

**CAS-ANID FUND  
Research Proposals for Postdoctoral Positions  
National Program for the Development of Astronomy and Related Sciences  
CALL DOCUMENT 2022**

**I.- GENERAL DISPOSITION**

The National Agency for Research and Development (ANID) is the institution in charge of managing and executing the programs and instruments destined to promote and develop research in all areas of knowledge, technological development and science and technology based innovation, according to the policies defined by the Ministry of Science, Technology, Knowledge and Innovation.

**1.1.- Background**

This call takes place within the general framework of the "*Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Scientific Collaboration and the Development of Astronomical Research*", approved under Resolution N° 11429 of December 17, 2021, signed between ANID and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), which establishes a collaboration program through the CAS-ANID Fund for the development of joint astronomical research, hereinafter the "Fund". The activities established by this MoU involve international collaborations in astronomical research, including supporting young astronomers through postdoctoral research positions, among others.

The Fund is managed by ANID and in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Sciences South American Center for Astronomy (CASSACA).

This 2022 call for application will finance Postdoctoral Research Positions, through the CAS-ANID Fund.

**1.2.- Objective of the call**

The main objective of this call is to strengthen cooperation between Chile and China in Astronomy, through the development of joint interaction activities between researchers and scientific institutions and the promotion of collaborative scientific research in this area, specifically to finance postdoctoral research positions, through the CAS-ANID Fund, to be held in Chile.

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**1.3.- Participants**

For the purposes of this call, the following participants shall be considered:

<b>Participants</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
Principal Investigator (Postdoctoral researcher)	National or foreign researcher who have obtained doctoral degree or who have a document that certifies the approval of the Doctoral degree exam or equivalent instance, obtained from January 1, 2017.  <b>The Principal Investigator (postdoctoral researcher) can apply with only one proposal.</b>
National Host Institution	Chilean universities, research and/or study centers, scientific societies, with legal personality, public or private, that are committed to carry out research or teaching work in Astronomy, Astrophysics and/or related sciences, and that are part of the postdoctoral research position.
Sponsoring Researcher	Doctoral Researcher or scholar that belongs to the National Host Institution, responsible for directly overseeing the academic execution of the research project carried out by the Principal Investigator.  <b>The Sponsoring Researcher of a postdoctoral student can only be in a maximum of two proposals.</b>

## **II.- CALL DISPOSITIONS**

### **2.1.- Modality**

ANID will finance Postdoctoral Research Positions **to be developed in Chile**, submitted by a National Host Institution, through a Principal Investigator (Postdoctoral researcher) who applies and must have the support of a Sponsoring Researcher. This Sponsoring Researcher must belong to the National Host Institution.

### **2.2.- Funding**

ANID shall finance the Postdoctoral Position while the Principal Investigator is working in a National Host Institution.

#### **2.2.1 CAS-ANID funding**

A total amount per proposal may be financed up to 59,200,000 CLP\$ (considering installation expenses for the first year), amount that will be divided into two years, being the maximum amount for the first year of 31,100,000 CLP\$ and for the second year a maximum amount of 28,100,000 CLP\$.

#### **2.2.1- -Items that may be financed (details of the benefits)**

i.- Personnel expenses (fees): gross amount allocated per year for the awarded researcher, with a maximum of 23,100,000 CLP\$.

ii.- Operational expenses: amount per year of execution, which may not exceed 5,000,000 CLP\$. The expenses that can be made with these funds are the following:

- **Travel:** corresponds to resources for national and/or international tickets and *per Diem*, visas obtention, travel insurance, medical exams (example: PCR), among others. These are financed for the Principal Investigator of the project and for activities directly related to the execution of the research and the presentation of its results. This includes:
  - a.- Domestic travels: covers field trip, presentation of results in scientific meetings, and travel for meetings within the country, among others.
  - b.- Travel abroad: finances travel for research purposes and to present results in scientific meetings, among others.
 Only economy class tickets are accepted.
- **General operational expenses:** computer supplies (software, licenses, among others), office supplies, acquisition of books, magazines, registration for conferences, purchase of services, expenses associated with vehicle rental, mobilization and transfers, cost of guarantees, among others. Only scientific publications generated by the project can be finance by the project.
- **Other operating expenses:**
- health insurance: ANID will assign to the Principal Investigator of the project approved by this call, a total of \$500,000 CLP\$ for annual health benefits.
- installation expenses: considers financing for researchers who need to arrive or return to Chile or move within the country to the region where the project will be carried out, for a maximum amount up to 3,000,000 CLP\$. This item includes accommodation/rental, food, transportation and air tickets in economy class, that can only be used in the first year of the project execution. This item does not allow budget mobility and the funds that are requested and not used must be refunded to ANID. The funds allocated for installation expenses will be considered as of the date of the legal resolution of the project financing agreement.

iii.-Equipment: acquisition of equipment and/or instruments directly required for the execution of the project, computer equipment for user level (computer, notebook, printers, among others), which will **remain as property of the national Host Institution at the end of the project.**

## 2.4.- Duration

The projects will have a duration of 2 years, counted from the date of the administrative act (legal resolution) that approves the agreement.

