

APPEL À PROJETS

TIRIS - JUNIOR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

ÉDITION 2025

Junior Fellowship Program: to attract the world's most promising young research talents in the quest for a better tomorrow.

Toulouse's research environment and the University of Toulouse

Toulouse is home to a dense and vibrant network of higher-education institutions, a University hub where 8000 research and teaching staff welcome over 115,000 students each year. The vitality of the academic community is illustrated by many prestigious individual award holders and by eight different subject areas that have been ranked in the World's top-50 since 2017, from economics and mathematics to remote sensing. The newly created "University of Toulouse" brings together these strengths, building on the academic and scientific traditions of its founding members to create a resolutely modern academic community of international renown, serving science and society.

THREE PRIORITY FIELDS FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND DESIRABLE FUTURE

In light of its renowned strengths and in line with local private and public sector priorities, the Toulouse Initiative for Research's Impact on Society (TIRIS) project is focusing on three broad priority fields that cover a range of challenges facing modern societies:

1. Understanding and fostering living in good health and well-being (Interaction of environmental and bio-psycho-social determinants on life and health; Keys to healthy ageing; More precise medicine through therapeutic and diagnostic innovation; Agro-ecological transitions, ...).
2. Understanding global changes and their impact on societies (From observation to prediction; Resilience, adaptation and transformation of society; Current changes in long term context, ...).
3. Accelerating sustainable transitions: mobility, energy, resources & industrial change (Transport of the future; Decarbonated energy; Resources, production and industrial change, ...).

Whatever your field of expertise, whether it be life-sciences, medical sciences, physical sciences, engineering, humanities, law or social sciences, if your aim is to make a difference in today's rapidly changing world, the University of Toulouse offers exceptional work opportunities where global transitions meet personal career development.

Joining the TIRIS Junior Fellowship Program is the guarantee to take part in a global and ambitious initiative while having the freedom to explore your own scientific interests, and working in a particularly well-equipped and stimulating academic and private sector environment. More details of the potential host laboratories and the world-class facilities available in and around Toulouse can be found at: <https://www.univ-toulouse.fr>

A UNIQUE AND WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE

Toulouse is a very international city, welcoming 20,000 new residents each year from around the world. The city has a unique quality of life in terms of weather, food and wine, culture and heritage, in the heart of the Occitania region that offers an impressive number of sightseeing destinations of which 8 are UNESCO world heritage sites. Toulouse is also a sport-oriented city, ideally placed for outdoor activities in the Pyrenees mountains, the Massif Central and the Mediterranean Sea. Toulouse is an affordable city too. It has an excellent, diversified and free of charge educational offer from early childhood to junior high-school and a variety of international schools. Toulouse offers a dynamic job market for spouse looking for employment, with more than 616,000 jobs in the Toulouse metropolitan area. Getting settled-in is simplified by the “Welcome desk” and “[Toul'box](#)” services offered by the University of Toulouse that help with administrative and day-to-day concerns such as opening a bank-account, getting health insurance or finding accommodation.

ELIGIBILITY AND CONDITIONS

This call for projects is aimed at junior researchers who have completed their PhD between January 1, 2023 and October 1, 2025¹. However, the applicants must not have obtained their PhD from one of the [founding members, members or national research organizations of the University of Toulouse](#), and must not have been employed after the thesis in a laboratory within the scope of the University of Toulouse.

The net salary is at least 3000 euros per month² depending on experience. An annual budget of max. 15 k€ for professional travel and laboratory running costs may be requested if justified. Candidates are free to propose the research project of their choice, but the following criteria will be an important part of the selection procedure:

- How does the research proposal contribute to one or more of the three priority actions of the TIRIS program described above. Note that interdisciplinarity will be considered positively but is not a requirement.
- How will the research proposal be of mutual benefit to the fellowship holder and the host laboratory.

Recruitment will be based on merit, but the University of Toulouse is actively engaged to combat discrimination of all sorts and encourage applications from under-represented groups. Contract duration: two years.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applications are to be made via the call for projects submission platform (<https://appels-projets.univ-toulouse.fr>) and include the following documents:

- Detailed CV
- Copy of PhD diploma indicating the date and place (in French, or with an English translation)
- Application form (description of the research proposal, including description and relevance of the host environment, the funding request, and professional perspectives after the end of the project)
- Financial appendix: provisional budget with enough details for the running costs to understand why you need them.

¹ Sick leave, maternity leave and paternity leave during this period extend it accordingly.

² The researcher will benefit from free national medical insurance, as well as a set of free and good-quality public services.

- The financial appendix must include the approval of the competent departments of the establishments receiving the funds. > *Consult the list of contacts for each establishment.* Please, in case of difficulty to obtain the agreement of the financial appendix before the submission date, contact the TIRIS team at contact-tiris@univ-toulouse.fr.
- A letter of support signed by the head of the host laboratory.

EVALUATION & SELECTION CRITERIA

The project selection process will be steered by the TIRIS research program committee, which, after a pre-selection phase, will initiate an external evaluation phase.

The criteria assessed by the evaluators will concern:

- The quality and scientific ambition of the project
- The coherence and feasibility of the project and how it matches the skills of the applicant
- Expected impact in scientific, societal and economic terms

CALENDAR AND CONTACT

- Application deadline: March 3, 2025 at noon
- Announcement of results: July 2025
- Earliest project start date: earliest possible date is October 1, 2025 and latest possible date is September 30, 2026
- contact-tiris@univ-toulouse.fr