

NATIONAL RESEARCH
AND INNOVATION AGENCY
(ANII)

General Regulations
NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
(Sistema Nacional de Becas)

Approved by the Board of Directors

October 6, 2015

Title 1. General Provisions

CHAPTER I CHAPTER 1. Purpose

Article 1. The organization and operations of the National Research and Innovation Agency (ANII, *Agencia Nacional de Investigación e Innovación*) are governed by Article 256 of Law No. 17 930 of 19 December 2005, Law No. 18 084 of 9 January 2007 and their regulatory decrees, and by the Agency's bylaws. Subparagraph e of Article 5 of the Bylaws (Authority) states as follows: "The Board of Directors is entitled to approve the specific regulations of the programs mentioned in the preceding paragraph". According to Article 304d of Law No. 18 172, the National Fellowship Program (SNB, *Sistema Nacional de Becas*) was established under ANII to support the funding of early career fellowship grants, postgraduate fellowships in Uruguay and abroad, postgraduates labor market insertion fellowships, postdoctoral fellowships, fellowships intended for Uruguayan scientists returning to the country, and productive sector linkage fellowships, among other grants.

The purpose of these Regulations is to establish the minimum requirements of the fellowship program offered by ANII. The Regulations herewith may be supplemented by specific regulations for each call for applications.

These Regulations set out the fellowship schemes ANII may fund, without ANII being under any obligation to do so. All calls to be announced each year shall be set out in ANII's Annual Operating Plan (POA, *Plan Operativo Anual*).

Article 2. Definitions. For the purposes of these Regulations, the following terms shall have the meanings stated below:

- **Fellowship** (*beca*): Financial support awarded to a grant holder in order to fulfil a specific work plan in Uruguay or abroad.
- **Beneficiary/Grant holder** (*beneficiario/becario*): Individual who has been awarded a fellowship grant.
- **Recent Graduate** (*egresado reciente*): Individual who has graduated within the previous two years.
- **Academic Institution** (*centro académico*): University, higher education, polytechnic or similar institution accredited by the competent public authorities in Uruguay, and foreign institutions by the competent authorities of their country of origin. The term "national academic institution" means an institution established in Uruguay, including any institution that is part of an international institutional network, as long as it is authorized to operate by the competent public authorities.
- **Laboratory** (*laboratorio*): In a broad sense a high-level research center that has the equipment necessary to conduct research in the field of science of its specialization.
- **Categorized Researcher** (*investigador categorizado*): Researcher included in ANII's National Researchers System (SNI, *Sistema Nacional de Investigadores*), duly qualified for advising duties regarding work plans and thesis work.
- **R&D+I**: Research and Development and Innovation.

- **CESBE:** Acronym in Spanish for Fellowship Grants Evaluation and Monitoring Committee (*Comité de Evaluación y Seguimiento de Becas*). Generic name for a group whose members are representatives of the academic, scientific and technological community designated in accordance with the respective Regulations, and which has the responsibility to review fellowship applications, assess them and establish a follow-up of the grant holder during the term of the fellowship. As set out in Article 24(g) of Law No. 18 084, the members of these technical committees must be approved by the National Council of Innovation, Science and Technology (CONICYT, *Consejo Nacional de Innovación, Ciencia y Tecnología*). There are different CESBEs, and their members vary according to the specific features of the calls to be evaluated.

Article 3. There are five fellowship schemes:

- Early career fellowships (Beca de iniciación en la investigación): Designed for advanced level higher education students and individuals with equivalent education level, as long as they provide evidence of being related to the research field. Title II. Chapter I
- Postgraduate fellowships (Becas de posgrado): Designed for pursuing master's and doctoral studies in national or foreign academic institutions, including under the sandwich scheme. Title II. Chapter II
- Fellowships for labor market insertion (Becas de inserción laboral): Designed for undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students, for the labor market integration of highly qualified human resources. Title II. Chapter III
- Postdoctoral fellowships (Becas de posdoctorado): Designed for researchers of academic excellence to pursue postdoctoral studies in Uruguay. They are expected to demonstrate they will have an impact on the composition, development and modernization of research groups in the country. Title II. Chapter IV
- Mobility fellowships (Becas de movilidad): Aimed at strengthening human resources capacities of national research institutions in recognized centers in foreign countries.

Article 4. All fellowships shall be awarded through transparent and competitive processes. The assignment of grant holders is the responsibility of ANII's Board of Directors, and all fellowships must be approved by it.

