

# CHILE A WINDOW TO THE UNIVERSE

CONICYT's role in  
supporting astronomy



**CONICYT**  
Ministerio de  
Educación

Gobierno de Chile



# Support for the **DEVELOPMENT OF ASTRONOMY** in Chile

## Funds

CONICYT runs five major funds to support the development of astronomy in Chile.

**FONDECYT** finances post-doctoral researchers and provides grants for individual research projects in all areas of expertise and at all stages of a scientist's career.

**QUIMAL** finances grants for the design and construction of astronomical instruments and the development of astronomical technology for state-of-the-art research.

**ALMA & GEMINI** finance post-doctoral researchers, grants for training and development, and EPO projects in the areas of astronomy and related sciences.


**CAS China-CONICYT Chile** finances post-doctoral researchers at Chilean institutions.

## Telescope Time

CONICYT is responsible for allocating telescope time to Chilean institutions twice a year at:

**GEMINI** 10% observing time at GEMINI South telescope.

**APEX** 10% observing time at the Atacama Pathfinder Experiment (APEX).





## CATA

The Center for Excellence in Astrophysics and Associated Technologies (CATA) is the largest Chilean center for astronomical technology.

CATA develops research, technology and EPO projects in areas such as:

- Galaxy formation and evolution.
- Stellar populations in the local universe.
- Extragalactic distance scale.
- Star formation.
- Planetary systems and astrobiology.
- Supernovas and dark energy.
- High-performance computing and simulations.

CATA began operating in April 2008 with core funding provided by CONICYT.

## Atacama Astronomical Park

The Atacama Astronomical Park is a protected astronomical scientific reserve located at the Chajnantor plateau at 5,000 m near the town of San Pedro de Atacama. CONICYT promotes the installation of international and national observatories as well as other scientific projects in this area, which offers excellent conditions for astronomical observation.



# Scholarships for doctoral degrees

CONICYT runs scholarship programs for doctoral degrees at Chilean and foreign universities.

## Scholarships for doctoral degrees in Chile

### Who can apply?

Qualified Chilean and foreign graduates residing in Chile and abroad.

### Support

Monthly allowance, tuition and academic fees, settlement and relocation allowance, airfares, and additional benefits.

## Scholarships for doctoral degrees outside Chile

### Who can apply?


Qualified Chilean or foreign graduates with permanent residence in Chile.

### Support

Monthly allowance, tuition and academic fees, settlement and relocation allowance, airfares, language courses, and additional benefits.

### Dates

Yearly calls for applications are published at [www.conicyt.cl/becas-conicyt](http://www.conicyt.cl/becas-conicyt)





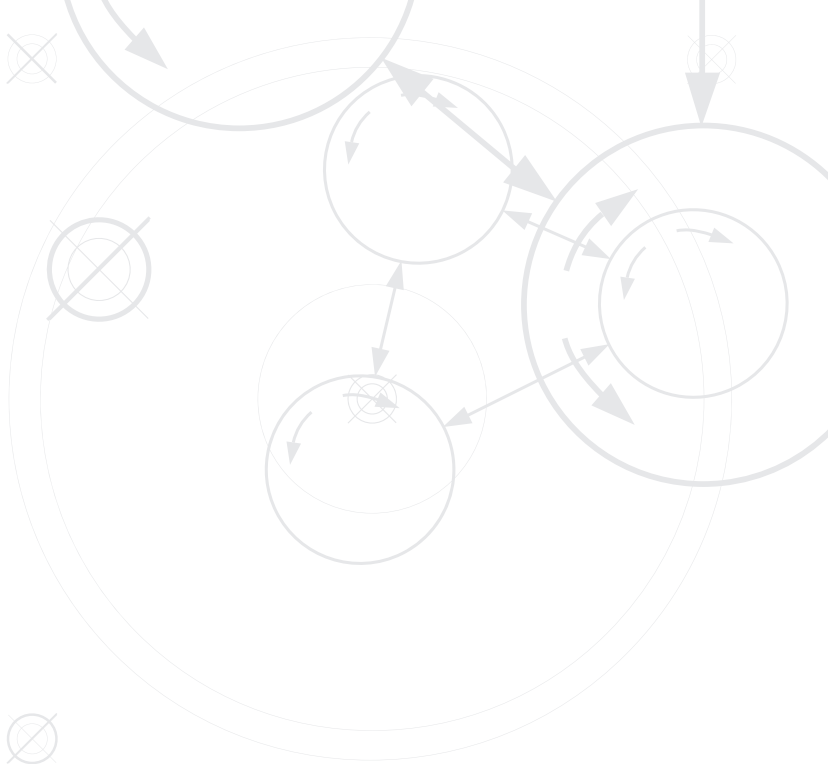


## Astronomy PROGRAM

The Astronomy program was created in 2006 by CONICYT to support and strengthen Chilean astronomy, to establish astronomy as a strategic model for science development in the country, and to promote Chile as a key player in this field.

### Highlights

- >> Chile is a superb place for astronomical observation and research, with 300 nights of clear skies a year. It hosts 40% of the world's astronomical observational power, including major astronomy projects such as the ALMA Observatory, the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST), and the European Extremely Large Telescope (E-ELT). By 2020 it will concentrate 70% of the global astronomical infrastructure.
- >> The astronomical community in Chile can access 10% of observing time at telescopes located in the country.
- >> The Chilean system of research funding is based on open competitive calls and covers all stages of a scientist's career.



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