

Bicocca Starting Grants Call– 2020 Edition

1. Introduction

The University of Milano-Bicocca opens the Bicocca Starting Grants Call for proposals to type A or B Research Fellowship “Assegnisti di Ricerca” holders who meet the requirements of point 2. The Award aims to foster the career path of young researchers, to support interdisciplinary and intersectoral research, and to promote collaboration between the University departments. The Bicocca Starting Grants is a call open to all scientific / cultural areas in which the University is active.

2. Requirements for participation and implementation

- a) Applications may be submitted by holders of a Research Fellowship working at the University of Milano-Bicocca, who by 31 December 2020, must have obtained the PhD or a specialization diploma at least 24 months earlier and no longer than 60 months earlier (in case of two qualifications the term the most favourable to the candidate applies). In case the candidate benefitted from maternity or paternity leave or for the other grounds established by the current legislation, the leave months enjoyed on those grounds are added up to the minimum and maximum months indicated above.
- b) Each project must include a team of applicants exclusively made of Research Fellows and a minimum of two Research Fellows belonging to at least two distinct departments. The team is coordinated by one of the fellows who takes on the role of Principal Investigator. The requirement referred to in letter a) of this point must be met by all team members.
- c) The Research Fellows must work at the University in order to benefit from the grant. In case of loss of this requirement, the project may continue until at least one of the applicants is awarded a Research Fellowship.
- d) Each Research Fellow must be authorized by his/her Scientific Supervisor.

3. Endowment and project features

- a) A maximum of 8 grants are available, each for a maximum of € 60,000.
- b) Projects must be interdisciplinary.
- c) The grants can be used to support research activities (participation to schools, conferences, short stays, international events, as long as these are strictly related to the research activities; purchase of supplies or consumables; costs related to staff recruitment excluding the remuneration of applicants).
- d) The projects must have a duration of 12 months and will be managed by the Service Centres to which the Research Fellows belong.
- e) The start date for the activities is 01.01.2021.
- f) The end date for the activities is 31.12.2021. No extension is allowed.

4. Selection criteria and procedures - ex post evaluation

- a) Criteria for assessment
 - i. Scientific quality of the project proposal: 30 points.
 - ii. Quality of the proposing team: 30 points.
 - iii. Social, economic, and industrial impact of the proposal: 30 points.

- iv. Budget and sustainability of the activities also in consideration of additional sources of funding: 10 points.

Regarding point ii.), the Research Fellows will be assessed based on the three best products specified by each candidate and included in the IRIS database (scientific publications, patents, communications at congress, monographs, etc.).

- a) Approval of the ranking list

Proposals having obtained a minimum of 60 points are eligible for funding. The assessment will be carried out by a multidisciplinary Committee appointed by the Rector, which will draft a proposal for granting the awards based on the criteria set out above. The proposal for granting the awards is approved by the Rector by Decree. The members of the Committee must sign a declaration stating there is no conflict of interest between them and the candidates.

- b) Ex post evaluation and renewal

At the end of the activities the proposing team will have to present a scientific report on the activities carried out and a financial report on the costs incurred. The scientific and financial reports will be subject to an ex post evaluation by a Committee appointed by the Rector. During the ex post evaluation, without prejudice to the requirements set out in points 2.a and 2.c above, the Committee may propose to the Rector to fund a further year of activity for a maximum of 4 projects, based on the scientific relevance of the activities carried out (50%) and the ability of the proposing team to submit new applications for funding to third parties to carry out the research activity (50%).

4. Submission of applications

- a) The Research Fellows eligible to apply to the call for proposals may apply through the online form made available by the Area of Research on the UNIMIB website by **15 October 2020**.
- b) The application for funding must be drafted according to the forms available on the following webpage: <https://www.unimib.it/ricerca/finanziamenti-alla-ricerca/finanziamenti-ateneo>
- c) The submission of incomplete or non-compliant documentation will result in the automatic exclusion from the procedure.

5. Officer in charge of the procedure and Controls

The Officer in charge of the Procedure is Dr. Michele Nicolosi, Head of the Area of Research. The Central Audit Unit may carry out random checks on the use of the funding granted.

THE RECTOR

Giovanna Iannantuoni
(digitally signed pursuant Art. 24, D.Lgs. 82/05)