The Principal Investigator agrees to remain in the country until the end of the project and for at least 9 (nine) months during each year of the project execution. Any absence of less than three months must be reported to the Sponsoring Researcher. Exceptionally, the absence may be authorized for a period longer than 3 months, that must be reported (together with the Sponsoring Researcher) to ANID, for its evaluation and authorization.

Nevertheless, the Principal Investigator must comply with the delivery date of technical reports, as well as the expenses accounting, in the dates stipulated in the agreement and in the current accountability manual provided by ANID.

The project will contemplate up to 6 additional months maximum to the period described above, in order to complete the project, subject to the condition of sending a formal letter, with at least 60 days before the closing date of the project, and that may be accepted or not by ANID. The extension shall not involve transfer of additional resources.

### Special execution periods

Those Principal Investigators who, due to maternity, must use prenatal, postnatal and/or parental postnatal medical leave, may request the benefit of postponing the end date of the project, maintaining the amount of the monthly fee, for the corresponding period, during the validity of the project, as long as they maintain affiliation with the National Host Institution. Otherwise, the researcher can only take the benefit of additional time. Likewise, researchers who during the same period have been judicially granted custody or personal care as a protection measure, or by virtue of the provisions of articles 19 or 24 of Law N° 19.620 about adoption of minors, will benefit by this prerogative. To access this benefit, it is mandatory to attach an authorized copy of the court resolution that granted custody or personal care.

Likewise, parents who choose to use medical leave due to illness of a child under one year of age or leave for accompanying or for taking personal care of a child affected by a serious health condition, may request the benefit of **modifying** the end date of the project, under the terms of Law 21.063. Modification of the end date of the project can be also used by researchers who use supplementary prenatal or extended prenatal. **In these cases, the duration of the project will be extended for the authorized period, without maintaining the amount of monthly, only the extension period.**

Likewise, in the event of illness or serious accident of the Principal Investigator, which makes it impossible for him/her to carry out the execution of his/her project, he/she may opt for an additional execution period for up to 6 months for the execution of the project, accompanying to the respective request a medical certificate that proves such impossibility.

In any of the situations indicated above, the additional execution period will not imply more resources than those already committed in the award of the call and in the financing agreement.

Likewise, the additional execution period of the project, indicated in the preceding paragraphs, will always be a maximum of six months, regardless of the number of events that occur.

## **III.- APPLICATION**

### **3.1.- Application requirements**

Proposals must be written in English and must submit all the documents indicated below:

- Completed application form (according to available format).
- Curriculum Vitae (according to available format).
- Reference contacts identified on the application form and their letters of recommendation.
- Doctoral degree certificate, or document stating that it was obtained from January 1, 2017.
- Support Letter from the National Host Institution, signed by the Legal Representative of the Institution, that will host the applicant. This letter must specify the name of the Sponsoring Researcher and of the Principal Investigator (according to available format).

The applicants may expressly authorize ANID to send all the notifications for this call via email, whether those related to the application stage, call award, signing of agreement,

for the duration of the project, including the stage to monitor compliance with the obligations. For these purposes, the applicant must indicate in his/her application a frequently used email address, where all the necessary notifications will be sent.

### **3.2.- Restrictions and incompatibilities**

- Persons who have been selected or have a current Fondecyt Postdoctoral project or a Postdoctoral Scholarship from Becas Chile, may not be awarded a proposal of this call. In case of applying and being awarded in any of the previous calls, the applicants must choose the one that will provide them with the financing for the postdoctoral position and resign the financing that the other call would grant.
- Members of the CAS-ANID Joint Committee and of the Evaluation Panel of this contest may not apply to this call, neither as Responsible Researcher nor as Sponsoring Researcher.
- Principal Investigator (Postdoctoral researcher) may submit only one proposal.
- Sponsoring Researcher of the Postdoctoral Researcher may sponsor a maximum of two proposals.

## **IV.- ELIGIBILITY AND EVALUATION**

### **4.1.- Eligibility process**

The proposal must be submitted in the online application system at ANID's website, attaching the documents indicated in point 3.1 of the present call document.

