INTERNATIONAL CALL IC52_26

Part-time - 20h collaboration grant at the Precision Environmental Health Lab

JOB DESCRIPTION

L'Institut de Recerca Biomèdica Catalunya Sud (IRBCatSud) is an institution that integrates biomedical research in the Camp de Tarragona and Terres de l'Ebre regions. The IRBCatSud serves as the coordinating body for biomedical research and innovation for the university hospitals in both healthcare regions (Hospital Universitari Joan XXIII de Tarragona, Hospital Verge de la Cinta de Tortosa, Hospital Universitari Sant Joan de Reus, Hospital Universitari Institut Pere Mata de Reus) and Universitat Virgili.

Research Group: PrEHeaL—Precision Environmental Health Lab
Field: Analytical chemistry

The **PrEHeaL—Precision Environmental Health Lab**—research group offers a **part-time contract** to a final-year undergraduate student or a master's student from the 2026-2027 course.

PrEHeaL aims to advance the characterisation of the chemical exposome and its relationship with health, with particular emphasis on exposures during early life. We integrate analytical chemistry, wearable technologies and omics approaches within a multidisciplinary team connecting chemistry, biochemistry, engineering and paediatrics. We conduct our research at the Institut de Recerca Biomèdica Catalunya Sud (IRBCatSud, Tarragona, Spain), a CERCA research centre, in collaboration with Universitat Rovira i Virgili and the region's university hospitals.

We offer a **collaboration grant** in the context of the project ASTHMA. The main objective of this project is to improve the characterisation of personal exposure to chemical contaminant mixtures using wearable devices, including silicone wristbands and other portable sampling and monitoring systems. We aim to connect analytical development with applications in environmental health studies, particularly in paediatric populations. Successful candidates will help develop and validate methods to extract and analyse trace-level contaminants, evaluate sampling device performance, and apply these tools under real-world exposure conditions.

The selected candidate will perform the following tasks:

1. Development and validation of analytical methods for the determination of airborne pollutants and their metabolites in environmental samples based on gas and liquid chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry.
2. Active participation in the monitoring campaigns.
3. Sampling handling, reception and preparation.
4. Analytical results processing, interpretation and reporting.
5. Participation in social engagement and outreach activities.

CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's Degree in Biochemistry, Biotechnology or Chemistry.
- Be a current student in an official master's program (course 2026-27)
- B2 English certificate or higher.

DESIRED EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

- Experience in sample preparation and in developing and validating methods for trace-level contaminant analysis.
- Knowledge of analytical quality control, data processing and interpretation.
- Experience in targeted analysis, suspect screening and non-targeted analysis.
- Knowledge of passive sampling, wearable devices or human exposure assessment.
- Experience in chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry.
- Ability to work independently in the laboratory, strong critical thinking skills and a collaborative approach to multidisciplinary research.
- Interest in pursuing a research career in exposomics and environmental health.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

- Part-time position (20 h)
- Workplace: IRB CatSud Biomedical Research Labs, Hospital Sant Joan de Reus.
- Contract: Temporary, from December 2026 to June 2027, extendable until August 2027.
- Gross monthly salary: 654,76 €
- Starting date: December 2026 / January 2027

SELECTION PROCEDURE

- Selection of CV's. Suitable and unsuitable CV's will be identified according to the requirements. Applicants who do not meet the requirements indicated in the candidate profile and requirements will not pass to the next phase.
- Evaluation of the CV. Evaluation of the CVs up to a maximum score of **50** points.
- Cover Letter. Attach to the resume a cover letter with a maximum length of 2500 characters with spaces. With a maximum score of **10** points.

To access the interview phase it is necessary to have obtained a minimum score of **40** points in the sum of scores of the evaluation of the curriculum and cover letter

- Personal interview. With a maximum score of **40** points.

Items	**40**
Attitude	**10**
Fit in the work place	**10**

Experience, developed functions/skills	**10**
Teamwork	**10**

SELECTION COMMITTEE

- President: Noelia Ramírez (Principal Investigator)
- Chair 1: Mahsa Nagavhi (Researcher)
- Chair 2: Camilla Guerrini (Researcher)

SUBSTITUTES:

- President: Raquel Cumeras (Principal Investigador)
- Chair 1: Sarai Cuesta (Researcher)
- Chair 2: Amina Barri (Researcher)

CANDIDATURES

- The CV must include the number in DNI / NIE or personal identity document.
- Send the CV and the Cover Letter through the IRBCATSUD website.

For any questions or queries: recruitment@irbcatsud.cat

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF CV: 03/12/2026

COMMUNICATIONS

The IRBCATSUD will inform the candidates if they have been admitted or excluded to access the interview through its website.

HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

The IRBCATSUD has the European accreditation The Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R), complies with the general principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the recruitment of researchers.

The IRBCATSUD has an internal recruitment policy that follows the Open, Transparent and Merit-based Recruitment (OTM-R) policies. More information about the HRS4R policies implemented at the IRBCATSUD is available on the following website: https://www.irbcatsud.cat/hrs4r-hr-excellenceresearch/

The IRBCATSUD will guarantee the right to equal opportunities and treatment, as well as the real and effective exercise of rights by people with disabilities under equal conditions with respect to other citizens, through the promotion of personal autonomy, universal accessibility, access to employment, inclusion in the community and independent living and the eradication of any form of discrimination, in accordance with articles 9.2, 10, 14 and 49 of the Spanish Constitution and the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and international treaties and agreements ratified by Spain.

In the event of a tie, priority will be given to hiring the person with a disability.

In the event of a tie between people of different genders, the person of the least represented gender in the work group/department/service in which he joins will be hired.

CHANGE CONTROL		
Date	**Review**	**Modificacions**
03-07-24	00	Document Creation