

Faculty of Pharmacy Research and Development Association Call for the award of a Research Grant (Bolsa de Investigação)

Notice No. BI/3/FARM-ID/2022

Under the Regulation of Research Grants of the Foundation for Science and Technology, IP, Regulation No. 950/2019, published in *Diário da República*, 2nd Series, No. 241, of December 16, 2019, of the Regulation of Research Grants of the University of Lisbon, Dispatch No. 6238/2020, of 12 June, published in *Diário da República*, 2nd Series, no. 113, of 12 June 2020, and of the Statute of the Research Fellowship (EBI), Decree-Law no. 123/2019, of 28 August, published in the *Diário da República*, 1st Series, no. 164, of 28 August 2019, it is made known that a call for the award of 1 (one) Research Grant within the scope of the project PTDC/MED-PAT/2582/2021, titled "Interplay between innate and acquired immune response at the basis for Multiple Sclerosis cognitive deficits" funded by Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P, is open under the following conditions:

 Scientific Area: Health Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Neurosciences, Neurobiology, or related areas.

II. Admission Requirements:

- Master's degree in Biopharmaceutical Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Molecular Genetics and Biomedicine, or related areas;
- Being enrolled in a non-degree course.

*At the application stage if the candidates do not have in their possession the documents proving that they hold the Master's degree and/or a proof of enrolment in a non-degree course they may be replaced by a declaration of honour commitment.

Proof of obtaining the degree and/or registration by submitting the supporting documents shall be submitted until contract signature, under penalty of annulment of the applicant's assessment by error on the named assumptions, and consequent exclusion from this call.

Preferred Requirements:

- Have skills for the development of the project, namely effective experience in biology/neurosciences, experimental models for the study of neurodegenerative disease;
- Interest and experience of at least 1 year in the field of animal experimentation, cell and molecular biology;
- Demonstrate motivation for interdisciplinary scientific research;
- Computer skills;
- Proficiency in the English language;
- Immediate availability to integrate the project.

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- III. Research Grant Duration: The research will have a duration of 12 months non-renewable, starting in May 2022, on an exclusivity regime, in accordance with the terms of the Regulation of Research Grants of the Foundation for Science and Technology, IP.
- IV. Work plan: The objective of the work consists to evaluate the impact of the interaction between microglia cells and T lymphocytes on cognitive deficit associated with Multiple Sclerosis, using the animal model of Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis (EAE), using behavioral tests and evaluation of central nervous system alterations.
- V. Workplace and Scientific Guidance: The work will be carried out in the CNS, blood and peripheral inflammation from the Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa), at the premises of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon, under the scientific guidance of Professor Adelaide Maria Afonso Fernandes Borralho, Assistant Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon.
- VI. Monthly maintenance stipend: The monthly maintenance stipend (grant) corresponds to € 1.144,64, according to the table of values directly attributed by FCT, I.P. in Portugal (https://www.fct.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores). Payment will be made via bank transfer.
 - In addition to the monthly maintenance stipend the grant holder will also be awarded with the value correspondent to the payment of the first step of Seguro Social Voluntário (voluntary payment of Social Security), in case he/she chooses to be included in this regime.
- VII. Formalization of applications: Applications must be sent in non-editable format (PDF), to the address concursos@farm-id.pt, containing the identification of the above mentioned notice. Applications in paper format will not be accepted.
- VIII. Application deadline: The deadline for applications is from March 23rd to April 5th 2022 (10 working days).
- IX. Evaluation and rating criteria:

Candidate's Merit:

- Adequacy of the Scientific Training Area (AACF): Candidates will be ranked based on his/her academic background and scientific area of specialization, with a maximum weighting of 20%;
 - Performance as a student of the Master in Biopharmaceutical Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Molecular Genetics and Biomedicine, or related areas (PAM) 0 to 20 values;
 - Scientific area of specialization (Health Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Neurosciences, Neurobiology, or related areas) (ACE) – 0 to 20 values.





