



International Call for Postdoctoral Fellowship Applications (FONDECYT 2027)

Introduction

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (UC Chile) is one of Latin America's leading research institutions, internationally recognised for its academic excellence and impact. This distinction is reflected in its **College of Agricultural and Natural Resources (FASN)**, which is ranked 1st in Chile and 3rd in Latin America in Agriculture and Forestry in the **QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026**.

The **College of Agricultural and Natural Resources (FASN)** invites **highly motivated early-career researchers from around the world** to apply for a **Postdoctoral Research Fellowship** under the **FONDECYT Postdoctoral Programme 2027** (call expected to open in **July 2026**).

This opportunity is open to scientists with backgrounds in **Agricultural and Forestry Sciences, Biology, Ecology, Natural Resources, Environmental Economics, Engineering**, and related fields who have recently obtained their PhD (from **2023 onward**) and are interested in conducting **high-impact research in a dynamic, interdisciplinary environment**.

[About the Fellowship](#)

The **FONDECYT Postdoctoral Programme**, administered by **ANID (Chile's National Agency for Research and Development)**, is one of the country's most prestigious and competitive funding schemes, with more than two decades of excellence in supporting early-career researchers.

Key features:

- Duration: 2–3 years
- Expected start date: April 1, 2027

Funding includes:

- Salary: approximately USD 30,500 per year
- Research and operational funds: approximately USD 5,000 per year
- Relocation allowance: USD 3,300 (one-time payment for international fellows)

[Eligibility Criteria](#)

Applicants must:

- Hold a PhD degree obtained in 2023 or later
- Demonstrate strong potential for independent research and collaboration
- Show experience or interest in interdisciplinary work

- Be able to work effectively in an international and multicultural environment
- Align their research with at least one of the FASN-hosted research topics

Scholarship Conditions

After being selected, scientists must write down a Research Proposal according to the **call FONDECYT Postdoctoral 2027 (to be open in July and estimated deadline by August 2026)** with the support and supervision of a FASN faculty member, who will act as an **Academic Sponsor**, and will provide access to laboratory space, equipment, and research facilities necessary for the successful development of the project.

Funding.

The scholarship provides funding for:

- Salary: around USD 30,500 per year (CLP\$27.784.00)
- Operational expenses and equipment around USD5,000 per year (CLP\$4.500.00)
- Settlement allowance (for researchers residing abroad) USD 3,300 one-time payment (CLP\$3.000.000)

How to Apply

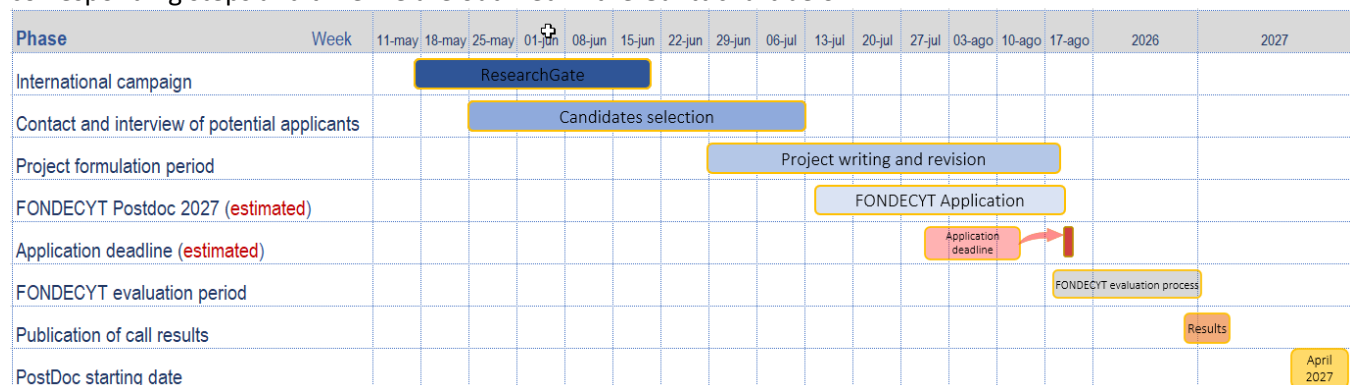
Interested candidates must complete the [online Postdoctoral Application Form](#).

Applicants must submit:

- Research title interested in
- Name of the UC academic sponsor
- Curriculum Vitae
- PhD diploma (including graduation date)
- Current country of residence
- Cover letter

Important dates

The call is expected to open in July, with a submission deadline in August, in line with the ANID schedule. The corresponding steps and timeline are outlined in the Gantt chart below:



If you have any questions or need further assistance, feel free to contact us at xaalvare@uc.cl.



Research Topics for Postdoctoral Applications

FASN offers a wide range of postdoctoral research opportunities across several thematic areas.