When applying to any fellowship program offered by ANII the applicant accepts implicitly to have his/her curriculum vitae, a summary of his/her project and/or work plan, and general information related to the application disclosed through any means, as defined by ANII, in order to ensure the program's transparency.

CHAPTER II

CHAPTER 2. Conditions for admission

Article 5. General conditions for admission to the National Fellowship Program. Applicants for any of the fellowship schemes referred to in these Regulations shall comply with the following requirements:

- a. Applicants must be Uruguayan citizens or foreign citizens residing in Uruguay with proven ties with the country. In the latter case, residence in the country shall be preferably for at least two years.

- b. Applicants for postgraduate fellowships abroad must be residing in Uruguay with proven ties with the country for at least two years.
- c. Applicants must not have been beneficiaries of any grant funded —totally or partially— by ANII that has the same characteristics (either concurrently or consecutively). “Same characteristics” should mean: master's studies abroad equivalent to master's studies under cooperation agreement, doctoral studies abroad equivalent to doctoral studies under cooperation agreement.
- d. If applicants are previous beneficiaries, they must have not failed to fulfill their duties under a previous fellowship program, and they must have not been disqualified by a resolution of the Board of Directors in consultation with CESBE.
- e. Applicants shall submit a work plan specifying the activities timeline, and the assigned advisor, if specified in the call for applications. In the case of postgraduate studies in Uruguay, if the advisor is a foreign national, the applicant must also have an in-country co-advisor assigned.
- f. The fellowship application shall specify whether the proposed work plan has been or will be submitted, either wholly or in part, to another instrument by ANII or by any other funding institution.
- g. Applicants shall comply with all specific requirements of the fellowship for which they apply, which shall be detailed in each call.
- h. Applicants shall not be under the Full-Time Academic Work Regime (*régimen de dedicación total*), nor shall they carry out paid labor, teaching or research activities exceeding 30 hours/week. This item shall not apply to fellowships for studies to be undertaken exclusively abroad.

CHAPTER III CHAPTER 3. Evaluation
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Article 6. The evaluation of funding applications shall be the responsibility of a Fellowship Grant Evaluation and Monitoring Committee, whose members shall be appointed by ANII's Board of Directors. According to the peer review system, there will be a qualitative evaluation of each candidate, which shall take into account the specific characteristics of each field.

Article 7. The criteria for evaluation of applications, to be defined in each call, shall take into account at least the following:

- a. Background of the applicant.
- b. Endorsement of the institution where the applicant plans to carry on the work funded by the fellowship.
- c. Work plan submitted by the applicant.
- d. Proposed advisor and his/her relevant background in relation to the work plan.
- e. Characteristics of each field.
- f. Potential contribution to the development of R&D+I in Uruguay, that is, his/her contribution to the productive and social problems of the country and/or the National Research and Innovation System.

Article 8. A Commission for Procedure Evaluation (*Comisión de Evaluación de Procedimientos*) shall be set up if required by applicants who object to errors in the implementation of the procedures established for the evaluation of their proposals. Applicants shall have 15 calendar days as of the date they receive the relevant notice for submitting their claims. The Commission

shall be appointed by ANII's Board of Directors, and shall make a decision within a period of 30 calendar days since its establishment to issue its report. In no case shall the submission of one or more requests for review have suspensive effect with respect to the competitive process. The report of the Commission for Procedure Evaluation shall be submitted to ANII's Board of Directors for consideration.

CHAPTER IV CHAPTER 4. Advisors

Article 9. Advisors shall comply with the following requirements:

- a. They shall be approved as advisors by the postgraduate program. If they reside in a foreign country, the applicant must have an in-country co-advisor assigned.
- b. They shall be available to provide due counsel to the grant holder throughout the work plan.
- c. They shall have proven experience in the subject matter specified in the fellowship application, as well as advising capabilities and experience in the specific field.

Article 10. Co-advisors may be assigned. They shall comply with the same requirements as advisors, otherwise, their incorporation into the work plan must be duly substantiated.

