The Royal Spanish Academy of Sciences (RAC, for short) is a public institution dedicated to the study and research of Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Geology, and their applications, as well as their promotion for the benefit of society.

One of its main functions is to advise the government on matters within its competence, particularly those of science policy that may have a bearing on the country’s scientific and technological development. The Academy also carries out other tasks, such as organizing meetings and seminars on the aforementioned areas, publishing its journal and scientific reports, as well as other types of reports or studies, establishing and defining scientific and technical terminology, ensuring the appropriateness of the Spanish language, awarding prizes, etc.

Introduction
Governance and organization

Its internal structure groups the Academicians into three Sections: Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, and Natural Sciences, as well as into committees for the performance and resolution of specific tasks.

Members of the Academy

The Academy is currently composed of 72 Academicians, 144 Corresponding Academicians, an indeterminate number of Supernumerary and Foreign Academicians as it may decide to appoint.

Outreach activities: Public lectures

Science for All

A science outreach programme, held at the Academy’s headquarters, which offers an updated and accessible vision of the most innovative aspects of its different disciplines to a general public interested in science, through lectures presented by internationally renowned specialists.

Science Academy in the Classroom

Aimed specifically at secondary schools, the talks included in this programme aim to provide a rigorous presentation of current topics of interest to students, in order to stimulate scientific vocations in the younger generations.

Outreach activities: Publications

Revista Serie General

It is a journal of high dissemination, publishing articles that address research topics of current relevance in a language aimed at non-specialist readers. The journal is published only in digital format and will be accessible from the Academy’s website.

RACSAM Journal, Springer

RACSAM publishes, in English only, one volume per year consisting of four issues. In addition to high quality research articles, each issue may contain short articles of no more than six pages, called Preliminary Communications, which are particularly useful for announcing results, containing at least outlines of proofs. Review articles in any mathematical field are also published.

Other publications

Inaugural lectures of induction ceremonies by new academicians, inaugural lectures of the academic year, reports, etc.

RAC Youtube Channel

All public events organized by the RAC are broadcast on this channel. The channel consists of almost 800 videos and has 16,700 subscribers.

Scientific Publications

Scientific events

• Scientific sessions on hot topics in science.
• Annual General Conference.
• Co-organization of workshops with learned societies or organized by some of its academicians.
• Collaborations with other Spanish academies in an annual event within the Institute of Spain.

Education

The RAC:

• Elaborates statements, reports and opinions within its field, carries out studies and gives advice to the bodies that so request.
• Organizes symposia, meetings or seminars on science, teaching, its applications or its history, with special attention to those of a multidisciplinary nature.
• It carries out research, development or teaching projects.

ESTALMAT Programme

ESTALMAT is a project of the Royal Spanish Academy of Sciences. It aims to detect, guide and stimulate the exceptional mathematical talent of students aged 12-13 years, without uprooting them from their environment, by means of mentoring, which takes place every week for three hours.

International networks of academies

The RAC is a member of the following academic networks: EASAC, ALLEA, IAP.

Awards given by the Royal Spanish Academy of Sciences

The Echegaray Medal is the highest scientific award granted by the Royal Spanish Academy of Sciences in recognition of an eminent scientific career. It was instituted at the request of Santiago Ramón y Cajal in 1905, after the Nobel Prize was awarded to José Echegaray. In 2016 the Corporation agreed to institute the Santiago Ramón y Cajal medal-prize to distinguish scientists under age of fifty.

RAC collaborates with other institutions in the selection of different awards as well as in the organization of the award ceremonies.