

IBEC Doctoral Certificate of Excellence and the Doctoral Award for predoctoral researchers

One of IBEC's main aims is to attract, prepare and maintain a talented workforce that undertakes scientific research – at the highest international level in creative ways and through interdisciplinary approaches – that helps to improve health and quality of life and to generate wealth.

In order to increase and recognize the excellence of the training programme developed for IBEC's PhD fellows, we issue a Doctoral Certificate, funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation through the Centro de Excelencia Severo Ochoa Award, to those fellows that meet the quality requirements of the institute.

Requirements:

1. **Three months of an international research placement.** The visit may be to a university, a hospital, a company or a research centre. Visits of at least 2 weeks can be accumulated in order to reach the 3-months period.

For stays within Spain, IBEC direction will assess whether they can be considered for the award.

2. **One indexed peer reviewed international publication of the first quartile, as first author¹, or alternatively, 1 contribution to a patent as inventor.**
3. **Two oral participations at an international meeting as presenting author.** One of the oral participation can be a flash presentation at IBEC Symposium.
4. **Attendance to the following courses organized by IBEC** (or proof of attendance to similar courses) on:
 - One course on writing skills (or alternatively 2 peer-reviewed international publications as first author, including the mandatory 2 publications from point 2.)
 - Presentation skills (or alternatively 3 oral participations at an international meeting as presenting author, including the mandatory presentation from point 3.)
 - Good practices in a multi-disciplinary laboratory (mandatory for 1st year predoctoral researchers working in wet labs; optional for those in computational research groups)
 - One course on technology Transfer and/or IP rights
 - One course on research integrity
 - One additional optional course

¹ With IBEC affiliation

Participant's attendance to IBEC courses can be downloaded in the Ibecnet /training.

5. Participation in **outreach** activities (fairs, blog, work with high school students, outreach seminars ...) (minimum 10 hours)
6. **Attendance to Scientific Seminars: A minimum of 20 seminars** (when the PhD fellow is seconded to another institution for more than 3 months, the minimum number will be reduced proportionally to the time that the fellow is physically at IBEC). IBEC is keeping record of attendance (online or in person).

In case a seminar is not carried out at IBEC, a proof of attendance (signed by the organizer) must be provided.

7. **Attendance to IBEC PhD Discussions: A minimum of 15 IBEC PhD Discussions** (when the PhD fellow is seconded to another institution for more than 3 months, the minimum number will be reduced proportionally to the time that the fellow is physically at IBEC).

If the candidate has been chairman of the PhD discussions or member of IBEC PhD Committee, the minimum number will be reduced to 12. If both circumstances apply, the minimum number will be reduced to 10.
IBEC is keeping record of attendance (online or in person).

8. **Lecture in a PhD Discussion.**

9. The PhD thesis must be submitted within 4 years of admission to the doctoral programme. If the PhD thesis is submitted in less than 4 years after admission to the doctoral programme, the required number of attendance to IBEC seminars and PhD discussions will be proportionally reduced.

Due to the exceptional circumstances during Covid-19 pandemia following requirements will be revised case by case: 1, 4.c), 5 and 9.

Exceptionally, requirements could be replaced by outstanding scientific achievements (e.g. awards, paper in Nature/Science as first author, patent licensed, spin off created...) upon decision of IBEC direction.

The Certificate of Excellence

All PhD fellows meeting the requirements will receive a certificate in the IBEC Symposium and a prize of 150€ to cover expenses related to the defense of their PhD thesis.

Procedure

Once the PhD fellow has defended his/her PhD thesis, he/she will submit the application form to hr@ibecbarcelona.eu together with the following documents in PDF format:

- Certificate of the defense of the thesis
- Certificate showing the date of admission at the Doctoral programme
- Certificates of oral participation at international meetings as presenting authors (programme, diploma...)
- Certificates of attendance to the training courses
- Certificates of participation in outreach activities
- Certificates of the mobility stays

In order to take into account publications that might be under review or in preparation at the time of the defense of the PhD thesis, the application form may be submitted until one year after the defense of the PhD thesis. Notwithstanding, the rest of the merits (courses, seminars, training, etc.) are related to the PhD period.

If the candidate meets all the requirements, they will automatically receive the prize of 150€. The certificate will be issued at the following IBEC Symposium.

If the candidate is not able to attend the symposium, he/she will receive the certificate by mail.

Transitory phase:

Those PhD students currently at IBEC will also be able to apply to the certificate. In that case, the minimum number of attendance to IBEC seminars and PhD discussions as well as the participation in outreach activities will be proportionally reduced to the time from March 2017 to the date of submission of the thesis. The course on Good practice at the Laboratory and the course on Research Integrity will not be mandatory. The rest of requirements remain the same.

The minimum number of attendance to IBEC seminars and PhD discussions will be proportionally reduced according to the time when we started recording attendance (June 2017).

DOCTORAL AWARD

Additionally, all candidates that received a Doctoral Certificate of Excellence will be eligible for a Doctoral Award. The awardees will receive a prize of 500€ in an award ceremony at the IBEC Symposium upon the following criteria (in decreasing order of importance: first we will look at criterium 1, and if there is a tie, we will look at criterium 2, etc.)

1. Number of publications as first author in first decile journals
2. Number of publications as first author in first quartile journals
3. Number of publications in first decile journals
4. Number of publications in first quartile journals

To be eligible for the Doctoral Award, more than 4 candidates who meet the requirements must have submitted to the call.

If one year due to a lack of participants entering the competition, the Award is not awarded, those candidates presented in previous calls will be automatically reserved for subsequent years until the minimum of 5 candidates is met.

The awards that will be awarded will follow the following proportion of candidatures presented:

- From 5 to 9 candidates: 2 awards
- As of 10 candidates: 3 awards

For questions or doubts don't hesitate to contact our HR Unit.