

**Faculty of Pharmacy Research and Development Association  
Call for the award of 1 (one) Research Grant for PhD students**

**Notice No. BID/8/FARM-ID/2024**

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, re-published through Dispatch No. 8061/2022, published in *Diário da República*, 2nd Series, no. 126, of 1 July 2022, 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 PhD students** within the scope of the project PTDC/BTM-SAL/4350/2021, titled: **Nano-imunoterapia multifuncional para o tratamento de metastases cerebrais de melanoma** (Short-Name: NanoMetBrain), funded by Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P., is open under the following conditions:

**I. Scientific Area:** Health Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences

**II. Admission Requirements:**

- Master's degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chemistry, Pharmaceutical and Therapeutic Chemistry, or related areas<sup>1</sup>.
- Being enrolled in a doctoral program in Pharmacy, or related areas<sup>2</sup>.
- Grade of at least 14 out of 20 values.

<sup>1</sup> All higher education degrees and diplomas awarded by foreign higher education institutions need to be recognised by a Portuguese Institution in accordance with Decree-Law no. 66/2018, of 16 August. The presentation of the recognition is mandatory for signing the contact. For further information, please visit [Degree and Diploma Recognition | DGES](#).

<sup>2</sup> During the application stage, if the candidates do not have in their possession the documents proving their enrolment in the doctoral program, those documents may be replaced by a declaration of honour. Proof of registration through the presentation of the certificates 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 competition.

**Preferred Requirements:**

- Experience in polymer synthesis, nanotechnology and immune-oncology;
- Proficiency in spoken and written Portuguese and English.

**III. Research Grants Duration:** The research will have a duration of **6 months eventually renewable up to a maximum of 12 months**, starting in July 2024, 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 goal of this work is the synthesis of polymeric and lipidic nanoparticles, as therapies against cancer, including those directed to the activation of the immune response. Identification of new targets in the metastatic breast cancer microenvironment associated with the response of different classes of immune cells to tumor antigens.

**V. Workplace and Scientific Guidance:** The work will be carried out in FARM-ID - Associação da Faculdade de Farmácia para a Investigação e Desenvolvimento at the premises of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon, under the scientific guidance of Dr. Helena Isabel Fialho Florindo Roque Ferreira, Full Professor at this Institution.

**VI. Monthly maintenance stipend:** The monthly maintenance stipend (grant) corresponds to **1.259,64€**, according to the table of values directly attributed by FCT, I.P. in Portugal ([https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM\\_atualizacao-2024.pdf](https://www.fct.pt/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Tabela-de-Valores-SMM_atualizacao-2024.pdf)). Payment will be made via bank transfer.

In addition to the monthly maintenance stipend, the grant holder will also be awarded the value corresponding 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](mailto:concursos@farm-id.pt), containing the identification of the notice mentioned above (Notice no. BID/8/FARM-ID/2024). Applications in paper format will not be accepted.

**VIII. Application deadline:** The application deadline is from **May 17<sup>th</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup> 2024 (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 based on their background and scientific area, with a maximum weighting of 15%.
  - Master's degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chemistry, Pharmaceutical and Therapeutic Chemistry, or related areas (**MSc**) – 0 to 20 values.
- **Training and Experience (FE):** Candidates will be ranked based on their training, as well as experience and participation in projects developed in the field of nanotechnology with a view to modelling the frequency and function of immune cells and the stroma of the tumour microenvironment, with a maximum weighting of 50%.
  - Experience in polymer synthesis, nanotechnology and immune-oncology (**ESPNIO**) – 0 to 20 values
  - Flow cytometry techniques (**TCF**) – 0 to 20 values
  - Cell culture techniques (**TCC**) – 0 to 20 values

- Good command of Portuguese and English language (**DOMPI**) – 0 to 20 values
- **Specific competencies for the proposed work plan (CEPTP):** Candidates will be ranked based on experience in developing nanosystems for immune-modelling, with a maximum weighting of 35%.
  - Preference will be given to candidates with experience in the synthesis of lipidic and polymeric nanoparticles, culture of dendritic cells and pre-clinical development studies (**EXP**) – 0 to 20 values.

**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 institutional website*);
- b) *Curriculum Vitae* containing the information necessary for the evaluation of the application;
- c) Certificate proving ownership of a Master's degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chemistry, Pharmaceutical and Therapeutic Chemistry, or related areas;
- d) Proof of enrolment in a PhD program in Pharmacy of related areas, or substitution by presenting a declaration of honour;
- e) Declaration of honour stating that there is no professional activity that violates the exclusivity regime (*available on the institutional website*);
- f) Motivation Letter;
- 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/bolsa-de-investigacao-para-estudantes-de-doutoramento-projeto-nanometbrain>.

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 – Helena Isabel Fialho Florindo Roque Ferreira, PhD, Full Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy of University of Lisbon;  
1<sup>st</sup> Member of the Jury – Rita Alexandra do Nascimento Cardoso Guedes, PhD, Associated Professor with “Agregação”, Faculty of Pharmacy of University of Lisbon;  
2<sup>nd</sup> Member of the Jury – Maria Luísa Teixeira de Azevedo Rodrigues Corvo, PhD, Principal Researcher with “Agregação”, Faculty of Pharmacy of University of Lisbon;

Av. Professor Gama Pinto, 1649-003 Lisboa | <https://www.farm-id.pt>  
Tel: +351 217 946 400 (Ext. 514370) | [rh@farm-id.pt](mailto:rh@farm-id.pt)

1<sup>st</sup> Substitute Member of the Jury – João Pedro Martins de Almeida Lopes, PhD, Associate Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy of University of Lisbon;

2<sup>nd</sup> Substitute Member of the Jury – Helena Maria Cabral Marques, PhD, Full Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy of University of Lisbon.

**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, 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, re-published through Dispatch No. 8061/2022, published in *Diário da República*, 2nd Series, no. 126, of 1 July 2022, 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.

Faculty of Pharmacy Research and Development Association, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

The Director,

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