Article 11. Obligations of the advisor:

- a. Enforcing and complying with all the provisions of these Regulations and the specific regulations of each call for applications, and notifying ANII of any breach thereof. In such case, ANII shall take the measures or carry out the consultations that it deems fit.
- b. Being responsible for the training of the grant holder, the fulfillment of the proposed work plan, the timely reporting and the notification to ANII of any breaches beyond his/her control.
- c. Informing ANII about the work done by the grant holder, accompanying each report of the grant holder with his/her academic evaluation.
- d. While advising a grant holder, the advisor shall notify ANII in writing and reasonably in advance if he/she will be leaving Uruguay for a period of more than 60 calendar days.
- e. If the grant holder requests sick leave for a period exceeding 60 days, the advisor shall submit a note confirming to be aware of the situation and approving the same.

Article 12. Number of fellows per advisor. Considering that advisors may have fellows assigned to them from previous calls for applications, both for masters and doctoral degrees, the total assignment of fellows per advisor is as follows:

EARLY CAREER	2 FELLOWS (Master's)
LEVEL 1 RESEARCHER	3 FELLOWS (2 doctorate fellows max.)
LEVEL 2 RESEARCHER	4 FELLOWS
LEVEL 3 RESEARCHER	4 FELLOWS
EMERITUS	4 FELLOWS
Not in SNI	2 FELLOWS

Each call shall establish the date of reference that an advisor shall consider in determining this assignment.

CHAPTER V CHAPTER 5. Rights and obligations of the grant holder

Article 13. Obligations of the grant holder:

- a. Signing an agreement with ANII prior to the beginning of the grant term.
- b. Developing the tasks outlined in the approved work plan.
- c. Submitting a report with the timing and on the dates duly stated by ANII. Attaching the evaluation of the advisor in charge, and if applicable, stating the progress in the postgraduate program in course. Reports shall be signed by both the grant holder and the advisor, and shall be considered sworn statements. ANII shall be entitled to request further documents if it deems necessary. Exceptions may be agreed upon regarding the timing of reporting, which will be established for each particular fellowship scheme according to the specificities of the project. If the grant holder fails to submit the progress report properly and in due time, ANII shall have the power to suspend the subsequent fellowship disbursements, according to Article 18 of these Regulations.
- d. Entering grant holder's information into the CVUy database and keeping it updated.
- e. Maintaining fluent communication with ANII, answering by electronic means any requests of ANII presented throughout the grant term. For this purpose, the grant holder must keep his/her email address updated.
- f. Informing ANII within 30 calendar days of any substantial change in the information provided at the beginning of the grant term regarding the labor status, the number of hours or the residence in Uruguay.
- g. Informing ANII in writing, within ten days thereafter, if the completion of the postgraduate studies, the start of the program or the labor market insertion program occurred prior to the date specified in the agreement.
- h. Notifying ANII of any significant changes made to the activities plan of activities submitted. Attaching a note by the advisor endorsing these changes.
- i. Notifying ANII each time the grant holder is absent from Uruguay for more than 30 days due to an activity which is not provided for in the work plan submitted. A note of the advisor endorsing such activity shall be attached. Having stays of more than 60 calendar days authorized in advance by ANII.
- j. Notifying ANII in case of being awarded a grant by third parties. The grant holder shall notify ANII within a maximum period of 30 days for it to evaluate the suspension or not of the fellowship grant, and the grant holder shall abide by the resolution of ANII.
- k. Notifying ANII if any accident, illness or force majeure makes it impossible to carry out the fellowship-related activities for a period of more than 30 days.
- l. Beneficiaries shall provide an electronic copy of the published version and of the manuscript accepted for publication, after peer review (final draft post-refereeing) of all the scientific publications resulting from or related to this fellowship grant. ANII reserves the right to make

public such electronic copies free of charge, respecting intellectual property rights, within a period of not more than 12 months after publication.

Article 14. Rights of the grant holder:

- a. The grant holder shall be entitled to a particular financial support in each call.
- b. The grant holder may develop activities related to his/her training deemed necessary by his/her advisor, such as courses, internships and other academic activities. These activities shall be included in the original work plan. If they are not included, they must be approved by ANII, when warranted and endorsed by the advisor.
- c. In exceptional cases, the grant holder may request an extension or reduction in the number of hours devoted to the work under the fellowship grant. Such extension or reduction shall be duly substantiated and be endorsed by the advisor. The number of hours requested shall be consistent with Article 29 of these Regulations. In no case shall ANII be obliged to authorize the requested number of hours.
- d. In the event of pregnancy, the grant holder may request ANII to authorize pre- and postnatal leave for a maximum period of three months without suspension of the fellowship grant. The request shall be accompanied by a medical certificate. The months of pre- and postnatal leave shall not be considered for the calculation of the original grant term, and therefore, the original term shall be extended by the leave period.
- e. In the event of illness, accident or force majeure, duly proved and evaluated, which makes it impossible to carry out the fellowship-related activities for more than 30 days, the grant holder may request leave without suspension of the fellowship grant. If the leave lasts more than three months, the economic aid shall be suspended. The request shall be accompanied by a medical certificate. The period of illness shall not be considered for the calculation of the original grant term, and therefore, the original term shall be extended for the period of leave.

