

CALL FOR POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS 2022 - 2023 DATA OBSERVATORY – FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCES

I. Background.

In order to advance Chile's position as a leader in the field of Data Science, the **Faculty of Engineering and Sciences (FES)** and the **Data Observatory Foundation (DO)** make available resources to fund at least four postdoctoral projects in 2022, the objective of which is to boost knowledge creation, science, technology and innovation, and to contribute toward the consolidation of research groups in both institutions.

The objectives of this initiative are:

- To encourage world-class scientific research in the areas of engineering and science that directly relate to the activities carried out by the DO, in particular multidisciplinary areas, and to the scientific activities carried out by FES's professors and the DO's researchers.
- To increase and bolster the scientific productivity of the FES and the DO.
- To boost the DO's role, and to strengthen the collaborative bonds between the FES, the DO, research centers, institutes, and/or universities with which there are collaboration agreements, by inviting young researchers to apply for a postdoctoral stay at the DO or the FES.

This initiative represents a great opportunity to give support to ongoing advanced research carried out by the applicants, as well as an opportunity to strengthen the scientific productivity of the FES's and the DO's professors through the publication of articles in WoS-indexed journals. The sponsoring professors must make a pledge to increase the number of publications in indexed journals that his/her research group will generate within the frame of this project.

This program will fund proposals in all the fields of knowledge relevant to the DO's activities, namely: computing, astronomy, artificial intelligence, data science, energy, machine learning, sustainable development, environment, health, among others.

II. Benefits.

This initiative will fund postdoctoral research positions for up to 12 months each. The monthly gross salary will be CLP\$2.000.000 (approximately USD 2,222,2¹), with CLP\$24.000.000 (USD 26,666, approx¹) being the maximum funding granted to each project. Each awardee will be offered a postdoctoral contract, and one round-trip, economy-class ticket from the country of origin of the grant recipient, if needed.

¹ Considering an exchange rate of \$900 Chilean pesos

In case the project has yielded good results by the end of the first year, and the postdoctoral researcher has not been awarded a FONDECYT grant, the Research Committee may consider to evaluate the suitability of granting the project a time extension, the duration of which will be 12 months as a maximum.

III. Application materials.

1. Postdoctoral researcher:

- The applicant must have been awarded his/her Ph.D. degree in or after 2018, and before the starting date of the project. This date must be clearly stated in the application form.
- The applicant must be a member of the Data Observatory. If s/he is not, s/he must have applied for DO membership at the moment of applying for this funding, which must already have been granted to him/her when the project begins.
- The applicant must fill out the application form.
- The applicant must submit his/her curriculum vitae and a cover letter to investigacionfic@uai.cl. The latter must explicitly state that the researcher will remain a member of the faculty throughout the duration of the project.
- The applicant must have published at least 03 articles in WoS-indexed journals over the past 05 years.

2. Sponsoring professors:

- They must submit a statement of interest which clearly describes what their role in the project will be, how their work team and their line of research will benefit from the applicant's participation in the project, and other aspects that will allow the project's relevance to be assessed. The applicant must include this information in his/her application form.
If the sponsoring professor deems it appropriate, s/he can submit this statement of interest by email to investigacionfic@uai.cl (subject line "Call for DO-FES Postdoctoral Positions 2022" followed by the applicant's name)
- The sponsoring professor must be a DO member; otherwise, s/he must request to be incorporated. In addition, s/he must have a full-time contract with the FES, or a part-time contract with the DO (at least 50% of their time dedication). S/he must hold a Ph.D. degree and must have published in WoS-indexed journals over the last 05 years.

3. Restrictions and obligations.

- A professor cannot sponsor an applicant if s/he supervised that applicant's thesis work during his/her doctoral studies.
- Postdoctoral researchers will be under an exclusive contract with the university. Nonetheless, they may dedicate up to 06 hours per week to pursuing other academic or research activities.

- The awarded projects must begin between October 01st, 2022 and April 01st 2023; otherwise, the awardees will lose the benefit. Candidates wishing to begin their postdoctoral stay on a different date are strongly advised to apply in the next call for postdoctoral positions.
- Foreign researchers must necessarily obtain a Chilean temporary work visa. We strongly recommend that the applicants start their visa application process at least four months prior to their arrival in Chile. Once in the country, they will sign a work contract, and they will be instructed as to how to obtain a Chilean ID card and how to start their registration process at *Servicio de Impuestos Internos* (a procedure called *iniciación de actividades*, www.sii.cl).
- Postdoctoral researchers must cover all other expenses incurred, such as academic materials and medical insurance, among others.
- Postdoctoral researchers must apply for the Postdoctoral FONDECYT grant. Failure to comply with this requirement can result in the immediate termination of the funding grant awarded once all the circumstances have been considered. Applicants who are awarded the FONDECYT grant will stop receiving the funding awarded within the frame of this initiative once the postdoctoral agreement with FONDECYT has been signed and come into force.
- At the end of the research stay, the postdoctoral researcher must submit a final technical report that shows the results obtained during the project. It is expected that by the end of the project the awardee will have published at least **one WoS-indexed article in a scientific journal**, of which both the sponsoring professor and the postdoctoral researcher are principal authors. The publication must acknowledge the support provided by the DO and the FES toward the generation of the article and the project's outcomes, which must be approved by the DO's Scientific Committee.

4. EVALUATION CRITERIA AND SELECTION OF PROPOSALS.

The applications that comply with the requirements established in the terms and conditions of this call will be evaluated by a panel which will base its evaluation upon the criteria employed by the National Agency of Research and Development (ANID):

Formulation of the research project: The consistence between the proposed objectives, the activities to be carried out, the results and the proposed methodology will be evaluated.	80%
The applicant's career path (academic background and productivity)	20%

Scale:

Score	Description
OUTSTANDING – 5 points	The proposal fulfils all relevant aspects of the criterion in an outstanding manner. Any flaws that the proposal might contain are minor.
VERY GOOD – 4,0 to	The proposal fulfils the criterion very well, although a small

4,9 points	number of shortcomings can be identified.
GOOD – 3,0 to 3,9 points	The proposal fulfils the criterion in a suitable way, but some improvements are necessary.
FAIR – 2,0 to 2,9 points	The proposal partially fulfils the criterion, although significant weaknesses can be identified.
POOR – 1,0 to 1,9 points	The proposal does not appropriately fulfil the criterion, or there may be serious inherent weaknesses.
NOT ELIGIBLE– 0,0 to 0,9 points	The proposal fails to fulfil the criterion or cannot be evaluated due to missing or incomplete information.

Once the evaluation stage has been completed, the Research Committee will make a list of candidates that must be reviewed and approved by the FES's Dean and the DO's Scientific Board.

5. Application process

Application deadline: **21th September, 2022.**

All the required application information must be sent to investigacionfic@uai.cl. Questions concerning this initiative or the process can also be asked via email.

6. Results.

Date when the results of this process will be made known: **October, 2022.**

The funding will be available as of **October, 2022.**