

Call for applications to the position of Director of the International Center for Numerical Methods in Engineering (CIMNE)

Call for applications

The International Center for Numerical Methods in Engineering (CIMNE) is opening an international call to fill the position of Director of the organization.

The new Director must meet the challenge of increasing the scientific level and the international prestige of CIMNE and boosting the basic and translational research carried out within the organization.

Brief description of CIMNE

The International Center for Numerical Methods in Engineering (CIMNE, www.cimne.com) was founded in 1987 as a non-profit research institution based in Barcelona as a joint initiative of the Government of Catalonia (Generalitat de Catalunya) and the Technical University of Catalonia (UPC BarcelonaTech) in cooperation with UNESCO. It has the legal form of a consortium between the Generalitat de Catalunya and UPC.

CIMNE is member of CERCA (Centres de Recerca de Catalunya). The network of research centres at Catalonia.

The mission of CIMNE is the development of numerical methods and computational techniques for advancing scientific knowledge and technology in engineering, the education and training of researchers and engineers and the transfer of the research outputs to society.

CIMNE researchers carry out first-class research activities in the framework of competitive international and national research programmes and research contracts with industry, publish in the best scientific journals in the field, train excellent researchers and promote international research and academic activities.

CIMNE has a professional scientific and technical management team, a critical mass of researchers and on-going research projects, real possibilities of growing and establishing durable links with industrial and business sectors, and the capacity of leading technological projects, both nationally and internationally.

CIMNE attracts funding from a variety of sources. Core funding is provided by the Generalitat de Catalunya through its departments of Territory and Research and Universities, and by the UPC in the form of in-kind support through UPC staff affiliated to the Centre and the use of premises in its Campus Nord. Additional funding comes from competitive projects in European, national and regional programmes, contracts with industry and other scientific activities such as the publication of journals, the organization of conferences, the administration of scientific societies, as well as IP licenses.

CIMNE develops the innovation potential of its research by making novel scientific knowledge accessible to society and supporting its implementation in cooperation with industry, via licenses and the existing network of CIMNE spin-off companies. The combination of engineering development and scientific research enables CIMNE to connect academia, applied research and industry.

In this way, CIMNE significantly contributes to the economic growth of the industrial sector by becoming a reputable partner in research and technological development activities, as well as a provider of knowledge and human resources for industrial research.

Over the years, CIMNE has consolidated its prestige as an international Center of Excellence in the field of numerical methods in engineering. CIMNE's excellence was acknowledged by the Spanish Government in 2020 when it selected CIMNE as one of the Severo Ochoa Centers of Excellence, the highest recognition for research organizations in Spain. CIMNE has currently submitted a proposal to renew this award.

Details of CIMNE's activities can be found at <https://cimne.com/>. The report of CIMNE activities in 2025 can be downloaded from https://cimne.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/CIMNE_annualreport_2025.pdf

Candidate profile and contact information

Candidates should have:

- A distinguished track record of scientific excellence in the field of numerical methods in engineering and computational mechanics.
- Research management experience and the proven innovative thinking needed to lead a dynamic research organization.
- Experience in strategic planning and resource allocation.

The Director of CIMNE will have the support of a managing board. The current management structure of CIMNE can be visited at: <https://cimne.com/about/organizational-chart/>

The following qualifications will be considered desirable:

- a) A University professorship (teaching and research position).
- b) Good knowledge of the international, Spanish and Catalan research environments.
- c) Having a working knowledge of Spanish and/or Catalan or willingness to acquire it within the first three years.

Salary will be agreed in terms of experience.

The appointment will be for a period of five years, which could be extended in agreement with the Governing Council of CIMNE.

Candidates interested in the post may wish to have informal conversations with the current Director, who can be contacted at: director@cimne.upc.edu.

Job description

The Director has the following duties:

- Draw up the specific objectives of CIMNE
- Manage, organize, execute and monitor CIMNE activities
- Prepare periodic reports for the Generalitat de Catalunya, the governing bodies of CIMNE and the Severo Ochoa programme, among others
- Manage actions oriented towards securing resources
- Hire and appoint personnel
- Promote the training of the scientific and technical staff
- Support the actions requested by CERCA
- Other functions that might be requested by the Governing Council

Selection process

A shortlist of candidates who meet the scientific requirements will be compiled by the Scientific Advisory Council of CIMNE, who will also provide a ranking based on scientific merits and a brief report on each suitable candidate. Candidates on this list will be asked to produce a vision statement in preparation for an interview with the Selection Committee (SC) appointed by the Governing

UN CONSORCI DE

EN COL·LABORACIÓ AMB

Council of CIMNE. Ideally, interviews will be conducted on site, as this will give candidates an opportunity to visit the Centre. Only in very exceptional circumstances can interviews be conducted online. The selection process will be conducted in English and in strict confidence.

The SC will be responsible for identifying a preferred candidate and, if appropriate, providing a ranked list of alternative candidates to the Governing Council of CIMNE, who will have the final say in the appointment of the new Director.

Application documents

Applicants should send a CV (free format) and a cover letter (of no more than two pages) expressing their motivation to apply for this position and their general intentions as Director of CIMNE by e-mail to candidatures@cerca.cat

Tentative calendar

- **1st October 2026:** Launch call for applications.
- **20th November 2026:** Deadline for submitting applications (call closes at 12 pm).
- **18th December 2026:** Shortlist of candidates chosen by the Scientific Advisory Council.
- **January/February 2026:** Selected candidate(s) interviewed by the Selection Committee and a recommendation made to the Governing Council.

The Governing Council will appoint the new Director of CIMNE at an extraordinary meeting in February/March 2027.

The new Director will take up the position in June 2027 or as soon as possible thereafter. The above dates are tentative. Any changes will be publicized.

The decision on the appointment will be announced at the end of the process.

Barcelona, September 2026