

INNOPAU BASES – 2nd edition

The INNOPAU program (hereinafter, the “program”) is an initiative lead by the Innovation and Transfer Unit (UTI) (hereinafter, the “organizing team”) from the Institut de Recerca Sant Pau (IR Sant Pau) with the financial support of Fundació Privada Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau.

The program emerges from the need to promote an innovative culture within the IR Sant Pau research groups. Therefore, the aim of this initiative is to promote and consolidate innovative projects in early phases of development, with a strong focus on their applicability in the Spanish National Health System (Sistema Nacional de Salud, SNS), accomplishing the key milestones of the development process in order to consolidate/maximise their value proposition.

1. Object and purpose of the document

The purpose of this document is to explain the INNOPAU program, which aims to enhance the support provided by the UTI to all institutions that are part of the IR Sant Pau in order to stimulate innovation among IR professionals. In addition, in this document you will find the project’s prioritization bases of the program and its structure.

Applying to the program implies acceptance of the INNOPAU Program Bases.

2. Participants requirements

Participation in this program is open to persons of legal age who meet the following requirements:

- Health and research professionals affiliated to any research group from the IR Sant Pau institutions (hereinafter, Project Owner), such as: Fundació de Gestió Sanitària Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau (FGS), Institut de Recerca Sant Pau (IR Sant Pau), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), Fundació Puigvert (FP), Banc de sang i teixits (BST), Centre Cochrane Iberoamericà (CCA), Equip d’atenció primària Sardenya (EAP Sardenya) and Agència de Salut Pública de Barcelona (ASPB). Also, research staff from associated centres (also, hereinafter, Project Owner) defined in the ITEMAS Platform¹.
- To have an authorization letter from the leader of the research group or health unit, as appropriate. This letter will not be needed if the leader is a member of the participating team. See Annex 3.
- Team formed by a minimum of three persons with the availability of commitment equal to one person at 100%.
- All team members must have an active employment contract with any institution mentioned before, for the program duration.
- The Project Owners must have at least 55% ownership of the project.

¹ ITEMAS is a platform for the dynamization and innovation of the industrial capacities of the National Health System in Spain. IR Sant Pau is one of the nodes of this platform, and gives support to other national institutions, which are known as associated centres, to promote innovation and good practices.

3. Project requirements

Projects will be required to meet the following criteria:

- Low maturity level: "Technology Readiness Level 1-3" (from idea conception to first proof of concept) in any technological field.
- Have an identified clinical need.
- Have a clear social impact.
- Projects from previous editions will not be considered.
- Be included in one of the following areas:

Advanced therapies

Genomic medicine and rare diseases

Biomarkers, prognostic and diagnostic

New technologies for a better health care

Women's Health and gender

4. INNOPAU program format and activities

The selected projects will participate in the second edition of this program, which will be developed mainly following a virtual format to facilitate participation, except for some specific sessions that will be held in person. The aim of the program is to validate each participant project from both a scientific and market access points of view so that they will be ready to be submitted to a competitive call application at the end of the program.

The total duration of the INNOPAU program will be 7 months, starting on **November 2024** and ending on **June 2025**. Following the methodology validated at IR Sant Pau, the program is divided into 4 different modules:

1. **Definition of the clinical need**
2. **Identification of project resources**
3. **Intellectual protection and market strategy**
4. **Obtention of public and private funding**

Each of these modules contain the following structure:

- Presentation of the modules (group work): 1h session where the UTI will explain the objectives of the module, deliverables and materials to be used.
- Mentoring (individual): Two sessions (1h) for each team with a mentor to solve doubts and provide support for the achievement of the objectives of each module.
 - Mentoring from the industry (individual - to be determined): 1h session to be held during 3rd module. This mentor will be chosen according to the nature of the project. This activity will be consolidated once the projects are selected in October.
- Seminars with experts (group work): 1h sessions led by external professionals addressing the topic of each module.

- **Trainings (group work):** 2-4h online or on-site (Barcelona Health Hub) training sessions during which the most relevant concepts of each module will be explained. All training sessions will be conducted by external experts on the field.
- **Module closure (group work):** 1,5h session where each team will showcase the achievements of the project during the module.

The program timeline can be found in **Annex 1**.

The program will conclude with the **Innovation Day**, an on-site event where all participant teams will showcase their projects to an audience gathering key players from the innovation ecosystem. An external evaluation board will evaluate the projects and select different winners of the INNOPAU grant.

The grants to be awarded will be the following:

1st position: access to the UTI's portfolio² for continued mentoring and support during 2025, and an economic grant (50.000€) to be used for the project's development. This grant will be funded by Fundació Privada Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau.

2nd position: access to the UTI's portfolio for continued mentoring and support during 2025, and an economic grant (15.000€) to be used for the project's development. This grant will be funded by Fundació Privada Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau.

Mention "Disruptive project": A market study from a consulting firm valued in 8.000.-€ funded by the ITEMAS Platform from Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII), Competitive Project PT23/00030³. This project has been granted to IR Sant Pau's UTI during the 2024-26 period. **There will be two different categories:**

- **Pharma/biotech**
- **Medical device**

5. Benefits for the selected projects of the program

The benefits that will be obtained by all the projects participating in the program will be the following:

- a. Project consolidation to increase the chances of obtaining public and private funding.
- b. Generation of a roadmap for the project's development.
- c. Identification and gathering of strategic documentation.
- d. Training in innovation and on how to conceive the projects to reach society (transfer).
- e. Access to the UTI ecosystem (developers, stakeholders, investors, etc.).
- f. Visualization of the project to the key players for its success
- g. Access to 1&1 meetings.
- h. Eligibility for the **INNOPAU grants (see different positions)**

² UTI's portfolio is the set of projects that the UTI supports and that have passed the prioritisation requirements.

