



CaixaImpulse Programme
Rules for Participation 2015

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0 Preamble

Throughout history scientific research has provided many answers to issues and problems encountered by people and society. Now, more than ever, science is a key factor in human progress and at the same time in collective competitiveness and well-being.

The “la Caixa” Foundation, in its commitment to contribute to the progress of people and society, has a main line of action that supports research in life and health sciences and the transfer of the knowledge created, with the aim of its direct application in society. Currently, the “la Caixa” Foundation is a leader in supporting avant-garde research programmes driven by international centres of reference in the areas of Life and Health Sciences, in fields including AIDS, cancer, heart disease and infectious illnesses, Alzheimer’s, multiple sclerosis and child diabetes, and has contributed to the creation of scientific knowledge with a high social impact. Similarly, it promotes the application of the new paradigm of Responsible Research and Innovation in its scientific programmes (see www.rrri-tools.eu for more information), meaning that all stakeholders work together throughout the entire research and innovation process with the aim of aligning the work and the results with society’s values, needs and expectations.

Likewise, Caixa Capital Risc, the venture capital arm of “la Caixa”, is an investor that provides equity and convertible loans to innovative companies in their early stages, and support their growth through different specialized vehicles in Healthcare/ Life sciences, TIME and Industrial technology. In addition to the investment activity, it develops an intense activity of supporting entrepreneurs and business creation.

With the CaixaImpulse Programme, the “la Caixa” Banking Foundation as promoter and Caixa Capital Risc as collaborator, aim to integrate their research support activity, their market knowledge and their ability to drive the future development of businesses, with the objective of generating a favourable environment for adding value to scientific knowledge created by research and innovation centres and contribute to its transfer to the market.

More specifically, the CaixaImpulse Programme aims to support university and research centre projects that wish to transfer an asset, protected or protectable, resulting from market research, either as a spin-off or as a transfer agreement, and that require the validation and development of their value generation proposal. This first edition of the CaixaImpulse Programme focuses on the areas of Life, Medical and Health Sciences with a view to gradually including other sector specialities in subsequent editions.

The projects selected will be provided with a grant so that they can define and implement actions for the development of their asset’s valorization proposal.

In addition to this grant, participating projects will benefit from a mentoring programme to help them develop and assess their Valorization and Marketing plans, which includes training, mentoring activities, expert advice and networking activities with industry, investment and talent contacts.

Those interested in participating in the programme must present their application in accordance with the requirements established in these rules for participation.

1 CaixaImpulse programme

- 1.1. CaixaImpulse is a programme for promoting the creation of businesses in the area of science.
- 1.2. The CaixaImpulse programme aims to drive the transformation of scientific knowledge into businesses that create value in society, reducing existing barriers and facilitating access to markets, contacts and key knowledge.
- 1.3. The CaixaImpulse programme is promoted by "la Caixa" Foundation (hereinafter the "Promoter") and organised in collaboration with Caixa Capital Risc (hereinafter the "Organiser").
- 1.4. The CaixaImpulse Programme is aimed at university and research centre (hereinafter "Centres") projects, led by university graduates, professors, doctors or research teams, that wish to transfer a protected or protectable asset, resulting from market research, either as a spin-off or as a transfer agreement, and that require the validation and development of their value generation proposal (hereinafter "Project").
- 1.5. The CaixaImpulse programme offers expert mentoring and grants for the preparation and implementation of a valorization plan for protected or protectable assets resulting from research as well as the preparation of a Marketing Plan. More specifically, the support offered by the CaixaImpulse programme includes:
 - 6 000 Euros for the programme participant, for living expenses.
 - Up to 50 000 Euros for the implementation of approved valorization plans.
 - The support of leading mentors in the industry, for the definition of the best possible valorization and marketing plans.
 - Contact with businesses, entrepreneurs and investors for monitoring the valorization and marketing plans, and creating collaboration and business opportunities.
 - Specialist training and expert monitoring in the fields of project management, technology valorization, team development and financing and business tools.
 - Access to necessary talent to create or complement the team required to carry out the project.
- 1.6. Valorization Plan and Marketing Plan
 - The backbone of the programme is the valorization and marketing plans, aimed at creating and retaining the value of the asset.
 - With regard to the Valorization Plan, activities during the first half of the programme will focus on its definition and optimisation and, during the second half its implementation.
 - With regard to the Marketing Plan, this will be developed during the second half of the programme with the aim of defining the asset's business and marketing strategy.
 - To develop these plans, in addition to a grant, participants will benefit from programme resources that include training, mentoring, advice and events to facilitate networking.
- 1.7. The language of the programme is English.
- 1.8. The CaixaImpulse Programme will be developed in Barcelona, from 14 September 2015 to 26 February 2016 (end date tbc). The implementation of the approved valorization plans can be carried out up to 12 months after the programme has concluded.