CHAPTER VI Chapter 6. Breach

Article 15. The procedure for determining the existence of any irregularity or breach by the grant holder or the advisor may be initiated as of the date that any seemingly irregular fact or misconduct, either submitted to ANII or at the discretion of ANII, becomes known.

Upon considering the situation, and hearing the disclaimers of the individual concerned and the reports deemed relevant, ANII, in consultation with the CESBE if necessary, shall make a well-founded decision.

Any irregularity, misconduct or breach considered to be serious in the opinion of ANII shall result in penalties that may give rise to the suspension or even the cancellation of the fellowship grant or the final removal from the National Fellowship Program (SNB). The suspension or removal from the SNB warrants the loss of the financial support during the period of the penalty.

Article 16. Failure by the advisor to comply with the obligations hereunder, the regulations of the specific fellowship scheme, the subscribed agreement or any applicable contractual or legal

terms shall entitle ANII, by resolution of its Board of Directors, to replace and/or disqualify the advisor for subsequent calls for applications for ANII fellowships, and for other ANII fellowships that the advisor may be simultaneously advising.

Article 17. In addition, if the advisor incurs a serious irregularity, ANII shall be entitled to send a copy of the advisor's background detailing breach of contract to the institution(s) where the grant holder or the advisor is carrying out his/her activities, as well as to any other institution funding research and/or postgraduate projects.

Article 18. Suspension of fellowship grant. Notwithstanding the requirements of each particular fellowship grant, ANII shall be entitled to suspend its benefits if the report(s) established is(are) not submitted in a timely manner. After 90 days of verified delay in reporting, the breach becomes a serious breach, which may lead to the cancellation of the fellowship grant.

Article 19. Cautionary suspension. While the grant holder is conferred the maximum guarantees to exercise the right of defense before a resolution of cancellation is passed, ANII shall be entitled to suspend all benefits temporarily, as a precaution, until a final resolution on the issue has been adopted.

Article 20. Cancellation of fellowship grant. The cancellation of the fellowship grant entitles ANII to demand from the recipient the reimbursement of the total amount received, adjusted according to the variation in the indexed unit value.

ANII shall be entitled to cancel fellowship grants in the following cases:

- a. If the evaluation report (or reports) shows an unsatisfactory performance of the grant holder.
- b. For breach of the obligations of the grant holder established by any regulations in force, these Regulations, the specific regulations of the particular call for applications or the subscribed agreement.
- c. If the grant holder ceases to perform research activities with no justified reason acceptable to the CESBE.
- d. If any information provided by the grant holder is found to be false.
- e. By founded resolution of ANII at the request of the advisor.
- f. Due to failure to comply with another program offered by ANII (Article 14).

Article 21. The resolution of ANII establishing the cancellation of the fellowship grant shall be made after examination of the relevant documentation by the interested party/parties, for which purpose a period of 15 calendar days is set. It is ratified that, for the purpose of these Regulations, any communication by email shall be considered valid at all times if sent to the email address provided to ANII.

Article 22. The procedure for challenging resolutions established by Law No. 18 084 and ANII Bylaws are applicable to the resolution of cancellation of the fellowship grant.

Article 23. If the grant holder renounces the grant within six months of execution for master's

fellowships, or within 12 months of execution for doctoral fellowships, the grant holder shall return to ANII the full amount of the fellowship grant received up to that point. In all other cases, ANII may release the grant holder from the reimbursement obligation as long as he/she commits to complete the work plan and defend the thesis within a period of time that ANII may deem reasonable.

Title 2. Fellowship schemes

CHAPTER I

CHAPTER 1. Early career fellowship grants

Article 24. The purpose of the early career fellowship grants (*becas de iniciación a la investigación*) is to support the first research experience, particularly of young individuals who are pursuing a degree.

