

REGIONAL MINISTRY OF HEALTH, JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA
& NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, USA

In the framework of a collaboration agreement for training highly professional research scientists signed December 2007, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) of the United States of America and the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health (CSJA) implement the **CSJA-NIH Research Career Transition and Reintegration Program**.

The CSJA-NIH Program is managed by [Fundacion Progreso y Salud](#), the central structure of biomedical research management of the Andalusian Public Health System.

The main objective of the Program is to integrate highly motivated Postdoctoral Scientists in the field of health sciences into research and healthcare centres of the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health.

These guidelines provide information about how to apply to:

- **Training and Reintegration Modality:** researchers with less than five years of postdoctoral experience, who wish to improve their training in the NIH (2-3 years) in one of the priority lines of the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health, and later to develop their experience in research within centres linked to the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health (a minimum of 3 years).
- **Reintegration from NIH Modality:** aimed towards trainees in the NIH who wish to become involved in one of the priority research lines developed in the Andalusian Public Health System. Reintegration process will depend on the characteristics of positions in the hosting centres.

Research priority lines of the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health

Advanced medicines

- Clinical Genetic and Genomic Medicine
- Cell Therapy and Regenerative Medicine
- Nanomedicine

Priority pathologies

- Neurodegenerative Diseases
- Cardiovascular Diseases
- Diabetes
- Rare Diseases
- Cancer
- Obesity
- Other pathologies



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Submission: Proposals to the Career Transition and Reintegration Program must be submitted in English and in accordance with the present guidelines, using the online submission system of Fundacion Progreso y Salud. Application procedure and files are available at <http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/fundacionprogresoysalud/nih/EN/index.php>.

Publication of Applicant and Project Data: The data required for the processing of the proposal are stored and processed electronically by the Fundación Progreso y Salud, the central structure of biomedical research management of the Andalusian Public Health System. If your project proposal is granted, information from the project (name, institution, and location of the applicant) could be published in the Fundacion Progreso y Salud annual report.

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Applying to Training and Reintegration Program

Training at NIH (Phase I): Postdoctoral training at the NIH

Duration: 2 - 3 years

Reintegration (Phase II): Reintegration into a research or healthcare centre of the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health

Duration: a minimum of 3 years

To participate in the Transition and Reintegration modality you must take the following steps:

PHASE I: TRAINING

Step 1. Verify that you comply with the participation requirements for Training and Reintegration Modality:

- Have a doctoral degree or equivalent in health sciences
- Have less than 5 years of relevant postdoctoral research experience at the start of the fellowship period
- Carry out or wish to carry out research in one of the [priority areas of the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health](#)
- Develop an active research career (publications and scientific achievements)
- Clearly explain the impact that the stay in the NIH will have in their research career
- Have fluent command of English

Besides, fulfilling one the following conditions will be **highly valued**:

- To be born in Andalusia
- To hold a Andalusian residential status of at least one year prior to the arrival to the NIH
- To be a Spanish national resident abroad, with the last Spanish residence in Andalusia
- To have graduate studies for at least one year in Andalusia
- To work in a company with registered address in Andalusia during the year prior to the application

Step 2. Prepare and submit your application

When: Applications will be accepted on a permanent basis. There is no deadline, although it is recommended to apply **from 3 to up 6 months before the starting date of the grant.**

How: **First**, Fill out the forms for the modality that suits you better (forms can be downloaded from [Documents' section](#)) and, **second**, access to Fundacion Progreso y Salud's [electronic proposal submission system](#).

Afterwards, click on “Inscripción en la oferta” link, **fill out the requested fields** and **upload your Application form and CV as a zip or rar file in the “Curriculum Vitae” section.**

If you have already detected a suitable postdoctoral opening ([See NIH Openings](#)), you should include the reference in your application form. Notwithstanding, if there isn't any post-doc opening that suits you, Fundacion Progreso y Salud will keep you inform about post-doc openings matching with your profile.

+ info Visit [Apply section](#)

Step 3. Fundacion Progreso y Salud sends you the evaluation result

Applications that fulfil the Programme requirements are evaluated by a Panel of Experts. Afterwards, Fundacion Progreso y Salud will inform you about the result of the evaluation, and will give you information on relevant contact details and steps to follow.

Step 4. Selected candidates should contact a NIH principal investigator (mentor) offering a fellowship to access to the [NIH Visiting Program](#)

Once you have detected a suitable postdoctoral opening (see Annex I) you should inform Fundacion Progreso y Salud. The personnel of the Fundacion will contact and inform the senior researcher offering the fellowship about your interest in carrying out your training in his/her laboratory. Afterwards you may contact the senior researcher and submit your application online through the [NIH postdoctoral openings website](#) or as agreed with the NIH principal investigator.

Step 5. Inform Fundacion Progreso y Salud about the acceptance of the NIH

The principal investigator who posted the opening decides to whom he or she will offer his/her postdoctoral position. If your application is selected, the principal investigator will contact you (e-mail or phone call) no later than 90 days after sending your application.

Successful candidates will be notified of selection for a fellowship award and the date it begins in a letter from the Director of the [Division of International Services, NIH](#). Until this official notice is received, a candidate should make no plans to go to the NIH.

Once you obtain the acceptance of NIH for the Training phase, you should inform Fundacion Progreso y Salud, sending by e-mail (desarrollo.movilidad.fps@juntadeandalucia.es) the proposal submitted and the official acceptance of the NIH. Fundacion Progreso y Salud will confirm your participation in the Program in writing.

Step 6. Carry out your training in the NIH

You will carry out your training in the NIH (2-3 years) as a [NIH Visiting Fellow](#).