2 Object of the call of proposals

- 2.1. The object of this call for proposals is the mentoring of valorization projects for assets resulting from market research, for their transfer to market, either as a spin-off or as a transfer agreement, which require the validation and development of their value generation proposal.
- 2.2. More specifically, the programme will support projects from the areas of Life, Medical and Health Sciences proposed by the Centres, based on assets for which a patent or utility model has been requested or will be requested, and aimed at adding value to them for their transfer to market.
- 2.3. Within the area of Life, Medical and Health Sciences, projects from the following fields will be considered:
 - Life Sciences: Biomathematics, Cell biology, Human biology, Biochemistry and Molecular biology, Human physiology, Genetics, Immunology, Microbiology and Neurosciences.
 - Medical and Health Sciences: Clinical sciences, Epidemiology, Forensic medicine, Occupational medicine, Internal medicine, Nutritional sciences, Pathology, Pharmacodynamics, Pharmacology, Preventive medicine, Psychiatry, Public health, Surgery and Toxicology.

3 Programme beneficiaries

- 3.1. The programme has two types of beneficiaries: the owners of the protected or protectable assets resulting from the research (hereinafter the "Receiver") and the researchers or leaders of the valorization project (hereinafter the "Participant").
- 3.2. We understand the Receiver to be the non-profit legal entity that owns the protected or protectable asset resulting from the research. Specifically, universities and university foundations, research and transfer centres, technology centres, hospitals and hospital foundations and non-profit organisations whose main activity is research, registered in Spain.

The Receiver will be awarded with a grant for the project and will manage it according to the conditions established in these rules.

- 3.3. We understand the Participant to be the physical person (university graduate, professor or doctor) who leads the valorization project, transfer or foundation of a new company, and who may or may not be the researcher or leader of the research project to date.

The Participant must be exclusively or almost exclusively dedicated to the valorization and transfer project, and may or may not have the support of a team. The project team is not considered, for procedural purposes, a beneficiary of the programme.

4 Action plan and grants

- 4.1. The funds associated with the programme will be assigned to the Receiver and the Project once the Programme Participation Agreement has been formalised.
- 4.2. The funds will be transferred to the Receiver, which is responsible for managing payments to third parties and to the Participant.
- 4.3. The grant must be used solely, exclusively and integrally for the payment of those concepts for which it has been approved.

There are two types of grants:

Grants for participation

- 4.4. 6.000 Euros
- 4.5. This is for the Participant of the programme, for living expenses, in support of the commitment required.
- 4.6. The Receiver of the grant will transfer the full amount received to the Participant.
- 4.7. The conferment of this grant is subject to the signing of the Participation Agreement.
- 4.8. The Participation Agreement is a document signed between the Receiver, the Participant and the Organiser, which formalises access to the programme and regulates the different aspects regarding the participation and receipt of the grant. The terms of the agreement are common to all of the participants.
- 4.9. Payment of the 6 000 Euros for the Participant's living expenses will be made in two instalments, according to the following plan:
 - 3 000 Euros on signing the Participation Agreement, conditional upon attendance to the programme's activities (minimum of 80% attendance)
 - 3 000 Euros half way through the programme, conditional upon attendance to the programme's activities (minimum of 80% attendance) and the presentation of deliverables (Progress Report and Valorization Plan)
- 4.10. The right to perceive the grant can be withdrawn due to low attendance to programme activities (below 80%) or the failure to present deliverables on time and in the correct manner. Furthermore, the organiser may request the repayment of any amounts already provided.

Grant for the valorization plan

- 4.11. Up to 50 000 Euros
- 4.12. This is for the Receiver (owner of the asset), for the implementation of the approved Valorization Plan.

