



HEALTHY AGING RESEARCH GRANT 2026

The Young Research Promotion Program, within the TecnATox Extended Research Consortium (TERC), announces a call for proposals to support interdisciplinary research projects, in either the basic or clinical research category. Eligible projects must address any aspect of healthy aging and aim to contribute significantly to advancing knowledge, prevention strategies, or improvements of health and quality of life across the lifespan.

GUIDELINES

1. Eligibility

- 1.1. Applicants must be members of one of the research groups within TERC
- 1.2. Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs) must have **completed their PhD in 2019 or later**. Documented parental leave will be considered for eligibility extensions.
- 1.3. Each project must include **2 to 3 Co-PI**, each belonging to a different CNEAI subarea
- 1.4. Each Co-PI may participate in only one application as Co-PI, and in one additional application within the same call as collaborator.
- 1.5. Collaborators may participate in a maximum of two proposals within the same call.
- 1.6. All applicants must hold an active employment contract covering the full duration of the project, or provide a signed commitment from the group ensuring such coverage.

2. Application and Required Documentation

Applicants must submit a complete application package following the guidelines described below. All documents must be prepared in **Arial or Times New Roman, 11-point font**, with standard margins (2.5 cm). The **full project proposal (excluding CVs)** must not exceed **10 pages**. **Ethical committee approval will be required before any awarded project can receive funding.**

- 2.1. Project proposal, following the general structure of standard competitive health research calls (introduction, objectives, methodology, work plan, expected impact, team capacities, budget, and references).
- 2.2. A short CV for each Co-Principal Investigator, using the template provided. Each CV must not exceed 4 pages.
- 2.3. All documents must be submitted by email to: tecnatox@fundacio.urv.cat

3. Funding and Duration

- 3.1. The call will fund 2 research projects, each with a duration of two years, with a maximum budget of €25,000 per project.
- 3.2. If the project has additional public or private funding sources, applicants must clearly specify how the TERC grant will be allocated within the overall funding structure.
- 3.3. Eligible cost will include consumables, travel, subcontracting and external services and publication costs. Personnel costs are explicitly excluded.

4. Submission Deadline

The application period opens on **January 23, 2026** and closes on **February 22, 2026**.

5. Evaluation and Selection

Projects will be evaluated externally by experts from the scientific community, following TERC and standard research assessment criteria. The evaluation will consider the following weighted components:



- a) Alignment of the project and research team with the call requirements (10%)
- b) Relevance to healthy aging (15%)
- c) Scientific interest, originality, and contribution to the field (20%)
- d) Knowledge of the background and current state of the art (5%)
- e) Quality of objectives, methodology, and work plan (15%)
- f) Feasibility within the proposed timeframe and budget (5%)
- g) Expected impact and credibility of results (10%)
- h) Curriculum vitae of the Co-PIs (20%)

Proposals that do not meet the minimum required quality standards may result in the call being declared void.

6. Notification of Results

Applicants will be informed of the evaluation outcome by email no later than three (3) months after the call closes.

7. Project Follow-up and Dissemination

- 7.1. The awardee must present the project results at the TecnATox Workshop and provide a summary for publication on the TecnATox website.
- 7.2. Funds must be used exclusively for the approved project. Misuse of funds will require full reimbursement of the grant.
- 7.3. All scientific outputs derived from the project (including publications, presentations, and reports) must acknowledge the funding source
- 7.4. A final scientific report summarizing the project's objectives, methodology, results, and use of funds will be required at the end of the project period.