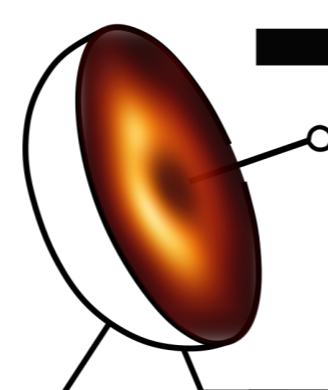




Summary and conclusions

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 **TITANS**
Nucleo Milenio

What to highlight in applications for positions or becas (1)

- What you can do (previous experience, ideally supported by concrete evidence, i.e. publications)
- What you want to do (future plans)
- Why your work is relevant (motivation)
- Why you want to do it in this place, in this position, with this person (link to the position)

What to highlight in applications for positions or becas (2)

A good proposal will answer the questions *“Why we?”* and *“Why now?”*.

This is valid for proposals of students up to proposals for very large amounts of funding.

Specifics for Chile and astronomy

For becas from the Chilean state, you often have to justify the importance for the country as well.

Arguments can include:

- General importance of astronomy in Chile
- Importance of developing new techniques (computing, Big Data, developments in engineering) that are relevant for all sciences and in industries
- Interest to contribute to education on the level of schools or Universities

Documents you need in a generic application

- CV
- Publication list
- Summary of previous work and future plans
- Often two or three referees who should know you
- Sometimes specific formats depending on application

Structure of a typical proposal

- Introduction to the project (scientific context, current state of the area of research)
- Your own previous work
- Methodology to use in the future
- Future plan
- Justification for selection of the place, person to work with, etc.

Funding opportunities for postdocs in Chile (1)

- Fondecyt Postdoctorado (3 year positions with your own funding and travel money; require proposal with around 8 pages).
- China-Chile fellowships (positions of 2 or 3 years; for 3 years, one year must be in China; requires Chinese partner for the proposal)
- ALMA-ANID: two-year postdoc position with some travel money; ~5 pages proposal
- ESO-mixto: two-year postdoc position with some travel money; ~ 2 pages proposal

Funding opportunities for postdocs in Chile (2)

- Applying for postdoc positions in existing programs (Anillos, Nucleos, Institutes or BASAL programs)
- In the future potential calls from Gemini-ANID (2-year positions)

Important notes

- Sometimes there is an inverse correlation between the size of the proposal and the chance to receive it.
- In case of Fondecyt postdoctorado, you need to do more work, but it is more likely that it will be funded. ESO-mixto is a very short proposal, but also unlikely to be funded.

Preparation for interviews (1)

- To be less nervous in case of interviews, it is important that you have experience giving presentations and showing or discussing your work with people in English.
- Prepare for interviews in advance. Try to get information about the people you need to talk to. Think about your advantages and strengths for the position, and tell them about it.
- Try to present yourself positively. No need to be negative about yourself. Accept compliments if they come and thank for them. If you get criticism, try to be open to it and show how you will try to consider it.

Preparation for interviews (2)

- If you have important interviews coming, it may be useful to practice with a friend, your supervisor or another person, or even just in front of the mirror.
- You may likely note things that you could have done better after your first interviews. Try to learn from experiences and improve.
- Try to learn what people are asking and looking for, and try to consider this when you plan your career on the long term.