- 4.13. The payment of these funds is conditioned by the approval of the Valorization Plan and signing of the Valorization Agreement, and the existence of a patent or utility model request. For projects that do not have a patent or utility model pending at the time of presentation of the application, the costs for the patent or utility model request can be included in the Valorization Plan and made during the programme.
- 4.14. The Valorization Agreement is a document signed between the owner of the protected or protectable asset (Receiver), the Participant and the Organiser, which regulates the different aspects regarding the receipt of a grant and the rights over the assets in consideration of the same.
- 4.15. If the Valorization Agreement is not signed, the beneficiaries may remain on the programme but will lose rights to this grant.
- 4.16. The concepts covered by the grant of the programme that can be included in the Valorization Plan are those directly related to the implementation of value development actions for the asset from the moment of signing the agreement and up to one year after the programme has concluded. More specifically:
- Expenses for outsourcing services for the preparation of business and market viability studies; development of value generation proposals, business models, or marketing and business plans; protection of the knowledge created (patent or utility model); experiments... Exceptionally, and in cases in which it is clearly justified, the recruitment of non-research personnel will be accepted instead of outsourcing the services.
 - Expenses for research personnel (grants and contracts) directly related to the valorization actions for the asset, proof of concept, experiments and actions included in the value generation plan.
 - Consumables and expenses for materials for experiments or tests.
 - Travel expenses for the project leader associated with the implementation of valorization actions.

The following concepts are explicitly excluded:

- New contracts (of any type) for personnel who will work on other stages of the project other than the asset valorization or those not included in the valorization plan.
 - Allowances.
 - Overheads for the institution where the research is carried out.
 - Under no circumstances can costs already covered by the institution or by other sources be included.
- 4.17. Payments will be made in various instalments, in accordance with the payment plan defined in the Valorization Agreement for each project.
- 4.18. The receipt of a grant implies economic rights over the asset that will be reinvested in future editions and beneficiaries of the programme, and which will be included in the Valorization Agreement:
- In the case of the future creation of a company:
- 1% of shares/holdings for the "la Caixa" Banking Foundation or for a Criteria Group company expert in the monitoring and control of financial investments and fund management.
 - Royalties: 0.5% of net annual sales, until the total amount contributed by "la Caixa" Banking Foundation according to the corresponding Valorization Agreement is met (a maximum of 50 000 Euros).

In the case of agreements of future licences:

- Royalties: 1% upfront fee + 0.5% of net annual sales, until the total amount contributed by "la Caixa" Banking Foundation according to the corresponding Valorization Agreement is met (a maximum of 50 000 Euros).

4.19. Presentation of a final explanatory report will be required that includes:

- The results of the Valorization Plan
- Economic justification, with an expense account and invoices

4.20. For cases where the justified expenses in the final report are lower than the grant provided, the difference will be reimbursed to the Organiser, and amounts pending payment, if any, will not be satisfied.

4.21. Receiving a grant, implies that the beneficiaries (Receiver and Participant) commit to:

- Allocate the entire amount of the resources to the approved project.
- Comply with the established rules for participation to the full.
- Respect the regulations of the institution and the rules for participation.
- Assume the social and ethical implications of the research and develop the research project in accordance with the research personnel's ethical code, taking into account in addition the gender issue.
- Indicate the support received from the CaixaImpulse Programme in materials, publications and dissemination activities developed within the framework of the project developed in the programme. See section 10.
- Prepare the required periodic reports on the development of the project with regard to the approved plan (progress reports), in addition to a final report once the project has concluded.
- Keep on file and make available to Organiser, all of the necessary documentation for justifying expenses incurred, during a period of 5 years after the project has concluded.

5 Participation requirements

The projects must meet the following requirements:

- 5.1. Requirements of the Receiver of a grant:
 - Non-profit legal entity registered in Spain.
 - Type of entity: universities and university foundations, research and transfer centres, technology centres, hospitals and hospital foundations and non-profit institutions whose main activity is research.
 - Owner of the protected or protectable asset resulting from the research and subject of the Valorization Plan.
 - One same Receiver may complete more than one application provided that they are associated to different protected or protectable assets resulting from different research projects.
 - Established companies are explicitly excluded.

- 5.2. Requirements of the project leader (Participant):
 - Legal person with tertiary qualifications (university graduate, professor or doctor)
 - Their exclusive or almost exclusive dedication to the validation project for the business idea or transfer to market is required. Participants may not be involved in more than one application.
 - The Participant may or may not be the leader of the research project that generated the asset.
 - He or she must be connected to the Receiver either by statute or employment.

- 5.3. Requirements of the projects
 - Aimed at the value generation and commercialisation of the protected or protectable asset resulting from the research.
 - Belong to the areas of Life, Medical and Health Sciences, specifically in the fields given in section 2 of this document.
 - They may or may not have a patent or utility model pending. If this is not the case, the protection of the asset must be included in the valorization plan and budget, and the patent or utility model must be requested prior to signing the valorization agreement.

