

Faculty of Pharmacy Research and Development Association
Call for the award of 1 (one) Research Grant for Masters enrolled in a non-degree seeking course

Notice No. BICNCG/9/FARM-ID/2023

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 for Masters enrolled in a non-degree seeking course within the scope of the project FCT-PTDC/MED-PAT/2582/2021, titled "*Interplay between innate and acquired immune response at the basis for Multiple Sclerosis cognitive deficits*", funded by Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, I.P. (FCT) is open under the following conditions:

- I. **Scientific Area:** Health Sciences - Pharmaceutical Sciences - Neurosciences - Neurobiology
- II. **Admission Requirements:**
- Master's degree in Neurobiology, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Molecular Genetics and Biomedicine, or related areas;
 - Have skills for the development of the project, namely effective experience in biology/neurosciences, experimental models for the study of neurodegenerative disease.
 - Be enrolled in a non-degree seeking course at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Lisbon*

* During the application stage, if the candidates do not have in their possession the document proving that they are enrolled in a non-degree seeking course, this document may be replaced by a declaration of honour. The proof of the enrolment through the presentation of the certificate must be carried out until the hiring, under penalty of annulment of the candidate's assessment due to error on the assumptions of fact, and consequent exclusion from this call.

Preferred Requirements:

- Interest and experience (at least 3 year) in the area of animal experimentation, cell and molecular biology;
- Demonstrate motivation for interdisciplinary scientific research;
- Have a good command of the English language;
- Have computer skills;
- Show immediate availability to integrate the project.

III. **Research Grant Duration:** The research will have a duration of 12 months, eventually renewable for a period of 6 months, until to the end of the project, starting in July 2023, on an

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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 an in vitro model of brainspheres as well as an in vivo model the animal model of Experimental Autoimmune Encephalomyelitis (EAE), where both behavioral tests and central nervous system alterations will be evaluated. This plan will be developed under the project entitled: Interplay between innate and acquired immune response at the basis for Multiple Sclerosis cognitive deficits.

V. Workplace and Scientific Guidance: The work will be carried out in CNS, blood and peripheral inflammation from the Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.Ulisboa), at the premises of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Universidade de Lisboa, under the scientific guidance of Adelaide Fernandes, *Assistant Professor*, at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Universidade de Lisboa.

VI. Monthly maintenance stipend: The monthly maintenance stipend (grant) corresponds to € 1.199,64 according to the table of values directly attributed by FCT, I.P. in Portugal (https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM_2023.pdf). 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 June 15th to June 28th (10 working days).

IX. Evaluation and rating criteria:

Candidate's Merit: Aims to assess compliance with the formal requirements requested in the opening notice, but also to consider the suitability of the scientific area of training and/or specialization, training and professional experience, with a maximum weighting of 100%.

- **Adequacy of the Scientific Training Area (AACF):** Candidates will be ranked on the basis of their academic background and scientific area of specialisation, with a maximum weighting of 20%:
 - Academic background (Master's Degree in Neurobiology, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Molecular Genetics and Biomedicine or related areas) – 0 to 20 values

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- Scientific area of specialization (Health Sciences - Pharmaceutical Sciences-Neurosciences – Neurobiology – 0 to 20 values
- **Training and Experience (FE):** Candidates will be ranked on the basis of experience in technical and scientific competencies relevant to the work plan, with a maximum weighting of 50%:
 - Demyelinating *in vitro/ex vivo* models – 0 to 20 values
 - Animal experimentation and animal behavior testing – 0 to 20 values
 - Central nervous system sample processing – 0 to 20 values
 - Immunohistochemistry and imaging analysis – 0 to 20 values
 - Evaluation of gene expression by RealTime-PCR – 0 to 20 values
 - Evaluation of protein expression by Western blot – 0 to 20 values
- **Specific competencies for the proposed work plan (CEPTP):** Candidates should demonstrate motivation for interdisciplinary scientific research in the area of the project, be fluent in English and possess computer skills, with a maximum weighting of 30%:
 - Motivation for interdisciplinary scientific research in the project area – 0 to 20 values
 - Master the English language – 0 to 20 values
 - Possess computer skills – 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 score for 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 institutional website*);
- b) Curriculum Vitae containing the information necessary for the evaluation of the application;
- c) Certificate proving the possession of Master's degree in Neurobiology, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Biomedical Sciences, Molecular Genetics and Biomedicine, or related areas;
- d) Proof of enrolment in a non-conferring degree course, or substitution by presenting a declaration of honour (*available on the institutional website*);
- e) Declaration of 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) Contact of two references;
- h) 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/reclutamento/anuncio->

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[para-atribuicao-de-1-uma-bolsa-de-investigacao-para-mestres-inscritos-num-curso-nao-conferente-de-grau-academico-aviso-n-o-bicnpg-9-farm-id-2023](#)

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 – Adelaide Maria Afonso Fernandes Borralho, Assistant Professor, FFULisboa;
1st Member of the Jury – Andreia Pereira Barateiro Macedo, Junior Researcher, FFULisboa;
2nd Member of the Jury – Rui Eduardo Mota Castro, Assistant Professor, FFULisboa;
1st Alternate Member of the Jury – Rui Fernando Marques da Silva, Assistant Professor, FFULisboa;

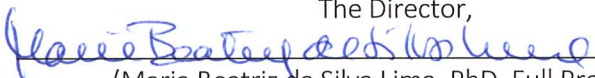
XII. Form of notification of results: All candidates will be notified of the final results of the evaluation by email, and will have 10 working days after the aforementioned notification to say something, in accordance with the terms of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

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, June 14th 2023.

The Director,

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

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