Article 25. Beneficiaries. Beneficiaries of this fellowship scheme may be higher education students that on the date of the call are at an advanced stage in their studies, recent graduates and individuals with equivalent training (as long as they provide evidence of being related to the research field). These grants are awarded with the purpose of performing introductory research tasks or supporting research within a project, already approved or underway, under the direction of a researcher whose background shall be evaluated.

CHAPTER II

Chapter 2. Postgraduate fellowships (master's and doctoral degrees)

Article 26. The purpose of this fellowship scheme (*becas de posgrado*) is to promote postgraduate studies, mainly in national strategic areas of research and innovation.

Article 27. The postgraduate fellowships funded by ANII shall be awarded exclusively for master's or doctoral degrees.

Article 28. There are different categories of postgraduate fellowships, as follows:

A. In-country postgraduate fellowships¹:

- I. Master's Degrees (MAE): Grants aimed at funding master's degrees in academic institutions located in Uruguay. The objective is to provide the students financial aid for up to 24 consecutive months.

In the case of postgraduate programs that specifically grant the doctoral degree in a period shorter than the period it would take to earn a master's degree first and then follow the doctoral

¹ The postgraduate degree is granted by a Uruguayan institution.

program, ANII shall maintain the fellowship for the master's degree until the deadline for which it was granted, even if the doctoral program started earlier. To apply for a doctoral studies fellowship, the candidate shall apply at the subsequent call for applications announced by ANII and go through the selection stages pertaining to such call. If the candidate is conferred that grant, the term of execution of activities under the doctoral studies fellowship shall begin as from the date of acceptance at the doctoral program.

II. Doctoral degrees in Uruguay: This category comprises two subtypes:

- I. i) DOC: Doctoral studies are funded for a maximum term of 36 consecutive months. In duly justified exceptional cases, depending on the conditions of each call, doctoral studies may be funded for a period of up to 48 months, starting from the date of admission to the postgraduate program.
- II. li) TES: The purpose of this subtype of grants is to fund the studies required to complete the thesis of a doctorate already initiated, to be developed in the public or private productive sector, for a period of 12 consecutive months.

The beneficiary of a DOC grant shall be entitled to request a TES grant, as long as the situation is considered justified by the CESBE. The application for a supplementary TES grant shall not confer automatically to the DOC grant beneficiary the right to the TES grant.

This fellowship scheme requires that the advisor or co-advisor of the beneficiary to reside in Uruguay.

III. Sandwich postgraduate fellowships (SAN): In this case, part of the curriculum is carried out at an academic institution or laboratory of excellence in a foreign country and the other part in national academic institutions. Eligible candidates are those currently following a postgraduate program in Uruguay but required to visit for a period of time an institution in another country to finish it. Funding may be obtained for any items that are considered necessary for the student to be able to carry out postgraduate studies. The period of stay in the foreign country shall not exceed the stay in Uruguay.

Postgraduate fellowships in Uruguay are incompatible with any other equivalent national financial support. An exception to this incompatibility could be decided by a resolution of ANII's Board of Directors, if applicable.

B. Postgraduate fellowships in foreign countries²:

I) Postgraduate studies in foreign countries (EXT): The grants awarded aim mainly at funding doctoral studies in foreign academic institutions.

These fellowships are aimed exclusively at Uruguayan citizens or foreign citizens residing in Uruguay with proven ties with the country. In the latter case, the residence in Uruguay shall be no less than two years.

II) Sandwich postgraduate fellowships: The fellowship activities may be fulfilled by performing

² The postgraduate degree is granted by a foreign institution.

some of the activities in a foreign country and others in Uruguay. The amount of the grant to be received by the grant holder during the time that he/she resides in Uruguay will correspond to the amount of the postgraduate fellowship in Uruguay.

III) Postgraduate fellowship in foreign countries under cooperation agreements with other institutions. The calls for applications shall be governed by each specific agreement and by these Regulations.

During the execution of the fellowship grant, the grant holder shall notify ANII each time he/she makes a trip related to the activities plan.

Article 29. Beneficiaries. Beneficiaries of all fellowship schemes shall be candidates who provide evidence of having a university degree from accredited Uruguayan or foreign universities. In the latter case, university degrees or equivalent degrees recognized as such by the national legislation of the issuing country shall be considered. Depending on the specificities of the call, a work plan and a advisor shall be required. In all cases, the designation as grant holder shall be conditional upon admission by the academic institution.