6 Publication of the call for proposals and presentation of applications

- 6.1. The call for proposals for the programme and related information will be published on the programme's website: www.CaixaImpulse.com
- 6.2. The period for presentation of applications is from 12 May to 12 June 2015 at 12 a.m. The organisers reserve the right to change the closing date.
- 6.3. Applications must be presented in English by completing the online application form available on the programme's website (www.CaixaImpulse.com) and providing the required documentation.
- 6.4. Applications in other languages, those that are incomplete, presented on paper or via any other channel, or received outside the established period, will not be accepted.
- 6.5. Contents of the application. The application must include:
- Details of the requesting Organisation (Receiver)
 - General information regarding the project and the asset
 - Details of project leader and the team
 - Description of the valorization project: objectives, valorization actions developed to date and the results; estimate of valorization actions necessary and guide cost; related regulatory aspects; transfer expectations; ethical, social, legal and environmental implications,...
 - Results: description of the need or problem to be solved; description of the innovative or differentiating component with regard to existing solutions; beneficiaries and potential clients
 - Initial identification and involvement of the different social agents
- 6.6. In addition to the application form, the following documentation must be presented:
- Patent or utility model application (mandatory if pending)
 - Valorization Plan (if available)
 - Project leader's CV (mandatory) (maximum 1 page)
 - Project team members' CVs (mandatory if they exist) (maximum 1 page)
 - The most significant related documents and studies (maximum 1 page)
 - Letters of support or recommendation
 - Prototypes (maximum 1 page)
 - 5 most important scientific publications (recommendable)
 - Certification of data validation (available on the application)
 - Certificate from the Spanish Tax Agency vouching that the applicant centre has fulfilled its obligations with regard to taxation, valid at the moment of presentation of the project.
 - Social Security certificate, in force on the date of presentation of the project. Attach pdf or jpg. Certificate from the Spanish Social Security vouching that the applicant centre has fulfilled its obligations with regard to employment, valid at the moment of presentation of the project.

7 Evaluation and selection of applications

Selection criteria

For the selection of participating projects the following will be evaluated:

- 7.1. The Market potential of the asset (up to 31 points out of 100):
 - Identification of the need or problem to be solved
 - Identification of the potential user, client or market
 - Innovation and differentiation with regard to other existing solutions
 - Close-to-market
- 7.2. The Valorization Project (up to 26 points out of 100)
 - Level of development and protection of the asset
 - Correct identification of actions to be carried out in the value generation proposal and cost dimensioning
 - Definition of objectives
- 7.3. The Implementation capacity (up to 29 points out of 100)
 - Profile of the project leader and level of technology knowledge
 - Business knowledge and industry experience
 - Motivation and commitment of the project leader
 - Existence of a support team and complementarity of the members
- 7.4. The Social and responsible innovation potential (up to 14 points out of 100)
 - Benefits created in society and direct social application of the asset and level of contribution to improving the quality of life of citizens, social progress and human development
 - Research and innovation detected and driven based on society's needs. Mechanisms of participation and involvement of the different social stakeholders involved in the project.
 - Assessment of the ethical, social, legal and environmental implications

Selection process

- 7.5. The selection of projects will be carried out based on the transfer potential of the assets and their impact on society. The selection criteria are described in the previous section.
- 7.6. The Evaluation Committee, made up of representatives from the promoting and organising entities, is responsible, among others, for ensuring the correct development of the selection process and the quality of the same; resolving any doubts as to the eligibility of applications and the application of the rules; selecting the experts-evaluators who will externally rate the applications and assigning them the applications; short-listing the centres to be put forward to the selection panel, and resolving conflicts of interests that may arise during the process.
- 7.7. Verification of eligibility. Once the application period has closed, the projects will be reviewed to ensure that the rules of participation have been complied with. Applications that do not comply with the rules will be eliminated from the process.
- 7.8. Initial evaluation (Peer Review). Applications that pass the verification of eligibility are classified in groups

according to the areas of business and science given by the applicant in the application and sent to independent evaluators. Each application is externally evaluated by two independent evaluators, who rate it based on standardised evaluation tables.

- 7.9. Short-list. Based on the best scores obtained, the Evaluation Committee will short-list around 30 projects which will go to the next stage.
- 7.10. Interviews (Panel of experts). The panel is formed by experts in the area of science, business and financing. None of the members of the Selection Panel can have participated in the initial evaluation stage. The short-listed projects are interviewed by the Panel of Experts to clarify any aspects regarding the application and to assess the commitment of the project leader. The interviews will be performed based on a guide in which members of the panel note down their assessment regarding the points to be evaluated.

