Frequently asked questions · ULE predoctoral contracts 2026

Predoctoral contracts programme under the University of León Research Programme. These answers do not replace the rules of the call, which prevail in case of doubt; the Spanish version of the rules prevails over the English one.

> **Basic document, continuously updated:** this document contains the initial frequently asked questions of the call. The current version is online, in the application form, and will be enriched with the questions raised by applicants, which are added anonymously and in general terms, without personal data. Always check the online version: open the online FAQ

Before you start

What is the application period?

From 3 November to 2 December 2026, until 14:00 (Spanish peninsular time). At that time the form stops accepting applications.

How many contracts are offered?

14 predoctoral contracts of up to 48 months (72 for people with disabilities). One is reserved for people with a disability of 33 % or more; the rest are distributed among the five fields of knowledge under rule 2.

Who can apply?

Anyone who, at the end of the application period, meets the requirements of rule 4: having completed a bachelor's degree or equivalent after 1 January 2021 (2020 with a disability of 33 % or more), with the extensions provided; having applied for admission to a ULE doctoral programme before the deadline; having completed at least 300 credits between bachelor's and master's; an average mark of 6.50 or more; and not holding a doctorate.

Do I need a supervisor before applying?

Yes. The application is endorsed by a single supervisor who meets the requirements of rule 8; their details and merits are part of the application.

The form

Do I need a ULE or Google account?

No. Just open the form link.

Can I fill it in in English?

Yes, with the Español / English selector at the top. If you fill it in in English, the application document is generated in Spanish and English (the Spanish text prevails), and you will also receive the emails in English if you fill in the form in English or if your nationality is not Spanish-speaking.

Can I save my progress and continue another day?

Yes, with «Save draft in this browser». Your data and PDFs are saved, but only in that browser and device: they are not kept on another computer, in incognito windows or if browsing data is cleared, and they may be lost in Safari. Click the button again after each change.

How do I enter my merits?

One merit per row, with «+ Add another row». In the sections on publications, books, conferences, theses, master's theses or projects, «ⓘ Recommended format» shows how to write them. Only merits stated and supported by evidence are assessed.

The form says data is missing. Where?

The list of missing items is grouped by section, with a «Go to section» link, and updates by itself: each item disappears when you fix it.

Which documents must I attach, and what size?

Each document shows whether it is provided by the applicant, the supervisor or both. One PDF per item; if you need several documents, merge them into a single, well-ordered PDF. Up to 20 MB per file and 60 MB in total. For publications, the pages that allow the merit to be verified are enough.

Signature and General Registry

What are the steps to submit the application?

1) Fill in the form. 2) Download the application in Word. 3) The applicant and the supervisor sign it once, at the end. 4) Upload it as a PDF in «Signed application». 5) File it at the ULE General Registry (preferably through the e-office) with the PDF documents. 6) Enter the registry number and date in the form, attach the receipt and submit.

Why does it have to be submitted twice?

Section b) of rule 10 requires the application to be filed at the General Registry and through the form. Without both steps it is not valid.

Can I edit the Word document before signing it?

No. If you find a mistake, correct it in the form and download it again, so that what you submit and what you sign match.

Until when can I register and submit?

Both steps by 14:00 on 2 December 2026. You register first and then submit the form, so leave enough time.

Supervisor

Who can be a supervisor?

Permanent doctoral academic staff of the ULE, Ramón y Cajal or Beatriz Galindo researchers, or assistant professors (Ayudante Doctor), with an active contract throughout the contract period and an active sexenio (except Ramón y Cajal and Beatriz Galindo). They must meet the requirements to supervise theses and be, or undertake to be, thesis supervisor or co-supervisor.

Can they endorse more than one application?

No. Each supervisor endorses only one application and may not supervise another ongoing project under this programme; if there is a co-supervisor, neither may they.

Which merits are assessed?

Those from 2022 to 2026 under rule 9: research record, training capacity and capacity to fund research (up to 4 points), plus membership of groups without predoctoral contracts (0.2 points) and assignment to the Ponferrada Campus, where the project will be carried out (0.2 points). At least 1.5 points are required.

After submitting

How do I know it has been received?

You will see your file number (PRE-DOC-ULE-2026-XXX) and receive an acknowledgement by email, with a copy to your supervisor. If it does not arrive, check your spam folder.

What if I am excluded?

You will receive an email with the reasons and the link to submit allegations. You have 10 working days from the day after the provisional list is published, until 23:59 on the last day. If you do not correct the defects, your application will be deemed withdrawn (rule 11).

Can I challenge the assessment?

Yes. After the provisional resolution proposal there are 10 working days to submit complaints through the call's application.

What happens if I am on the reserve list?

Withdrawals or departures in the first 11 months are covered by reserve candidates from the same field, in order of score (rule 12).

Will my data be published?

Lists and resolutions are published identifying people by surname and first name. Data protection rights are exercised at recvi@unileon.es (rule 19).

Links

Application form: open the form

Online FAQ (current version): open the FAQ

Questions and suggestions: questions about the call are sent exclusively through the form: send a question or suggestion