

**Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon  
Call for the award of 1 (one) Research Fellowship**

**Notice no. BID/5/FF/2024**

It is made known that a call for the award of **1 (one) Research Fellowship** within the scope of the project “**Halt-Ronin: Discovering chronic inflammation biomarkers that define key stages in the Healthy-to-NASH (non-alcoholic steatohepatitis) transition to inform early prevention and treatment strategies** (HORIZON-HLTH-2022-STAYHLTH-02), funded by the European Commission through the Horizon Europe Programme under the Grant Agreement no. 101095679, is open under the following conditions:

**I. Scientific Area: Biology**

**II. Admission Requirements:**

- Master’s degree or Integrated Master’s degree in Biology, Pharmacological Sciences, Biomedical/Biological Engineering, or related areas<sup>1</sup>;
- Be enrolled in a doctoral program in Pharmacy, or related areas<sup>2</sup>.

<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.

**Requirements:**

- Experience in tissue engineering, stem cell and liver biology, stem cell differentiation and development of disease models;
- Excellent command of the English language, both written and spoken;
- Immediate availability.

**III. Research Grant Duration:** The research grant will have a duration of **12 months eventually renewable until the end of the project**, starting in June 2024, on an exclusivity regime in accordance with the Regulation of Research Grants of the University of Lisbon.

**IV. Work Plan:**

- Carry out research related to the progression of NAFLD-NASH liver disease, with the aim of understanding, defining and quantifying molecular pathways, targets and biomarkers relevant to the transition from health to disease caused by inflammation in NAFLD-NASH. This will

involve independent research work and collaborative work with other researchers in the Halt-Ronin project;

- Dissemination of results through annual reports, conferences, and publications;
- Support to other partners of the Halt-Ronin project, possibly including national and international travels;
- Develop personal work plans and contribute to the wider development of the group's strategy, including identifying priorities for the group's current and future work. This includes contributing to the preparation of new funding applications;
- Advising students interested in developing their theses in the area of the Halt-Ronin project.

**V. Workplace and Scientific Guidance:** The work will be carried out at research premises in the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Lisbon, under the supervision of Dr. Joana Paiva Gomes Miranda, PhD, Assistant Professor with “Agregação”, FFUL.

**VI. Monthly maintenance stipend:** The monthly maintenance allowance (fellowship) corresponds to **1.259,64€** and will be paid by bank transfer. The amounts set out in the Regulation of Research Grants of the University of Lisbon are allocated and altered in accordance with the annual alteration of maintenance grants made by the FCT, I.P.

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 email [concursos@ff.ulisboa.pt](mailto:concursos@ff.ulisboa.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 14<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</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.

- **Adequacy of the Scientific Training Area (AACF):** Weighting of 20%
  - Master's degree or Integrated Master's degree in Biology, or related areas (**MsC**) – 0 to 20 values
- **Training and Experience (FE):** Weighting of 50%
  - Experience in tissue engineering (**EXPET**) – 0 to 20 values;
  - Stem cell and liver biology (**BIOCEF**) – 0 to 20 values;
  - Stem cell differentiation (**DIFCE**) – 0 to 20 values;
  - Development of disease models (**DESMD**) – 0 to 20 values;

- **Specific competencies for the proposed work plan (CEPTP):** Weighting of 30%
  - Motivation for interdisciplinary scientific research and good working skills (**MOTIC**) – 0 to 20 values;
  - Excellent command of the English language, both written and spoken (**DOMING**) – 0 to 20 values;
  - Ability to disseminate and communicate results (**CAPDCR**) – 0 to 20 values;
  - Ability to contribute to written assignments and project reporting (**CAPTE**) – 0 to 20 values;
  - Plan tests and work within the scope of the project’s objectives (**PET**) – 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. An individual form will be filled for each candidate.

#### **X. Instruction of Application:**

- a. Application 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 or an Integrated Master’s in Biology, Pharmacological Sciences, Biomedical/Biological Engineering or related areas;
- d. Proof of enrolment in a PhD program in Pharmacy or 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 (optional);
- g. Contact of two references (optional);
- h. Other supporting documents considered relevant

All the documents necessary for the submission of the 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-halt-ronin>.

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 of the candidates will be constituted by:

- President – Joana Paiva Gomes Miranda, PhD, Assistant Professor with “Agregação”, FFUL;  
1<sup>st</sup> Member of the Jury – Nuno Filipe Guerreiro Oliveira, PhD, Full Professor, FFUL;  
2<sup>nd</sup> Member of the Jury – Matilde da Luz dos Santos Duque da Fonseca e Castro, PhD, Full Professor, FFUL;  
1<sup>st</sup> Substitute Member of the Jury – Sérgio José Póvoas Camões, PhD, Invited Assistant Professor, FFUL.

**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 make a statement, in accordance with 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 analyzed and accepted or rejected, the results will become final after 10 working days.

After the final decision is made, a complaint/appeal can be filed to the Director of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon, 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 University of Lisbon, Order no. 6238/2020, published in *Diário da República*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series, no. 113, of 12 June, republished by Order no. 8061/2022, published in *Diário da República*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series, no. 126, of 1 July, and Research Fellowship Statute (EBI), Decree-Law no. 123/2019, published in *Diário da República*, 1<sup>st</sup> Series, no. 164, of 28 August.

Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Lisbon, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

The Director,

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Maria Beatriz da Silva Lima, PhD, Full Professor