Attending the interview is essential for remaining in the selection process.

- 7.11. Deliberation and final selection. The final selection of participating projects in the programme will be made by the Executive Board, which will choose, from the panel-interviewed applications, up to 15 participating projects and 3 projects for the waiting list. The results will then be published.
- 7.12. All communication regarding the selection process will be done by email to the contact address given on the application form. The organisers will not be held responsible for communication problems resulting from errors in the given email addresses.

8 Formalisation of access to the programme

- 8.1. Access to the programme will be formalised by the signing of the Participation Agreement.
- 8.2. The Participation Agreement is a document signed between the Receiver, the Participant and the Organiser, which formalises access to the programme and regulates the different aspects regarding the participation and receipt of the grants.
- 8.3. The Participation Agreement must be formalised within 10 working days following notification of selection, including during August 2015, and is a requirement for accessing the programme. If the agreement with a selected project is not formalised it will be rejected from the process and its place offered to the first project on the waiting list.
- 8.4. Once the agreements have been formalised, the participants on the programme will be made public on the programme's website.

9 Confidentiality and data protection

The confidentiality of the applications presented is guaranteed throughout the entire process. In any case, the general characteristics of the applications may be disseminated and, in due course, the name of accepted projects, a brief description, the applicant centre (Receiver) and the name of the project leader (Participant), be published.

In accordance with the terms of Article 5 of Organic Law 15/99, of 13 December, on Personal Data Protection, the personal information provided by the applicants will be included in a file owned by Fundació Bancaria Caixa d'Estalvis i Pensions de Barcelona, "la Caixa" ("la Caixa" Banking Foundation). The information will be used to manage the service or information regarding the programme and to send information on activities and services provided by "la Caixa" Banking Foundation.

The user may at any time exercise his/her right to access, rectify, cancel and, where necessary, oppose the handling of his/her personal data, subject to the terms and conditions set out in the Organic Law on Personal Data Protection, in Barcelona, Avda. Diagonal, 621-629, Organisation Department, or by sending an email via our website www.obrasociallacaixa.org, under the "User Services" option, that can be found at the bottom of the screen. Submitting this information implies that the participant acknowledges that the information and personal data is their own and is exact and true.

Similarly, the "la Caixa" Banking Foundation may release the data to companies of the "la Caixa" group that are involved in organising the Programme or so that they may send information about products and services provided by said companies, except in cases in which the users have not expressly given their authorisation.

10 Publicity about participation on the programme

The “la Caixa” Banking Foundation may make dissemination of results of the participant’s projects where relevant, in international, national and/or regional media considered to be the most suitable and on all those platforms where examples of excellence and good practice in the area of innovation are required. For this purpose, the general characteristics of the applications may be disseminated and, in due course, the name of accepted projects, a brief description, the applicant centre (Receiver) and the name of the project leader (Participant), be published.

The Participant and the Receiver must, in due course, provide the “la Caixa” Banking Foundation with information regarding communication and dissemination actions, materials, events and activities that they develop in relation to the Project during their participation on the Programme, so that it is duly notified and/or represented and can request changes and/or approval of brands and logotypes.

These actions, materials, events and activities, must use the programme logotypes and mention, wherever possible, that it is a project “sponsored by the “la Caixa” Banking Foundation”. The correct citation for tweets is @FundlaCaixa or @CaixaCiencia.

Specifically, for any scientific papers that are published as a result of participation on the Programme, the following must be stated: “The research leading to these results has received funding from the “la Caixa” Banking Foundation”. And in the case of patents resulting from participation on the Programme, the following must be stated “The research leading to this invention has received funding from the “la Caixa” Banking Foundation”.

11 Industrial and intellectual property rights

Under no circumstances may this call for proposals be interpreted as the cession or transmission of industrial and intellectual property rights held by the beneficiaries prior to the CaixaImpulse of the implementation of the projects, or of any rights created during the implementation of the projects.

Regardless, receipt of grant for valorization implies economic rights over the asset, as established in these rules (point 4.18).

12 Acceptance of conditions

Participation on the Programme implies the acceptance of these rules in full, whose interpretation lies with the corresponding jury in each stage.

Failure to meet deadlines or procedures established in these rules will mean the disqualification of the participant from the programme.