

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

Notice No. BI/6/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 **EXPL/MED-QUI/1316/2021**, titled "**New opportunities for small molecules in immuno-oncology**", funded by Foundation for Science and Technology, IP is open under the following conditions:

- I. **Scientific Area:** Basic Medicine, Medicinal Chemistry, or related areas.
- II. **Admission Requirements (*):**
 - Bachelor's degree in Chemistry, Biochemistry or related areas;
 - Being enrolled in a master or an integrated master's in Biopharmaceutical Sciences, Medicinal Chemistry or related areas.

*At the application stage if the candidates do not have in their possession the documents proving that they hold the bachelor's degree and/or a proof of enrolment in a master's or an integrated master's degree, they may be replaced by a declaration on honour.

Proof of obtaining the degree and/or enrolment through the presentation of certificates must be carried out until contracting, under penalty of cancellation of the candidate's assessment due to error on the assumptions of fact, and consequent exclusion from this call.

Preferred Requirements:

- Experience in immune-oncology, *in vitro* and *ex vivo* (2D and 3D) models, and compound synthesis;
 - Highly proficient in spoken and written Portuguese and English.
- III. **Research Grant Duration:** The research will have a duration of **12 months non-renewable**, starting in July 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 main goals of the research work are related to the optimization of hit compounds and evaluate their efficacy *in vitro* and *ex vivo*. *In vitro* evaluation of the inhibitory effect of the best compounds, and *ex vivo* evaluation of tumor-specific T cell responses induced by the small molecule candidates using patient-derived cells.

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V. Workplace and Scientific Guidance: The work will be carried out in the BioNanoSciences – Drug Delivery & Immunoengineering (F.215) laboratory, at the premises of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Universidade de Lisboa, under the scientific guidance of Doctor Ana Rita de Carvalho Acúrcio, Post-Doc, and Doctor Helena Isabel Fialho Florindo Roque Ferreira, Associate Professor with Habilitation, at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Universidade de Lisboa, respectively.

VI. Monthly maintenance stipend: The monthly maintenance stipend (grant) corresponds to **875,98€** 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 **May 16th to May 27th 2022 (10 working days)**.

IX. Evaluation and rating criteria:

Candidate's Merit: It aims to evaluate the compliance with the formal requirements demanded in the opening notice, but also to consider the adequacy of the scientific training area and/or specialization, training and professional experience.

- **Adequacy of the Scientific Training Area (AACF):** Candidates will be ranked based on the background and master scientific area, with a maximum weighting of 15%;
 - Performance in their degree in Chemistry, Biochemistry, or related areas (**PRESTLIC**) – 0 to 20 values;
 - It is desirable a candidate specialized in Cellular Biology, Immunology, Medicinal Chemistry (**ESPBCIQM**) – 0 to 20 values.
- **Training and Experience (FE):** Candidates will be ranked based on their experience on the development of in vitro and ex vivo (2D and 3D) models to evaluate optimized PD-1/PD-L1 small-molecule inhibitors and their role on anti-tumor effect, with a maximum weighting of 35%;
 - Candidates should have experience in cell culture of tumor cells and primary culture of lymphocytes (**CCTL**) – 0 to 20 values;
 - Isolate immune cells and characterize in multicolor panels using flow cytometry (**ICCCF**) – 0 to 20 values;
 - Synthesis of small-molecules (**SPM**) – 0 to 20 values.

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- **Specific competencies for the proposed work plan (CEPTP):** Candidates will be ranked based on their experience on their experience in projects focused on small-molecule immune system modulators to regulate the frequency and function of immune cells, with a maximum weighting of 50%;
 - Skills in 2D and 3D cell culture (**TCC**) – 0 to 20 values;
 - Skills in flow cytometry (**TCF**) – 0 to 20 values;
 - Skills in small-molecule synthesis and immuno-oncology (**EXPMIO**) – 0 to 20 values;
 - Proficiency in spoken and written Portuguese and English (**DOMPI**) – 0 to 20 values.

In case it proves necessary, an individual interview will be carried out with the three best candidates, and in this case it will not be scored nor will have any 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, in which an individual form will be filled 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 bachelor's degree in Chemistry, Biochemistry or related areas, or declaration on honour (*available on the FARM-ID's website*);
- d) Proof of enrolment in a master or an integrated master's in Biopharmaceutical Sciences, Medicinal Chemistry or related areas, or declaration on honour;
- e) Declaration on honour stating that there is no professional activity that violates the exclusivity regime (*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/faculdade/recursos-humanos/bolsainvestigacao-expl-med-qui-1316-2021>.

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

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 – Ana Rita de Carvalho Acúrcio, Post-Doc, Faculty of Pharmacy of the Universidade de Lisboa;

- 1st Member of the Jury – Helena Isabel Fialho Florindo Roque Ferreira, Associate Professor with Habilitation, Faculty of Pharmacy of the Universidade de Lisboa;
2nd Member of the Jury – Rita Alexandra do Nascimento Cardoso Guedes, Associate Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy of the Universidade de Lisboa;
1st Alternate Member of the Jury – Patrícia Filipa Alves Serra, Post-Doc, Champalimaud Foundation;
2nd Alternate Member of the Jury – João Pedro Martins de Almeida Lopes, Associate Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy of the Universidade de Lisboa.

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.

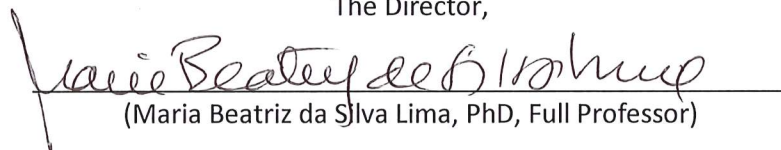
After this notification, and in case there are no claims, the results will become final. In case of claims, and after the allegation is analysed and accepted or rejected, the results will become final after 10 business days.

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, 13th May 2022.

The Director,


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