Proposals that do not fulfill with the call document, its conditions and requirements, will be declared ineligible and will not enter the evaluation process.

ANID will review the documents of each proposal and prepare a list of admissible applications, according to the fulfillment of the requirements and documents requested by the call. In the event that the applicants do not comply with the call document, its conditions and requirements, or if they do not submit all the requested information, they will be declared ineligible and will not enter to the evaluation process.

If one or more proposals are declared ineligible, for not complying with one or more of the requirements indicated above, they will be notified by ANID. The affected parties will have 5 business days from the date of notification to file an appeal for reinstatement, in accordance with the provisions of article 59 of Law No. 19,880.

Both the applicants and the awardees are responsible for the veracity of the information included in the application form and/or the information provided during the project execution, respectively. Therefore, ANID's counterpart must be able to provide supporting documentation that ANID considers necessary, during the process of signing the agreement signing, during the period of execution of the project and any other follow-up process. The omission or false declaration of any data in the application or in the execution of the project, may cause to declare the project ineligible, to revoke the award or to terminate the agreement early, as appropriate, reserving ANID the right to request reimbursement of the awarded funds, if applicable.

## 4.2.- Evaluation process

The proposals declared admissible will proceed to the evaluation stage, in which an Evaluation Panel specially appointed for this call that will consider experts from China and Chile, will participate. The evaluation carried out by this Panel will be reviewed by the CAS-ANID Joint Committee.

The award proposition of this call will be in charge of the CAS-ANID Joint Committee, in accordance with the provisions of the MoU and of this call document.

### 4.2.1 The Evaluation Panel will be responsible to:

- a) Evaluate and assign a score to each proposal in accordance with the evaluation criteria mentioned in this call document.
- b) Establish award conditions if necessary.
- c) In the event that a proposal requires specific expertise, it may be evaluated by external reviewers, as decided by the panel.

### 4.2.2 CAS-ANID Joint Committee

Considering the MoU signed between ANID and CAS, 3 (three) ANID representatives and 3 (three) CAS representatives will be appointed to form the CAS-ANID Joint Committee. The committee must be approved by a legal resolution.

This Committee gives the guidelines and definitions for the implementation of the Fund, supports its administration, follows-up on the funding and the creation of the call document, among other functions.

The Committee must review the list of projects with the assigned scores by the Evaluation Panel according to the agreed procedure.

### 4.2.3 Evaluation Criteria

The proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Category	Evaluation Criteria	Score
Quality of the proposal	Potential of the proposal to advance in scientific knowledge and/or understanding of astronomy in society. Aspects to consider include coherence, feasibility, justification, hypothesis, objectives, methodology, novelty, relevance, its scientific, technological, and economic impact on society, etc.	50%
Scientific and management skills	The evaluation considers the consistency between the requested resources and the proposed activities, the feasibility of carrying out the proposal within its deadlines, its organizational plan, the team, experience and achievements obtained, mitigation plan, distribution of expenses according to the fund's objective, etc.	35%
Applicant's curriculum	Evaluation of the academic and research background of the applicant, his/her productivity and contribution or connection with society and the environment. This information, which shall be completed in the	15%

Category	Evaluation Criteria	Score
	<i>Curriculum vitae</i> format, considers scientific articles, participation in exhibitions or presentations, audiovisual and media production and any other product made for scientific dissemination.	

#### 4.2.4 Evaluation Scale

Each evaluation criteria will be assigned a score from 0 to 5, being able to use half points, but not smaller fractions, generally estimating that the approval threshold cannot be less than three points.

Proposals that obtain **a score of less than 3** will not be awarded.

Scores' definition:

0. Not qualified	The proposal does not meet/address the criteria under review or cannot be evaluated due to lack of background or incomplete information.
1. Deficient	The proposal does not adequately meet/address the criteria aspects or there are serious inherent deficiencies.
2. Regular	The proposal broadly meets/addressess aspects of the criterion, but there are significant shortcomings.
3. Good	The proposal correctly meets/addressess the aspects of the criterion, although it requires certain improvements.
4. Very good	The proposal meets/addressess the aspects of the criterion very well, even though some improvements are possible.
5. Excellent	The proposal outstandingly meets/addressess all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any weakness is very minor.

#### 4.2.5 Final Selection Process.

A meeting for final selection will be held by the CAS-ANID Joint Committee, that will make recommendation of projects to be selected for the award to ANID, based on the grade and ranking obtained. This Committee may meet remotely.