³ PT23/00030: Plataforma ISCIII de apoyo a la I+D+i en biomedicina y ciencias de la salud.

6. Commitment of participants

To maximize the benefits of the program, it is mandatory the presence of at least one participant per team during the activities and sessions.

If insufficient attendance or lack of involvement is detected in any group, affecting the evolution of the project and the rest of the team, the organizing team reserves the right to take all necessary measures to restore the situation, including the exclusion of participants from the program.

The Project Leader will be required to be present at least a 33,3% of the modules throughout the program.

7. Deadline for submitting the application

The **application form** must be submitted through an email to innopau@santpau.cat. An example of the template is attached as Annex 2.

The deadline for the submission is **September 27th, 2024**. The communication of the selected projects will be made by **October 25th, 2024**.

8. Selection and evaluation of the projects

8.1 Selection criteria for the program

The projects submitted will be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee that will select a total of 8 projects that will enter the program. This Evaluation Committee will be composed of IR Sant Pau staff and external consultants specialized in innovation.

In the case of projects from associated centres, a maximum of one application per associated centre will be prioritised according to the score obtained.

The following aspects will be evaluated:

Innovation and transfer potential (40%)

The degree of innovation is evaluated considering: originality, opportunity, type of innovation (disruptive or incremental), intellectual property potential, uniqueness and market potential.

Impact on society (25%)

Medical need and its magnitude will be assessed. Also, the need for market solutions: *Is there a current solution? What is currently in use?*

Appropriate timeline for implementation and viability (25%)

Description of the objectives and activities to be performed for the development of the project and their adequate representation in time.

Team (10%)

The following aspects will be assessed: Multidisciplinary nature of the team, experience in the field of the project, leadership capacity and commitment will be valued.

8.2 Selection criteria for the INNOPAU grants

Only projects that have completed successfully all the program modules will be eligible for the INNOPAU grants.

The eligible material submitted by the participant teams will be evaluated by experts (external evaluation board) based on the criteria established by the organizing team. The final evaluation will be divided into two phases: 1) evaluation based on material presented at the end of module 4 and 2) pitch presented during the event "Innovation Day". With the results of the first phase a first ranking of finalists will be obtained. These ranking will be complemented with the pitch evaluation (second phase). The different winners will be made official during the same event.

9. Confidentiality

The confidentiality of the applications presented is guaranteed throughout the entire process. In any case, the following information of the applications may be disseminated: the name of accepted Projects (and logo, if applicable), a brief description, the Beneficiary Institution and its logo, the name of the Project Leader and their photo may be published through, without limitation, press releases, emails, brochures, and websites to communicate information about the Program.

“Confidential Information” means any information (including any and all combinations of individual items of information) that relates to IR Sant Pau data, trade secrets, or know-how, including, but not limited to, research, product plans, or other information regarding software, developments, inventions, discoveries, ideas, processes, formulas, technology, designs, drawings, engineering, hardware configuration information, marketing, finances, and other business information disclosed by IR Sant Pau, either directly or indirectly, in writing, orally or by drawings or inspection of premises, parts, equipment, or other property of IR Sant Pau.

The obligations and commitments set out in this section shall extend to all information to which the parties have had access as a result of their participation in the activities and events carried out within the framework of the Programme, including, but not limited to, the activities and events offered under the Support Programme (Training Programme, Mentoring Programme and Expert Advice Programme).

Unless prior authorisation in writing is received from the party that provides the information, the Beneficiary Institution, and its participant team, as well as any other persons attending the activities, shall undertake to:

- keep the Confidential Information strictly confidential and not to disclose it to any Third Parties
- not use the Confidential Information for any purpose other than the development of the Project
- restrict access to the Confidential Information exclusively to those employees, collaborators, and/or professional advisers that, under the obligation of confidentiality, need to access the Confidential Information strictly for the development of the Project
- return the Confidential Information without keeping any copies or summaries when the Programme is terminated.

The confidentiality obligations described in the section above shall not be applied to the Confidential Information if:

- the information is in the public domain before or at the moment at which it is received or obtained, and it is in the public domain by no fault or negligence of the receiving party
- the information is obtained without being subject to any confidentiality obligation
- the disclosure of the information is required by law or judicial order, in which case said disclosure request must be previously notified, in advance, to the other party, so that the latter can implement the actions it considers necessary to prevent or limit the disclosure.

10. Protection of personal data

With regards to identifying and/or professional information of individuals linked to the Projects (including team members), the applicants consent on their inclusion in the applications submitted to this call. Any and all personal data collected within the framework of this Call (including data submitted in the applications) will be processed for the purpose of managing the participation of the applicants in it, the basis of such processing being the performance of the resulting relationship, and such data will be stored until the end of the applicable statutory limitation periods. The data will be kept in the strictest confidentiality, in accordance with the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of April 27, 2016, on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46 / EC, as well as in compliance with current legislation on data protection.

11. Intellectual protection and economical return derived from the projects

11.1. Projects where IR Sant Pau has ownership

The intellectual protection rights derived from the projects included in the INNOPAU program will correspond to the inventors' employer institution. In case of asset exploitation, the internal policies will be followed as usual.

11.2. Projects where IR Sant Pau has no ownership

The intellectual protection rights derived from the projects included in the INNOPAU program will correspond to the inventors' employer institution.

In the event that the Project Owner exploits/transfer the Project Results directly and/or through a third party, natural or legal person, IR Sant Pau will be entitled to receive a total of €25,000. This amount of money is the actual value of this program per team. The way in which IR Sant Pau will participate in the economical return will be as subsequently agreed between the parties.