Article 30. Commitment. Grant holders in these modalities are expected to devote a minimum of 30 hours/week, except as provided for in Article 5i of these Regulations. The accumulation of hours (teaching hours, non-teaching hours, public institution, non-public institution), along with the hours that should be devoted to the grant, shall not exceed 60 hours/week.

Article 31. The beneficiaries shall have the obligation to defend the postgraduate thesis in a period no greater than 180 days after completion of the fellowship. Once the postgraduate degree has been obtained, a copy of it, or a certificate stating that procedures for its issuance have been initiated, shall be submitted to ANII, within a period of no more than 120 days after issuance thereof.

Article 32. With regard to the obligation to reside in Uruguay upon completion of the postgraduate fellowship, grant holders shall consider the following:

Beneficiaries of postgraduate fellowships in Uruguay:

Once the grant term has finalized, the grant holder shall extend his/her residence in Uruguay for a term equivalent to the grant term. This commitment to stay in Uruguay does not preclude the student from conducting further studies in a foreign country if the opportunity arises.

Beneficiaries of postgraduate fellowships in foreign countries

- *In a foreign country:*
Upon completion of the grant, the grant holder shall return to Uruguay and reside in Uruguay for a period that duplicates the time of residence in the foreign country.
- *Sandwich:*
Upon completion of the grant, the grant holder shall return to Uruguay and reside in Uruguay for a period that duplicates the time of residence in the foreign country, plus a period equivalent to the time of residence in Uruguay during the grant term. Thus, if the grant term is 36 months, and the grant holder has carried out activities in a foreign country for 24 months and in Uruguay for

12 months, the period of residence in Uruguay at his/her return shall be 60 months.

Until completion of the required term of residence in Uruguay that is mandatory for beneficiaries of postgraduate fellowships in Uruguay or in foreign countries, the beneficiary maintains a contractual commitment to ANII. A maximum period of five years for master's degrees and 10 years for doctoral degrees since completion of the grant term shall be considered for compliance with this commitment to ANII. Upon completion of this term, if the beneficiary were in breach with ANII, he/she shall not be entitled to apply for any other grant from ANII. In this case, ANII shall demand from the recipient the reimbursement of the total amount received, adjusted according to the variation of the indexed unit value. The term for reimbursement will be of 60 calendar days from the end of the term for compliance of the commitment stated above. However, ANII's Board of Directors shall be entitled to confer a longer term, grant funding and even cancel the debt if it deems it convenient in view of the particular circumstances of the case.

As consideration for the grant received, alternatives to the obligation to stay in Uruguay upon completion of the postgraduate studies shall be considered. The following are some options to be submitted by the postgraduate grant holder as consideration:

- Collaborative activities between the research institution where he/she pursued postgraduate studies in Uruguay and the foreign institution where he/she pursued postgraduate studies (for example, research group, innovation center, research center, international agency, government agency, company). Some of these activities may be: participation in research or innovation projects, joint publications in peer-reviewed journals, exchange of research materials/services, use of specific equipment not available in the national institution, mobility under cooperation projects.
- Lecturing in his/her area of specialization in Uruguay.
- Advising graduate students in Uruguay.
- Offering consultancy in his/her area of specialization in Uruguay.
- Collaborative activities or services between a Uruguayan institution and a new venture started by the beneficiary in the foreign country.
- Advisory services to new ventures or companies in Uruguay.

The following shall also be valued:

- Finding opportunities for Uruguayan students to pursue postgraduate studies or training in the institution that hosts the beneficiary, or in another related institution, as well as any links that may be developed for Uruguay at meetings, conferences, courses, etc.
- Generating formal links between Uruguayan and foreign institutions.
- Creating links and activities with the diaspora.
- Promoting trade relations between public or private entities, Uruguayan and foreign.

These alternatives shall be evaluated by the Fellowship Grant Evaluation Committee or any individual appointed by ANII, and may reduce or replace the mandatory period of stay in Uruguay upon completion of the postgraduate fellowship. The evaluation shall take into account the individual's academic career and the level of responsibility undertaken in these activities.

The request for modification of the mandatory period of stay may be submitted by the individual concerned to ANII together with a detailed report of the activities carried out.

