Erasmus+ financial agreement.

13. Final disposition

Mobility stays will be incorporated into the student's file.

If the stay results in publications, results, etc., when mentioning the stay, it must be indicated that it was carried out with the UPC International Mention grant.

Signed in Barcelona,

Francisco Torres Torres
Rector