



First private nonprofit institution
to promote science in Brazil

**Call to support
early-stage scientists
nº6/2022**

**Frequently
Asked Questions
(FAQ)**

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What type of research will the Serrapilheira Institute public call support?

We seek fundamental research projects that propose big questions in the supported areas of study. Big questions are those that question current scientific knowledge, open new perspectives for advancement, or deepen the knowledge in a scientific area. The institute aims to invest in original and bold ideas, especially risky projects. Projects that are a clear repetition of previous projects will not be supported. Projects must propose new contributions.

How can we identify whether the project meets the criteria set by the Serrapilheira Institute?

Fundamental research addresses general and essential aspects of science, seeking answers that advance basic knowledge. The questions that are part of the pre-proposal selection process provide parameters to identify whether the research is of a fundamental nature. They can be found in the call text itself.

Serrapilheira encourages the submission of risky projects that propose bold hypotheses and approaches. In contrast, high technical risk, when present, should be mitigated by anticipating the methodological challenges and presenting alternatives. The project is expected to be technically robust.

What does it mean to have a permanent position?

A permanent position means the candidate has a permanent contract with the host institution. For public entities, the candidate must have been appointed to the position by the date of application.

Will the reviewer's comments be released?

Candidates who reach the final stage of the selection process but are not selected may have access to the reviewer's comments. There will be no release of reviewer's comments for pre-proposals not called for phase 2.

How many times can I submit proposals to the Serrapilheira Institute science program?

Each candidate may submit only one proposal per call and a maximum of two proposals during the entire period in which they are eligible. This rule became effective with call 4/2020.

Can I receive support more than once?

Scientists who have received previous resources from Serrapilheira and have not had their support renewed may submit proposals again.

How will the bonus to train people from underrepresented groups be implemented?

We encourage diversity through inclusion actions, especially with an ethnic-racial and gender focus. The implementation of the bonus to train people from underrepresented groups in the different research areas will be discussed with each scientist selected through this call. The value of the bonus will depend on the inclusion action to be developed. It may reach 30% of the total value of the original budget approved for the research development. Therefore, the request for diversity bonus resources should not be included in the budget proposal for the research project.

How do I submit a proposal to the Serrapilheira Institute?

Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Serrapilheira Institute portal at Fluxx (<https://serrapilheira.fluxx.io>) within the deadlines established in this call.

What are the two phases of the selection process?

In phase 1, those interested should submit a pre-proposal with basic information about the project. All eligible proposals received will be evaluated by reviewers. After that, some candidates will be asked to submit a full proposal - a time that we refer to as phase 2.

The final stage includes an interview in English with the candidates.

Should I add a detailed budget to my proposal?

The pre-proposal (phase 1) should not contain a budget. The candidates selected in phase 1 are asked to submit full proposals for phase 2. In this phase, a simplified budget should be presented.

Can Serrapilheira Institute support through public calls be renewed?

After five years of support, under a few exceptional instances, projects may be renewed annually for an indefinite period. The renewal will include only scientists who do not have resources from other sources.

I am not eligible for this call. How can I provide submissions for other calls?

You can check all our calls (open and completed) here:
<https://serrapilheira.org/todas-as-chamadas/>.

Can I talk to someone on the science support program team?

You can contact the team by email:
chamada@serrapilheira.org.

Other questions:

Why support only fundamental research?

As scientists are increasingly encouraged to conduct research with a view to its applicability, resources for fundamental research are scarce. Therefore, we want to stimulate projects focused on producing new knowledge and supporting research motivated by curiosity, which is not necessarily aimed at practical application.

Why should the candidate have a permanent position?

As the goal of the Serrapilheira Institute is to support long-term projects, candidates must have permanent positions to guarantee greater stability and infrastructure to develop the research.

Why is participation restricted to scientists who completed their doctoral studies starting in 2015?

We chose to prioritize the participation of scientists who obtained the title more recently because they have more difficulty gaining access to resources, mainly when they compete with scientists in more advanced academic career stages.

If the goal is to support young scientists, why not include those who obtained degrees less than two years ago?

We want to consolidate a group of scientists who are not yet senior scientists but have already gone through an independent professional experience. However, those who completed their doctorate after the established period may apply for future annual calls from the institute.

For the requirement relating to scientific articles, can preprints or book chapters be sent?

No, candidates must be principal authors of at least two high-impact scientific articles published in scientific journals.

How does the partnership with CONFAP and FAPs work?

Serrapilheira established partnerships with the National Council of State Research Support Foundations (Conselho Nacional das Fundações Estaduais de Amparo à Pesquisa - CONFAP) and the Research Support Foundations (Fundações de Amparo à Pesquisa - FAPs, FAPERJ, FAPESC e FAPESP) to increase support for young scientists in the states.

After the conclusion of the selection process and before the result announcement, following the criteria of the public call, the Serrapilheira executive team will meet with the representatives of the FAPs to decide which projects will be supported.

Through co-financing, Serrapilheira and FAPs can jointly support, with mutually defined values, or unilaterally supported by the respective FAPs, in case the institute has budgetary limitations.

This depends on whether, among the selected candidates, there are people from the states of the FAPs listed above. In addition, the CONFAP has a partnership with Serrapilheira to which several other FAPs are signatories - Fundação Araucária, FAPAC, FAPDF, FAPEAL, FAPEAM, FAPEAP, FAPEG, FAPEMA, FAPEMAT, FAPEMIG, FAPEPI, FAPERGS, FAPERJ, FAPES, FAPESB, FAPESC, FAPESPA, FAPESQ, FAPTO, FUNCAP, FUNDECT, FAPERO. In this case, if candidates are selected from the respective states, Serrapilheira will inform these FAPs throughout the selection process.

Contact

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