



1. Are there any priority areas?

No, applicants can submit their project proposal in all research areas represented at Ca' Foscari University. For an overview see the [Research for Global Challenges'](#) web page.

2. When projects selected for funding would be able to start?

Actual start date depends on the evaluation phase which is assigned to external referees; for proposals submitted to the 1st call estimated start date may be scheduled around the beginning of 2019.

3. Can the same applicant submit a project proposal both to the 1st and 2nd call ?

No, applicants can submit one project proposal only regardless of the measure they apply for and regardless of the chosen deadline.

4. Can a foreign institution or any other legal entity different from Ca' Foscari University of Venice participate as beneficiary under measure 2?

No, project proposals under measure 2 can be submitted by individuals and/or research groups affiliated to Ca' Foscari University only (i.e. scientists holding a permanent position at Ca' Foscari). Transfers of granted amounts to any other legal entity are not allowed.

Notwithstanding, SPIN funding encourages activities that could lead to new research developments and international collaborations.

5. Which activities can be funded under Measure 1 ERC?

Measure 1 has been specifically structured with the aim to sponsorship researchers in the development of an ERC proposal to be submitted to the EC. The SPIN proposal should thus include a *workplan* describing both how the PI will strengthen his/her academic curriculum and overcome weaknesses of his/her proposal through the SPIN funding. The evaluation Committee will evaluate proposals on their prospective success under an ERC call.

6. How should the application form be filled in? How detailed should the budget breakdown be?

The application form provides adequate limit space to submit a detailed project idea along with a *workplan*. Although, the founding idea of SPIN is to support PIs in turning their research ideas into a successful project proposal to be funded by the EC (measure 1) or that could lead to new research outcomes and establish an international network (measure 2).



Budget form has been kept as simple as possible to let researchers better focus on the scientific aspects. A short description of items to be purchased and/or new staff to hire suffices.

7. Who should sign the Letter of Commitment?

The Letter of Commitment has to be signed by the Director and the responsible person for the Secretariat of the Department chosen by the candidate to host their project.

Both candidates holding a permanent position or not at Ca' Foscari University have to attach the signed letter to their proposal. Candidates who do not have direct contacts with any Department or permanent research staff at Ca' Foscari University can send an email to spin@unive.it asking for suggestion.

8. Can I save my online application and revise it later before final submission?

Yes, you can submit and revise your application until the deadline expires. As you submit you will receive an automatic email at your address containing a code; by clicking on the code you can enter your application and revise it as many times as needed.

9. Can candidates to Measure 1 allocate a lower amount to personnel costs?

No, candidates who do not hold a researcher or professor position at Ca' Foscari will be awarded a research fellowship 40.000€/year. They can opt for a minimum duration of 12 months up to a maximum of 24 months, meaning that a 18-month project duration is admitted.

Measure 2 does not foresees personnel costs.

10. The proposal template requires a description of the project workplan; does the mentioned workplan make reference to the ERC project (measure 1) or to the SPIN proposal?

The founding idea of SPIN – Measure 1 is to support researchers to mitigate any weakness they had identified in their ERC project proposal and/or academic curricula in order to meet ERC requirements. In this sense, the *workplan* refers to the SPIN project and describes activities to be undertaken during the course of the Ca' Foscari funding to overcome any current weakness in their ERC project idea/proposal.

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