- Training and Experience (FE): Candidates will be ranked based on scientific technical skills relevant to the work plan, with a maximum weighting of 50%
 - o Animal experimentation and animal behavior tests (EXAECA) 0 to 20 values;
 - Evaluation of animal samples: processing of central nervous system samples
 (AVAA) 0 to 20 values;
 - o Immunohistochemistry and image analysis (IAI) 0 to 20 values;
 - o Gene expression evaluation by RealTime-PCR (AVEG) 0 to 20 values;
 - o Evaluation of protein expression by Western blot (AVEP) − 0 to 20 values.
- Specific competencies for the proposed work plan (CEPTP): Candidates will be ranked based on his/her motivation for interdisciplinary scientific research in the project area, mastery of English and computer skills, with a maximum weighting of 30%
 - Research interest (dissect the mechanisms underlying the cognitive deficits associated with Mutiple Sclerosis) (IV) 0 to 20 values;
 - o Knowledge on the use of sftware for data analysis (DOMPIAD) − 0 to 20 values;
 - o Proficiency in the English language (**DOMING**) − 0 to 20 values.

If necessary, an individual interview will be carried out with the best 3 candidates, in which case the interview will not be scored or weight in the Final Classification, and will only serve to clarify the information provided.

Final classification: The score obtained in the final classification results from the sum of the points obtained in the Candidate's Merit, an individual form being out for each candidate.

X. Instruction of Application:

- a) Form containing the candidate's identification (available on the FARM-ID's website);
- b) Curriculum Vitae containing the information necessary for the evaluation of the application;
- c) Certificate of Master's degree in Biopharmaceutical Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Molecular Genetics and Biomedicine, or related areas;
- d) Proof of enrolment in a non-degree course, or declaration of honour commitment (available on the FARM-ID's website);
- e) Declaration on honour that there is no professional activity or service provision that violates the duty of exclusive dedication (available on the FARM-ID's website);
- f) Letter of motivation;
- g) Other supporting documents considered relevant.

All the documents necessary for the correct application are available on the institutional website through the link: https://www.ff.ulisboa.pt/faculty/human-resources/recruitment/bolsadeinvestigacao-ptdc-med-pat-2582-2021/

The documents that instruct the application must be submitted in Portuguese or English language.

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No document that should have been submitted in the application phase can be submitted after the deadline set in the opening notice. Failure to comply with the deadline set for the submission of the application, as well as the lack or late submission of documents referred to in this point will determine the exclusion from the competition.

- XI. Composition of the Jury: The Jury responsible for the selection will be constituted by: President Adelaide Maria Afonso Fernandes Borralho, Assistant Professor, FFUL; 1st Member of the jury Ana Rita Mendonça Vaz Botelho, Assistant Professor, FFUL; 2nd Member of the jury Andreia Pereira Barateiro Macedo, Junior Researcher, FFUL; 1st Alternate Member of the jury Ainhoa Alberro, Post-doctoral Researcher, Biodonostia Health Research Institute, San Sebastian, Spain.
- XII. Form of notification of results: All candidates will be notified of the final results of the evaluation by email, and will have 10 working days after the aforementioned notification to say something, in accordance with the terms of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

After this notification, and in case there are no claims, the results will become final. In case of claims, and after the allegation is analysed and accepted or rejected, the results will become final after 10 business days.

After the final decision is made, a complaint/appeal can be filed to the Director of the FARM-ID – Faculty of Pharmacy Research and Development Association, Maria Beatriz da Silva Lima, PhD, Full Professor, within 10 working days from the date of notification.

XIII. Applicable legislation and regulations: Regulation of Research Grants of the Foundation for Science and Technology, I.P. (FCT, IP), Regulation no. 950/2019, published in the Diário da República, 2nd Series, no. 241, of December 16, 2019, of the Regulation of Research Grants of the University of Lisbon, Order no. 6238/2020, of 12 June, published in the Diário da República, 2nd Series, no. 113, of 12 June 2020, and of the Research Fellowship Statute (EBI), Decree-Law no. 123/2019, of 28 August, published in Diário da República, 1st Series, no. 164, of 28 August 2019.

Faculty of Pharmacy Research and Development Association. 22nd March 2022.

The Director,

(Maria Beatriz da Silva Lima, PhD, Full Professor)

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