Please click on each area below to explore the available research topics and supervisors:

- ✓ [Forestry Sciences](#)
- ✓ [Natural Resources](#)
- ✓ [Agricultural Sciences](#)
- ✓ [Viticulture and Oenology](#)

Forestry Sciences

Research area	Research title	Academic sponsor
Ecology, Forest Management	Biogeography of riparian biodiversity: applying landscape ecology to understand the effects of climate change on a keystone ecosystem	Isabel M. Rojas Viada
Forest Science	Spatial and temporal patterns of biodiversity of riparian ecosystems at multiple spatial scales.	Isabel M. Rojas Viada
Forest Science	Socio-ecological approaches to restoring freshwater ecosystems for water security	Isabel M. Rojas Viada
Forest ecosystems and remote sensing	Ecosystems recovery after forest fires: an approach based on hyperspectral images and LiDAR sensor	Marcelo D. Miranda
Wildfires, time series, spatial analysis	Mega wildfires and the role of current land use and the legacy of past uses	Horacio Gilabert

Natural Resources

Research area	Research title	Academic sponsor
Meteorology, engineering, hydrology	Study of microphysical properties of fog through insitu observations to improve liquid water content and efficiency representation in fog harvesting models	Felipe Lobos Roco
Economic science and administration	Assessing financial stability in the context of nature loss	Rodrigo Arriagada
Public policies and economic instruments	Impact of economic instruments on private investment in biodiversity	Rodrigo Arriagada
Environmental economics	Development of quantitative methods to reflect biodiversity loss in financial statements	Rodrigo Arriagada
Geomorphology, Sedimentology, Soil Science	Geomorphological dynamics in mountain basins in the context of climate change	Tania Villaseñor Jorquera



Agricultural Sciences

Research area	Research title	Academic sponsor
Plant breeding, plant biotechnology	Increase in albumin content in Chile bean landraces through genomic and molecular selection, accelerated breeding cycles and multi-environmental evaluation.	Andrés Schwember
Oenology, Chemistry, and Statistics	Physicochemical, sensory, and bioactive compounds characterisation of Chilean cider apple tree heritage from an oenological perspective: links between territory, distinctive production processes, and quality	Cristian Galaz Torres
Process Engineering, Chemistry	Evaluation of the oenological potential of newly introduced wine grape varieties in Chile, through the design and optimisation of non-conventional winemaking strategies, and their physicochemical and sensory characterisation, aimed at accelerating their productive and commercial positioning.	Cristian Galaz Torres
Oenology, food oral processing, Advanced data analysis, statistics	Colloidal stability and the construction of mouthfeel sensations in red NOLO wines (Non-Alcoholic / Low-Alcohol)	Natalia Brossard
Advanced data analysis, statistics, food oral processing, oenology	Machine Learning–based predictive modelling of astringency and its sub-qualities in red wines through physical measurements of mouthfeel sensations for smart wineries	Natalia Brossard
Food Engineering, Environmental Chemistry, and Food Microbiology.	Physicochemical interactions between photoactive biofungicide formulations and fruit surfaces: implications for persistence, dissipation, and antifungal efficacy	Daniel Schwantes
Agrochemistry; Physical Chemistry; Plant Pathology.	Process–structure–function relationships in hydrochars derived from agroindustrial residues and their performance as components of plant propagation substrates.	Daniel Schwantes
Materials Science; Bioprocess Engineering; Soil Science.	Physicochemical mechanisms of electrolysed-water-assisted electrosonication in pesticide degradation and pathogen inactivation in fresh produce	Daniel Schwantes
Plant Molecular Biology	Role of long non-coding RNA in root development in Arabidopsis	Jose O'Brien
Plant Molecular Biology	Elucidating the mechanism of action of plant biostimulants	Jose O'Brien
Economics, hydrology, and natural resources management	The economics of water use decisions under drought: a game-theoretic approach	Oscar Melo
Weed management	Use of mixed cover crops as a strategy for herbicide resistance in crop rotations	Rodrigo Figueroa
Entomology, biodiversity	Using native plants in conservation biological control	Tania Zaviezo



Viticulture and Oenology

Position	Research Line	Focus Area	Candidate Profile	Key Skills / Expertise
1	Water Resources & Biogeosciences	Soil formation, critical zone, water systems	Earth Sciences / Environmental Engineering	Soil and Earth system processes, hydrology and hydrogeology, geochemistry, environmental systems analysis, field and data analysis.
2	Abiotic Interactions & Grapevine Resilience	Molecular and epigenetic response to stress	Bioinformatics / Genomics	Genomics and bioinformatics, multi-omics data analysis, gene expression analysis, programming (R/Python), data integration.
3	Grape & Wine Quality / Bioactive Compounds	Health effects of <i>Vitis</i> extracts	Molecular Biology / Immunology	Molecular biology and immunology, bioactive compound analysis, host-microbiome interactions, advanced bioimaging, experimental design, quantitative data analysis.
4	Digital Tools & Intelligent Decision-Making	AI, precision agriculture, digital viticulture	Data Science / Agricultural Engineering	AI and data science, remote sensing, GIS and spatial analysis, computer vision, precision agriculture, data analysis.
5	Heritage, Territory & Viticulture	Terroir, sustainability, territorial systems	Agronomy / Viticulture / GIS	Viticulture systems, terroir analysis, spatial analysis (GIS), field research, data analysis, sustainability approaches.