#### V.- AWARDS, NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS AND WAITING LIST

Once the evaluation is completed and the recommendations made by the CAS-ANID Joint Committee, a list of proposals selected and possible to be awarded for financing jointly with a waiting list is submitted to the Technical Advisory Committee of the Sub directorate of Networks, Strategy and Knowledge of ANID (REC Sub directorate), so that the latter Committee ratifies the final selection. Once the selection is ratified, ANID will approve the decision and award the projects through the corresponding administrative act.

Once the administrative act that ratifies and approves the award of the call by ANID has been issued, the results will be published on the ANID website, [www.anid.cl](http://www.anid.cl).

Likewise, all the Principal Investigators will be notified of the results of the call by email, in case they have authorized it. Email will also be used for each and every one of the notifications that are required within this call.

The Principal Investigators whose proposals were not awarded may file an Appeal for Reconsideration within 05 business days from the date of notification of the Award Resolution, in accordance with the provisions of the article 59 of the Law N° 19.880 that establishes the Basis of the Administrative Procedures that govern the Bodies of the State Administration, against such an administrative act.

The award may contemplate a waiting list, which will be effective in the following cases:

- Resignation of any of the awardees or in case he/she is unable to execute the project.
- That the beneficiary(ies) does(do) not sign the agreements within the terms established in the award notification.
- Budget availability generated in the CAS-ANID Fund during the year.

## **VI.- FINANCING AGREEMENT**

The Financing Agreement will be signed between ANID and the National Host Institution. ANID will inform the date on which the respective subsidy agreement should be signed, requesting, in addition, the necessary documentation for these purposes. For all legal purposes and the signing of the respective agreement, ANID's counterpart will be the National Host Institution.

The agreement will expressly establish the rights and obligations of each of the parties, the duration of the subsidy, the start date of the Postdoctoral Position, and all those clauses that best protect the fulfillment of the objectives of this call. and the use of the resources transferred by the ANID, for the purposes indicated therein in the awarded project.

### **6.1.-Warranty**

#### **6.1.1 Private Institutions**

The Private Beneficiary Institution must guarantee the faithful use of the resources transferred by ANID for the activities of the projects, as provided in the clauses indicated in the agreement, by means of a bank guarantee document, an endorsable sight voucher or an immediate execution insurance policy. Abovementioned documents must be valid for at least 180 (one hundred and eighty) days after the Accountability due date of each disbursement or installment.

The cost of issuing this document may be included in the operational expenses item, whether it is made before or after the administrative act that approves the agreement.

In case that the project is extended, in accordance with current regulations, the warranty document must be renewed, so that it is valid for more than 180 days after the end of the extension period.

In the event of non-compliance with the financial obligations and commitments, ANID must apply the procedures of administrative collection and execution of warranties, as appropriate.

#### **6.1.2 Public Institutions**



The Public Beneficiary Institution, according to the regulation N° 15.978/10 of the General Comptroller of the Republic of Chile, indicates that national institutions belonging to the State administration, do not have obligation to guarantee or ensure the fulfillment of commitments contracted between Institutions of the State Administration; therefore ANID will not require the submission of warranties to State Institutions for resources that it transfers within the framework of agreements signed by the parties. However, it is the obligation of the Public Beneficiary Institution to comply with its obligations to deliver reports, technical and financial monitoring, as well as all those related to the present document and the signed agreement.

## **6.2 Administrative collection procedure and collection of warranties**

In case of non-compliance with any of the technical and financial obligations and commitments established in the agreement, ANID must collect and/or execute the existing warranty documents and/or guarantees that have been arranged to safeguard the correct technical and financial functioning of the project. For this, ANID must apply an administrative collection procedure, consisting of sending letters and reminders to the representatives of the beneficiary institutions, so that they proceed within the period indicated, to solve the observations made regarding their technical and financial obligations and proceed to comply with what is pending, to the satisfaction of ANID. If this procedure does not bring expected results, ANID must proceed to collect the existing warranty documents.

## **VII.- TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

The National Host Institution must allocate a bank account, in which ANID annually transfers the resources corresponding to the awarded project, in addition for registering the pecuniary resources of third parties and the contributions of the Institution itself to the project, if appropriate.

Transfer of resources from ANID will be subject to the following conditions:

- a. Budget availability of the CAS-ANID Fund.
- b. The respective warranties have been delivered, in accordance with the provisions of the call document and the respective agreement.
- c. The beneficiary institution must not have pending accounts with ANID, in accordance with the provisions of Law N° 21.105, and Resolution N° 30/2015, of the Comptroller General of the Republic of Chile.
- d. The transfer of the resources by ANID, will be carried out against the total processing of the administrative act that approves the respective financing agreement.
- e. For the payment of the second installment, the Principal Investigator must submit the technical progress report.
- f. Institutions that are selected for the award must submit, together with the agreement signed by the parties, the Certificate of Registration in the Registry of State and Municipal Collaborators, a mandatory requirement for ANID to be able to transfer resources, as established in Law N° 19.862.
- g. ANID may modify the conditions to make new transfers for the execution of the projects, in accordance with the current applicable regulations. This situation will be communicated and informed in advance.

