

MSCA-COFUND CSIC Doctoral Program in  
**Synthetic Biology: Engineering Biomolecular and Cellular Systems**

## WELCOME to SYN BIO- CSIC

- **SYNBIO-CSIC (CSIC Doctoral Program in Synthetic Biology: Engineering Biomolecular and Cellular Systems)** is an innovative, leading-edge doctoral program led by the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and co-funded by the European Union.
- **SYNBIO-CSIC** plans to hire **20 doctoral researchers** to provide them with advanced training through highly interdisciplinary, intersectoral research in Synthetic and Engineering Biology. The program will focus on three thematic axes: **bottom-up synthetic cell engineering, top-down and computational synthetic biology** - *from fundamental understanding to innovative solutions in sustainability and health.*

For further details, check the **SYNBIO-CSIC** web page:

<https://lifehub.csic.es/synbio-cofund/>

## PHD OPENING OPPORTUNITIES – FIRST CALL

Explore the **10 research positions** available at the First Call of **SYNBIO-CSIC** to tackle key challenges in Synthetic Biology.

Submit your application by **March 23, 2026**

**SynBio**  **Co-funded by  
the European Union**

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In collaboration with:

 **fundación para el  
conocimiento  
madrid**



**CENTERS**

Explore unmatched opportunities in Synthetic and Engineering Biology research at 11 CSIC institutes, recognized for their excellence.

**SYNBIO-CSIC** offers a diverse range of research project options within three primary axes:

- **Bottom-up synthetic cell engineering:** reconstituting life-like molecular systems and functional modules, and integrating them into artificial/natural cells
- **Top-down synthetic biology:** from protein engineering to reprogramming cell circuitry to achieve new functions, from cell therapeutics to cell factories.
- **Computational synthetic biology:** physics-guided and data-driven modeling, optimal experimental design, robotics, AI, and Machine Learning tools.

Renowned supervisors will guide participants and will have access to top-tier research facilities within the host institutions and their associated partners.

**In the First call, the 10 available positions will be hosted by the following CSIC institutes:**



**CIB:** Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas – Madrid (2 positions)

**CNB:** Centro Nacional de Biotecnología – Madrid (2 positions)

**I2SysBio:** Instituto de Biología Integrativa y de Sistemas – Valencia (1 position)

**IBBTEC:** Instituto de Biomedicina y Biomedicina – Cantabria (1 position)

**CBMSO:** Centro de Biología Molecular Severo Ochoa – Madrid (1 position)

**ICP:** Instituto de Catálisis y Petroleoquímica – Madrid (1 position)

**IQF:** Instituto de Química Física Blas Cabrera – Madrid (1 position)

**IMBCP:** Instituto de Biología Molecular y Celular de Plantas – Valencia (1 position)

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**ASSOCIATED PARTNERS**

Enhance the international and cross-sectoral components of the **SYNBIO-CSIC** training program through partnerships with research centers, universities, and biotech firms.



**SYNBIO-CSIC** is strongly connected to the **European Synthetic Cell Initiative** - <https://syntheticcell.eu/> and its research and training programs:  
*Nature is our next technology*

## TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Supercharge your PhD and shape your scientific future with **SYNBIO-CSIC's** dynamic training programs.

The selected fellows will benefit from an excellent training program that combines research-focused education with soft skills development, including hands-on workshops, training in research diversity and scientific communication, and a retreat for personal growth:

- Empowering the Next Generation of SynBio Researchers
- Tailored Training for Scientific Excellence and Career Versatility
- Scientific and Transferable Skills Development
- Network-Level Training in Interdisciplinary Collaboration and Entrepreneurship

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# HOW TO APPLY

## First Call

- **Call Opens:** December 15, 2025 – **March 23, 2026**
- **Evaluation and Selection:** March 30, 2026 – June 30, 2026
- **Contracting:** July 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026
- **Fellows Starts:** October 1, 2026 – December 1, 2026

## How to apply

- Check the [Guide for Applicants](#) for detailed information.
- Check the [Application Package](#) for all the templates and documents you need to fill out to submit your application (*Europass CV, motivation letter, recommendation letters, proof of academic records, proof of English proficiency, mobility declaration for eligibility*).
- **Gather all documents into a single folder**, following the guidelines in the «Instructions on how to submit your application» document included in the [Application Package](#), which explains how to name all documents and the single folder, and what subject line to use when submitting your application.
- **Submit** your application by email to [synbiocofund@cib.csic.es](mailto:synbiocofund@cib.csic.es)
- Contact us at [synbiocofund@cib.csic.es](mailto:synbiocofund@cib.csic.es) or visit our [FAQ site](#) to address any questions you may have.

Email: [synbiocofund@cib.csic.es](mailto:synbiocofund@cib.csic.es)

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*From Fundamental Understanding to Innovative Solutions in Sustainability and Health*

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