Step 7. Submit the reports for evaluation of your training at NIH

Three months prior to the finalisation of your training stay in the NIH and to access reintegration phase, you should submit two types of documents to Fundacion Progreso y Salud: a final report summarising your stay at NIH and a project proposal to develop during the Reintegration phase.

Step 8. Fundacion Progreso y Salud will send you the evaluation results

A Panel of Experts will evaluate your reports and Fundacion Progreso y Salud will notify you the evaluation results. Successful candidates will be also informed about the next steps leading to your incorporation in a healthcare and/or a research center linked to the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health.

PHASE II: REINTEGRATION

Step 9. Carry out your research in the host centre.

During the reintegration phase (a minimum of 3 years) you will carry out your research in a research or a healthcare centre belonging to the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health.

Based on the candidate research independence and evidence of his/her scientific maturity, the reintegration will be as a starting independent researcher or as collaborator research within a consolidated research group.

Step 10. Submit the reports needed for evaluation of Reintegration phase.

For Reintegration Phase periodic evaluation, you should submit annual reports. Besides the last year a final report should be submitted including the research activity undertaken and its results.

After a successful Reintegration phase (Phase II), the researcher could apply for a permanent research position in a centre linked to the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health.

Applying to Reintegration from NIH

Re-integration from NIH into a research or healthcare center of the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health

Duration: a minimum of 3 years

In order to participate in the Reintegration from NIH modality of the Program you must take the following steps:

Step 1. Verify that you comply with the participation requirements for Reintegration Modality

- Have a doctoral degree or equivalent in health sciences
- Have less than 8 years of relevant postdoctoral research experience
- Carry out research in one of the [priority areas of the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health](#)
- Develop an active research career (publications and scientific achievements).

Besides, fulfilling one the following conditions will be **highly valued**:

- To be born in Andalusia
- To hold a Andalusian residential status of at least one year prior to the arrival to the NIH
- To be a Spanish national resident abroad, with the last Spanish residence in Andalusia
- To have graduate studies for at least one year in Andalusia
- To work in a company with registered address in Andalusia during the year prior to the application.

Step 2. Prepare and submit your application

When: Applications will be accepted on a permanent basis. There is no deadline, although it is recommended to apply **from 3 to up 6 months before the starting date of the grant.**

How: **First**, Fill out the forms for the modality that suits you better (forms can be downloaded from [Documents' section](#)) and, **second**, access to Fundacion Progreso y Salud's [electronic proposal submission system](#).

Afterwards, click on “Inscripción en la oferta” link, **fill out the requested fields** and **upload your Application form and CV as a zip or rar file in the “Curriculum Vitae” section.**

Step 3. Fundacion Progreso y Salud sends you the evaluation result

Applications are evaluated by a Panel of Expert that select those proposals fulfilling the participation requirements and of greatest scientific quality and impact. Afterwards, Fundacion Progreso y Salud will inform you about the result of the evaluation, and will give you information on relevant contact details and steps to follow.

Step 4. Carry out your research in the host centre.

During the reintegration phase (a minimum of 3 years) you will carry out your research in a research or a healthcare centre belonging to the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health.

Based on the candidate research independence and evidence of his/her scientific maturity, the reintegration will be as a starting independent researcher or as collaborator research within a consolidated research group.

Step 10. Submit the reports needed for evaluation of Reintegration.

For Reintegration periodic evaluation, you should submit annual reports. Besides the last year a final report should be submitted including the research activity undertaken and its results.

After a successful Reintegration phase (Phase II), the researcher could apply for a permanent research position in a centre linked to the Andalusian Regional Ministry of Health.

Annex I

How can I find out about NIH senior researchers in areas that interest me and current post-doctoral openings?

To know the current postdoctoral openings in your field please visit See [NIH Openings' section](#) of this website

Besides, two good sources of information on the NIH intramural research program are:

- [NIH Intramural Database](#) The latter contains all of the NIH Institute and Center Annual Reports, which can be searched for topics that interest you. You may wish to contact investigators directly to inquire about potential postdoctoral positions.
- [NIH Intramural Research Sourcebook](#)

How can I contact the NIH senior researcher?

Once you have detected a suitable postdoctoral opening you should inform Fundacion Progreso y Salud. We will contact and inform the senior researcher offering the fellowship about your interest in carrying out your training in his/her laboratory. Afterwards you may contact the senior researcher and submit your application online through the [NIH postdoctoral openings website](#) or as agreed with the NIH principal investigator

The application will be enclosed with: personal information and level of education provided by a Curriculum Vitae, an introduction letter and the private data of three referees. When your application is complete, you will receive a confirmation e-mail with instructions about how to access the application to update it or to check on letters of recommendation. The application you will see is the application that is available to principal investigators at the NIH, except that you will not be able to read your letters of recommendation.) Note that it is your responsibility to make certain that all letters of recommendation have been received.

When you submit your application in response to one of the positions listed on the [Current NIH Postdoctoral Openings](#) page, the investigator who posted the position is notified automatically by e-mail. The investigator can then review your application on-line. As in most academic situations, the investigator decides to whom he or she will offer his/her postdoctoral position, no later than 90 days.



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Submission deadline

There is no deadline. Applications are accepted year round, although it is recommended to apply from three to up six months before the starting date of the grant.

Visa Requirements

Visiting Fellows are assisted in obtaining a J-Visa. This is the only option open, since Visiting Fellows are officially trainees and not employees. A J-Visa does not qualify the Fellow to apply for permanent residency. For additional information for international scholars visit <http://felcom.nih.gov/Infobank/foreign.html> and/or the Division of International Services web site at <http://www.nih.gov/od/ors/dirs/isb/aboutisb.htm>.