## **VIII.- TECHNICAL MONITORING**

ANID will carry out technical and financial follow-up of the project, through the REC Sub directorate that will review the relevance of the expenses.

### **8.1 Project Start Date**

For purposes of the project monitoring, the date of the administrative act that approves the agreement will be understood as the start date of the project.

Exceptionally, the period for hiring the postdoctoral researcher in Chile by the National Host Institution, may not exceed 9 months, from the project start date.

### **8.2 Technical Progress Report**

The Principal Investigator should submit to ANID a yearly technical progress report on the 11<sup>th</sup> month of the first year of the project execution.

### **8.3 Final Technical Report**

The Principal Investigator should submit a Final Technical Report to ANID within 30 calendar days following the expiration of the project execution period. This report must give an account of all the activities carried out during the project's execution, including the results obtained, among others.

### **8.4 Project Modifications**

During the execution of the project, the beneficiary may request to ANID, through the REC Sub directorate, in writing, in a well-founded and opportune manner, modifications to the project.

These modifications must be requested based on the needs of development of the execution of the project and must not affect the project's objectives or allocated budget. The modifications cannot be implemented without the approval of ANID according to its internal procedures.

The modifications should not imply additional financial contributions to the project by ANID.

### **8.5 Accountability**

The accountability of the resources transferred by ANID will be governed according to the provisions of article 14 of Law N° 21.105, and in the regulations established by Resolution N°30 of March 11, 2015 of the Comptroller General of the Republic of Chile, in addition to the rules and instructions detailed in the ANID General Accountability Instructions and their corresponding annexes and eventual updates.

## **IX.- PROJECT'S FINALIZATION (normal and anticipated)**

Once the term of the project has come to the end, it will be considered finalized when the objectives and committed results have been met, technical reports and the respective accountability or reimbursements being approved by ANID. ANID will close the agreement and the project through the respective administrative act.

Notwithstanding the abovementioned, ANID may terminate the signed agreement and the execution of the project in advance, in accordance with the background that warrants it, due to non-compliance with this call document and the respective financing agreement or if the reports of the National Host Institution do not comply with the objectives and activities of the project, among others. In case of early termination, ANID may evaluate the reimbursement of the transferred funds. Also, ANID will inform the institutional bank account to which the funds received should be reimbursed, due to an early termination of the project.

## **X.- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

All scientific productivity associated with projects financed by ANID, such as publications, articles, books, patents, presentations or others, must contain acknowledgments to this institution for the granted funds, using the following format:

### **CAS-ANID + Project 's Code**

In the case, the products are of communicational nature that has purpose to disseminate, such as audiovisuals, books, videogames, brochures, graphics, etc., the following format must be used and also it should incorporate the official ANID logo, which will be delivered by the REC Sub directorate:

### **CAS-ANID / Project 's Code**

The Principal Investigator should ensure that all the works and databases that have been generated within the framework of the execution of the project are distributed free of charge, without restrictions and allowing their reuse following existing open access practices. The results of these investigations and their associated databases must be made available to the public in the institutional repository of ANID, or in an international data repository or another that is proposed by the researcher and previously approved by ANID.

## **XI.- OBLIGATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS**

### **11.1 Compliance and interpretation of the call document**

ANID reserves the right to interpret the meaning and scope of this call document, in case of doubts and/or conflicts that may arise regarding its content and application. ANID may, at any time, before the signing and during the execution of the respective agreement, verify full compliance with this call document and, more specifically, the accuracy and completeness of the background information presented in the respective application, as well as in relation to the required supporting documentation. If inconsistencies, omissions and/or incompatibilities are detected, ANID will nullify the award or terminate the project early.

ANID will not receive applications, information or additional or complementary documentation, after the application period.

## **XII.- INQUIRIES AND CALL SCHEDULE**

### **12.1 Inquiries**

Inquiries may be made through the ANID website, up to 05 business days before the closing date for the receipt of applications: <https://ayuda.ANID.cl/hc/es>.

## **12.2 Call Publication**

ANID will open this call through a newspaper with wide national circulation, and on its website, which will indicate the opening and closing date of the call.

The call document will be available at <https://www.anid.cl/concursos/>

The annexes and clarifications generated on this call will become an integral part of this document for all legal purposes and will be published at [www.anid.cl](http://www.anid.cl).