CHAPTER III CHAPTER 3. Fellowships for labor market insertion
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Article 33. The purpose of the fellowships for labor market insertion (*becas de inserción laboral*) is to facilitate the labor market integration of individuals with accumulated human capital in the public and private national productive structure. In areas that are of strategic importance for Uruguay, the integration of these individuals in research institutions may be considered. In this case, a labor contract equivalent to the position of a full-time junior researcher shall be required from the beneficiary institution. ANII shall disburse a supplementary amount that shall not exceed the amount corresponding to a doctoral fellowship committed to 40 hours/week. This only applies to new contracts.

Article 34. Beneficiaries: undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students.

Article 35. The school transcript for undergraduate students, or the degree for graduates and postgraduates, issued by an accredited academic institution shall be required.

Article 36. The commitment shall be specified in each agreement to be signed by the beneficiaries and ANII, taking into account the particularities of each case.

Article 37. The term shall not exceed 24 consecutive months.

CHAPTER IV CHAPTER 4. Postdoctoral fellowships in Uruguay
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Article 38. The purpose of these fellowships (*becas de posdoctorado*) is strengthening the capacities of Uruguayan qualified human resources in all areas of knowledge, preferably in those indicated by the PENCTI, through the funding of fellowships for postdoctoral studies for researchers of academic excellence. They are expected to demonstrate they will have an impact on the composition, development and modernization of research groups in the country.

Article 39. Beneficiaries: Uruguayan or foreign scientists, residing in a foreign country, who want to pursue postdoctoral studies in a Uruguayan scientific-technological institution.

Article 40. The doctoral degree must have been obtained in a period of not more than six years before the date of the call.

Article 41. Candidates must submit a letter of application and have the endorsement and acceptance of the Uruguayan institution and the Head of the research group pertaining to the SNI, under whose supervision he/she will work.

Article 42. Commitment: Candidates must devote a minimum of 35 hours/week in the activity funded by ANII, and may not accumulate more than 60 hours/week with any other activity.

Article 43. The term shall not exceed 24 consecutive months.

Title 3. Applicants with a previous grant conferred by ANII

Article 44. A beneficiary of an early career fellowship grant conferred by ANII who has obtained his/her degree before the closing date of a call for applications for a postgraduate fellowship may submit his/her application and compete for a postgraduate fellowship in Uruguay or in a foreign country. If he/she obtains the new fellowship, he/she must renounce that previous grant.

Article 45. A beneficiary of a fellowship for a master's degree conferred by ANII to study in Uruguay, who has obtained the authorization to start the doctoral program —issued by the highest authority of the postgraduate program— before the closing date of a call for applications for a doctoral degree fellowship, may submit his/her application and compete for a doctoral degree fellowship offered by ANII in Uruguay. If he/she obtains the new fellowship, he/she must renounce the fellowship for a master's degree and provide evidence to ANII that he/she has been accepted as a doctoral student before signing the new agreement.

Article 46. A beneficiary of a mobility grant for training in a foreign country conferred by ANII may apply and compete for a fellowship for master's or doctoral degree of ANII in Uruguay. If he/she obtains the fellowship, he/she shall not receive the amount corresponding to the fellowship for master's or doctoral degree in Uruguay during the months that he/she will be abroad (internship).

Article 47. A beneficiary of a fellowship for master's degree conferred by ANII to study in Uruguay who has been accepted in a doctoral program in a foreign country before the closing date of a call for applications for fellowships for a doctoral degree may submit his/her application for a fellowship for a doctoral degree in a foreign country. If he/she obtains the new fellowship, he/she must renounce the fellowship for master's degree.

Article 48. A beneficiary of a fellowship for a doctoral degree of ANII to study in Uruguay shall NOT be entitled to apply for any fellowship for a doctoral degree in a foreign country.

Article 49. A grant holder may not be —simultaneously— a beneficiary of a mobility grant in a foreign country and of a postgraduate fellowship in a foreign country.

Article 50. A candidate may apply for only one type of postgraduate fellowship.

Article 51. An individual is entitled to submit only one application per call.

Article 52. The National Researchers System and the National Fellowship Program. As established by ANII's Board of Directors (Minutes No. 74/009 of 14 March 2009), two grants conferred by ANII may not overlap. This situation includes one in which there is incentive pay provided by the SNI and a fellowship for master's or doctoral degree. It should be noted that the researcher shall keep the categorization he/she has in the SNI, but shall not receive the corresponding incentive pay during the period he/she is receiving the grant.

Article 53. A given activity may not be funded by two different instruments of ANII.

Article 54. Special consideration shall be given to activities funded by another funding source, national and/or foreign, and the parties shall abide by the resolution of ANII.