MOTyVES (Tomás y Valiente) 2026

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Madrid Institute for Advanced Study (MIAS)
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM)
Casa de Velázquez (CVZ)

Co-funded by the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union.

DISCLAIMER

This guide FAQ is provided for information purposes only and is not intended to replace consultation of the call.

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1. Application

Can I submit more than one application?
→ No. Only one application may be submitted per applicant.

Can I use any template to create my CV and portfolio?
→ No, you must use the templates included in the annexes to the call for applications

Do I need an English language proficiency certificate to apply for this call for applications?
→ No, but all documents must be fulfilled in English

2. Elegibility criteria

Must I hold a PhD at the time of application?
→ Yes. Applicants must hold a doctoral degree by the application deadline and comply with all eligibility requirements established in the Call.

I would like to know what counts for the PhD requirement deadline, whether it is the viva defence of the PhD or the formal certificate awarded
→ To calculate the length of time since obtaining a PhD, the decisive moment is the viva voce defence (If you are using the viva defence date to calculate the deadline, you must provide proof of this).

What is the eligible postdoctoral experience window?
→ Applicants must have obtained their PhD between 3 and 10 years before 31 December 2026, calculated from the date of the doctoral thesis defence. Eligible extensions may be granted under the conditions established in the Call.

Can I apply for the call if I read the thesis a month ago?
→ No, if you read defended your PhD one month ago you are no eligible.

Are career breaks taken into account?
→ Yes. Extensions may be granted for maternity or paternity leave, long-term illness, military service or caring responsibilities, subject to the provisions of the Call.

Can Spanish nationals apply?
→ Yes. Nationality is not an eligibility criterion.

Can researchers currently working in Spain apply?
→ Yes, provided they comply with the mobility rule and all other conditions.

What is the mobility rule?
→ The mobility rule means that you must not have resided in or carried out your main activity (work, studies, etc.) in Spain for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately preceding the call for applications.

Would a research stay outside Spain for twelve months be sufficient for the mobility rule?
→ No, you need to have spent at least twenty-four months outside Spain.

What is considered a main activity?
→ Employment, studies, research or other principal professional activities.

Are holidays counted?
→ Short holiday stays are normally not taken into account.

What if my mobility situation is complex?
→ Applicants should provide a detailed explanation and supporting evidence. Each case is assessed individually.

Is previous research experience outside UAM required?
→ Yes. Applicants must demonstrate at least one year of high-quality research experience at an institution other than UAM during the three years preceding the application.

Is a research contract required to demonstrate compliance with the requirement to have conducted high-quality research at an institution other than the UAM during the three years prior to applying for the call?
→ No, you can provide other certificates or documents than can prove that.

Can I prove that I have conducted at least one year of high-quality research at another institution, different to UAM, by providing links to different institutions that add up to one year of high-quality research?
→ Yes, you can.

Which previous programmes make me ineligible?
→ Applicants who previously held the programmes listed in the Call are not eligible: Tomás y Valiente, Ramón y Cajal, CAM (Comunidad de Madrid) talent attraction (modality 1); ATRAE or César Nombela).Evaluation & selection.

3. Evaluation

How are applications evaluated?
→ Applications undergo an eligibility check, an external scientific evaluation and an interview stage.

What score is required to be invited to interview?
→ Applicants must obtain at least 80 out of 100 points in Phase 1. Reaching the threshold does not automatically guarantee selection.

What is the significance of the mark I achieved in the first stage?
→ It counts towards selection for the second stage, but once candidates have progressed, they start from scratch. It is then up to the steering committee to decide who is selected, with each candidate who has progressed being awarded a mark from zero to ten.

Will applicants receive evaluation results?
→ Yes, applicants will be informed of the outcome of the evaluation process.

Could the interview be conducted in Spanish, French, or English?
→ The personal interview will be conducted in Spanish or English (the candidate can choose the language).

Do I need to be in Madrid for the personal interview?
→ No, you can do it online (videoconference).

4. Employment, Relocation and Visas

When are fellowships expected to begin?
→ The expected start date is 1 September 2027.

Can the start date be deferred?
→ In exceptional and justified circumstances, a deferral may be considered.

Do fellows have to apply for projects during their fellowship?
→ Yes. Fellows are expected to submit competitive funding proposals in line with programme milestones.

Will MOTyVES provide support for visa and residence procedures?
→ Guidance and supporting documentation will be provided, although immigration compliance remains the responsibility of the researcher.

Is accommodation available through the programme?
→ Accommodation at the Casa de Velázquez may be available during the first academic year, subject to availability and payment of a monthly fee of €500.

Will I be able to secure a teaching post at the Autonomous University after completing the five-year programme?
→ Once you have completed the programme and obtained the ANECA certificate, as well as meeting all the other programme requirements, the Autonomous University of Madrid will create a position within your department and under the contractual status for which ANECA has accredited you. You will then need to apply for the position, as vacancies in Spain are filled through public competitions.

ANECA is an independent body responsible for authorising various teaching roles. Over the course of the five-year programme, we will guide you to ensure you understand ANECA's requirements.

5. Further questions

Where can I write if I have any administrative questions during the call?

→ You can write to programa.propio.inv@uam.es
→ For any other inquiries: MIAS mias@madrid-ias.eu

About the Madrid Institute for Advanced Study (MIAS)

The Madrid Institute for Advanced Study (MIAS) is the first Institute for Advanced Study in the Iberian Peninsula and the Hispanic-American world. Jointly founded by the Casa de Velázquez and the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM) within the UAM-CEI International Campus of Excellence, it is a member of NetIAS and UBIAS, the European and global networks of institutes for advanced study.

The MIAS promotes research excellence and internationalization by hosting around thirty fellows, mainly in the humanities, social sciences and law, for stays of three months to five years. Freed from teaching and administrative duties, fellows pursue innovative projects in an environment that encourages dialogue across disciplines and cultures, linking the Iberian world to global perspectives.