

FRAMEWORK FOR THE SCHEME BLOCKBUSTER PROGRAM

TOULOUSE INITIATIVE FOR RESEARCH'S IMPACT ON SOCIETY

The Toulouse Initiative for Research's Impact on Society (TIRIS) is a strategic ten-year programme for the University of Toulouse which aims to become a world-class research-intensive university (RIU) (ARWU top-100). It proposes to strengthen and extend the disciplinary excellence of the Toulouse site through a proactive strategy of support for interdisciplinary and interscience initiatives with the objective of designing, supporting and promoting a clear academic identity for the University of Toulouse.

The TIRIS initiative is centred on three pillars corresponding to key societal challenges, for which our community has recognised strength and credibility and which are in line with the priorities of the local private and public sectors:

- Understanding and promoting good health and well-being;
- Understanding global change and its impact on societies;
- Accelerating sustainable transitions: mobility, energy, resources and industrial change.

OBJECTIVES AND AMBITIONS OF THE PROGRAM

The Blockbuster Program aims to attract to the Toulouse site researchers or teacher-researchers demonstrating an exceptionally high level of academic excellence, with a research and/or training programme showing a good level of interscience and falling within one of the three pillars above. Those recruited are expected to remain in one of the University of Toulouse's member establishments or partner National Research Organisations (NRO). The programme includes 6 recruitment opportunities over the 10 years of the project. It is in line with the desire to support the institutions and NROs of the Toulouse site in their choice to strengthen their research and training capacities at the highest level. The ambition is to give academic communities that are already widely recognised the opportunity to further strengthen their skills in order to consolidate their position as one of the best in the world in their respective fields. The programme contributes to the development of the UT's joint strategy around its areas of excellence, and enhances its international visibility and attractiveness.

The person recruited will be a key player in the ongoing transformation of the Toulouse site, sharing their experience and vision of high-level international academic dynamics.

PREPARATION DES CANDIDATURES

The scheme is a package of up to €730k per person recruited. Expenditure from this budget to fund junior staff (Masters, PhD, post-doc), equipment, operating costs or teaching hours is eligible and must be committed before the end of the programme (no later than 31/12/2032). Exceptionally, part of the budget may be used to pay the salary or additional salary of the person recruited and, given the same quality of application, priority will be given to candidates who have already been recruited by one of the TIRIS partner institutions.

It is expected that each proposed recruitment will be supported by at least one of the TIRIS partners (institution or NRO). Each application and the use of the planned budget must therefore be discussed with the partner(s) submitting the application.

The work will be carried out at the relevant levels, both from the point of view of research and training where justified.

The documents to be submitted must be written in French or English and must include at least :

1. A letter presenting the project from the head of the host research organisation, showing the added value of the recruitment for the Toulouse academic community concerned.
2. A detailed work programme describing, in particular, the planned collaborations with the research team(s) at the University of Toulouse, the integration into the TIRIS pillars, the expected medium- and long-term benefits in terms of research and, where appropriate, training, the planned start date for the project and the milestones for its development over the 5-year period.
3. A financial schedule for the use of TIRIS funds.
4. A covering letter of signed by the applicant.
5. A document presenting the key elements of the applicant's CV: 10 major productions and the criteria that led to this choice; 5 highlights in the applicant's career (whether in research, training, innovation or science & society).
6. A detailed CV including at least the list of positions held during the career, a list of awards and distinctions received, an exhaustive list of scientific productions, a list of research contracts obtained or under appraisal.
7. A reasoned opinion from the competent research body of the Institution(s) or ONR(s) submitting the application.
8. A statement of the work undertaken at the level of the partner(s) submitting the application concerning the sustainability of the recruitment.

There is no timetable and applications will be assessed as they come in. Progress reports on the applications under consideration in the institutions or ONRs may be scheduled during the TIRIS Executive Committees.

ELIGIBILITY

- The programme is aimed at international candidates with a high scientific level (minimum 10 years' experience after the doctoral thesis).
- The candidate's research themes must fall within the scope of at least one of the TIRIS pillars.
- The research unit and, where appropriate, the teaching department hosting the candidate must be attached to at least one of the TIRIS partner institutions or NROs.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- The applicant's scientific excellence and the international impact of their research.
- The candidate's integration into the Toulouse campus and the expected added value of the academic project for the campus community.
- Elements showing the candidate's willingness to integrate into the University of Toulouse and the degree of progress made in terms of the possibility of the person being recruited becoming a permanent member of staff. The progress of the work

aimed at giving the person recruited the possibility of a permanent position on the site will be a determining factor in the selection by the recruitment panel.

- Quality of the applicant's host unit.

EVALUATION PROCEDURE

Each application will be assessed in two stages.

- The first evaluation will be carried out by an ad hoc committee of experts from outside the Toulouse site, appointed by the TIRIS Executive Committee.
- A second evaluation will be carried out within the institution(s) or ONR(s) submitting the application, in accordance with their own procedures. This second assessment may be carried out as part of a standard recruitment procedure by the establishment(s) or ONR(s) concerned, or as part of a specific procedure that the establishment(s)/ONR(s) have chosen to put in place for this type of post.

Further information can be requested by email from the TIRIS Scientific Coordinator (bertrand.jouve@univ-toulouse.fr) with a copy to the TIRIS Project Manager (contact-tiris@univ-toulouse.fr).